

Public Art in Prince William County  
Meeting #2  
December 3, 2025  
7pm @ Wegman's (Woodbridge)

**Attendees:**

Adam Cook  
John Hartt  
Sharon Richardson  
Seth Hendler-Voss, DPR  
Diane Ruggiero

**Notes:**

- Regarding the policy - include common response language in the design construction standards manual (or other appropriate document) regarding public art in private development; include definitions; highlight community/economic benefits; crime reduction
- Engaged in discussion about the efficacy of exempting public art from certain types of development like affordable housing projects and the ramification on equity.
- Discussed the consideration of the federal Visual Artists Rights Act for public art policies and. Under the law, artists legally maintain copyright of their work, but sign over certain publicity rights to communities.
- In reviewing other public art policies - noted that PWC is not as urban as some of the examples (limited types of development); [Durham, NC](#) had a comprehensive policy; note locations for public art (parks, facilities, infrastructure, etc.); identify public art projects that create opportunities for local artists
- Consider developing a 2D public art collection ([DC Art Bank](#), [Arlington Portable Art Collection](#))
- Began establishing focus group target categories: Artists, Civil Groups, Developers, Educational Institutions, Towns, Public Utilities (VDOT, PW Water, Dominion Energy, Omni Ride), etc.
- Discussed the purpose of the focus group interviews is to ascertain the level of support for a public art policy, especially as it relates to the expenditure of public funds. Discussed the pros and cons of engaging in detailed discussion about funding sources and strategies during focus group interviews and the need to tailor the questions appropriately.

- Discussed the flow of the focus group conversations and the importance of warming up with a question like, “how do you define public art?”
- The public art policy taskforce's timeframe is fluid; the goal is to bring the Board of County Supervisors a draft policy in spring, before the end of the Fiscal Year on June 30. We should plan to complete the focus group work by February 28. Seth and Diane will add the scope of work and milestone dates for each phase on the project Google Drive.

**To do before next meeting:**

Begin planning for focus groups, interviews, and/or surveys with community members, artists, and civic leaders:

- Identify groups and networks in advance of community engagement (e.g. artists, civic leaders, community groups, developer community, etc.) and appropriate task force member
- Develop talking points for task force members to meet with their networks
- Develop tools for task force members to use at their meetings/discussions (surveys, forms, images, maps, etc.)
- Seth and Diane will review recent developments to determine approximate funding amounts
- Seth and Diane to review how towns collaborate with counties, starting by speaking with the benchmark counties that Diane shared with the taskforce members.