

## Percent for Art Fact Sheet

- The Percent for Art Ordinance was passed unanimously by City Council in November of 2007 after seven years of planning by the city through the commission it set up, the Commission on Art in Public Places (CAPP).
- The Ordinance provides for the funding of public art by setting aside 1% of large capital projects built by the city. Each line item of capital improvement projects (for example, transportation, water, sewer, etc.) approved for construction for the coming year has 1% set aside for public art.
- The 1% comes from the 10% contingency fund that is included in every capital project built by the city. No extra amount is added to the project for public art, so the program is budget neutral.
- The funds can be used on the building site, or they can be pooled to be used at more accessible sites within the city, or at a later date, as long as the art project reflects the theme of the funds.
- Funds set aside for public art from each project are capped at \$250,000 so large projects are automatically limited in the public art funding.
- No funds for public art are generated from the General Fund, which pays salaries and human services, since capital projects rarely come from that fund. No funds for public art are generated by the school system budget or the public library, both of which have budgets separate from the city budget.
- The amount of funds set aside each year relates directly to the amount spent on capital improvements. In prosperous times, the funds will be high. In difficult years, the public art fund will automatically be reduced along with capital improvement reductions.
- If public art funds are not used one year, they are kept in the department pool that generated them to be used at a later date. They cannot be used for any other purpose besides public art.
- Public art paid for with Percent for Art funds can be built only on city owned land or right of ways and it must be permanent.
- In 2008, a new city commission took over the implementation of the Percent for Art program called the Ann Arbor Public Art Commission (AAPAC). This was approved unanimously by the members of the Commission on Art in Public Places and all members joined the new commission.
- A part time Administrator works with city staff to administrate the Percent for Art program.
- The planning process starts each year with an Annual Public Art Plan which sets priorities for the coming year and outlines possible projects. This plan is done in April of each year.
- Funds generated by the Percent for Art ordinance are not the only funds that AAPAC can use for public art. They can also raise private funding. For the first 7 years, all public art projects were paid for with private funding. But to insure the long term planning necessary to embed public art in large city projects like a new Municipal Center, the Commission found that a percent for art program, which has proved successful all over the country, was the best way to achieve public art in Ann Arbor. The Commission will continue to seek other funding as well.