

# About the Public Art for the Pier District

Public art will offer an important element and experience to park visitors. It will help to communicate the contemporary point of view of the design.

The art will be compatible with the goal of engaging the public in a multitude of ways. It may evoke a range of reactions from moods of contemplation to celebration.

At least one commission will be selected to help establish the Pier District as an important community gathering space - representative of St. Petersburg's emergence as one of the most beautiful, creative and vibrant cities in Florida.

*Each work of art is an opportunity to provide a superior aesthetic experience.*

*Each work of art is an opportunity to add a discovery moment for the visitors who traverse the length of the park or only a part of it.*

*Each work of art is an opportunity to expand on the contemporary aesthetic and pedestrian-centric design of the Pier.*

There are several locations identified as suitable for art. This list does not preclude consideration of other ideas suggested by artists. In the pre-qualification phase artists are not applying for a specific site but they can indicate a preference or affinity for one or more.

The committee is open to artists' ideas about how to address the site through art.

In several instances an artist may have input into the design, placement of landscape elements, seating, etc.

## **Art selected for the Pier District will align with the design goals:**

- *Offer a range of experiences for the visitor.* Two or more works will be commissioned by different artists. At least one will be installed on the uplands section of the Approach and at least one will be installed on the section over water between the civic plaza and the pier head.
- *Inspire a diverse array of tone, energy, activity vs passive enjoyment, and function.* Work may be appropriate for a gateway entrance point, a family-friendly civic plaza or a quiet overlook. Concepts that sequence the entire length of the Pier or walking paths will also be considered.
- *Offer a complete experience to the visitor who ventures only part way along the approach.* Two high priority locations for art are the Welcome Plaza at the entrance on

the uplands and the plaza, half-way down the approach where the splash pad and pavilion are located.

- *Help to create a place for social interaction and gathering, enjoyment of water, active recreation and passive enjoyment of the park.*

**All selected designs must be permanent pieces.** With standard maintenance and occasional conservation, and apart from vandalism, art will be expected to survive a minimum of twenty-five years in the coastal Florida environment.

Materials and durability are critical issues for any art considered for this project. All sites are exteriors and on Tampa Bay. The Florida sun and heat, salt content of the air, wind standards to withstand hurricanes, and largely unsupervised public access 24/7 are all conditions that must be addressed.

Artists will be expected to provide detailed information about their materials, sources, vendors and fabricators.

Public art will be selected by a committee instituted under the City of St. Petersburg legally constituted process. The committee includes visual artists, architects, a representative of the downtown neighborhood, a museum curator of contemporary art, and an arts administrator.

#### **Art Opportunities:**

- Free standing sculpture
- Gateway or entrance statement sculpture
- Sculpture and other art elements integrated into the design of a space such as a plaza
- Art that includes provision of shade and/or lighting and/or seating
- Art that enlivens an intergenerational plaza designed both for children's water play and adult rest
- Series or sequence to link one or more locations and encourage exploration down secondary paths.
- Moderate-scaled art or sequential series of pieces
- Art treatments for ground plane surface.

Sustainable production processes, energy sources and materials are encouraged.

**Non-starters:** Ideas that include the following elements will not be considered:

- Motors
- Water (except the splash pad feature already in the site plan)
- Electronic screens

## BUDGET

The Pier Approach and Pier Over Water sections have separate budgets due to requirements of bond financing of the project. The minimum budgets below are guaranteed through the St. Petersburg percent for art ordinance. Fund raising from the private sector is ongoing to supplement these amounts. Priority for the allocation of additional funds will be the uplands project first.

Pier Approach (uplands) (sites #1- 5 on the site plan) minimum budget: \$135,000.

Over water: Civic Plaza -Pier Head (sites 6 - 12 on the site plan) minimum budget: \$345,000.