

# Nillumbik Shire Public Art Policy

## 2019-2022



### 1. Policy purpose

Investment in public art is tangible acknowledgement of Nillumbik's long tradition of artistic values and rich cultural heritage, and supports the development and growth of creative and cultural industries and enabling community engagement with the arts as an every day experience. As such, Nillumbik Shire Council actively commissions permanent and ephemeral (temporary) contemporary public artworks that reflect Nillumbik's culture.

### 2. Policy scope

As the asset-owner of open space and built infrastructure and facilities, Council has an opportunity to utilise such public spaces for creative expression, but also has the responsibility to manage such sites, which includes the installation of public artworks.

The accompanying *Nillumbik Shire Public Art Implementation Guidelines 2018-2022* provides the framework for:

- 2.1 The commissioning of public art, ranging from ephemeral (temporary) public art to major public artworks (including sculpture);
- 2.2 An assessment criteria and approval process for private and community initiated public art proposals;
- 2.3 A commitment to 1% of capital works exceeding \$2million project value towards public art allocation; and
- 2.4 A negotiated Developer Contribution Scheme to include 1% of the total project budget exceeding \$2million towards public art allocation.

### 3. Rule of best practice

Public art should reflect the nuances of local identity, rather than replicate the culture of other communities. Successful public art is intrinsically linked to community, and is site-specific to the immediate environment in which it is located. Whether the public art is ephemeral or permanent, community engagement and buy-in from the outset of the project is vital.

### 4. Inclusions

- 4.1 Permanent or ephemeral (temporary) site-specific contemporary art integrated into public space, parks or public facilities, created by a professional public artist, and designed to stimulate the community and enhance a sense of place.
- 4.2 Operational programs, capital works, streetscaping and major commissions.
- 4.3 Private and community-driven projects that seek planning permits and/or funding from Council.

### 5. Exclusions

- 5.1 Interpretive signage and wayfinding;
- 5.2 Civic architectural design installations and township decorations;
- 5.3 Memorials and monuments, unless, the installation is predominantly an artwork, whereby a professional artist or artists has/have been commissioned and an artistic process has formed the context and development of the installation; and
- 5.4 Advertising.

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### 6. Roles and responsibilities

- 6.1 The Public Art Officer is responsible for public art and place-making initiatives (including commissioning, maintenance and decommissioning) on behalf Council. This includes capital works programs, streetscape works, and major public commissions, together with liaison for private and community-driven initiatives.
- 6.2 Other service areas of Council with a remit of public art in community projects and capital works should incorporate the Public Art Officer into the project working group from the earliest stage of project planning.
- 6.3 A qualified practicing public artist is commissioned to undertake the public artwork.
- 6.4 The Arts Advisory Committee is responsible for making recommendations in relation to public art in accordance with its Terms of Reference.
- 6.5 The Curator & Creative Industries Officer is responsible for ongoing maintenance, conservation and decommissioning of those public artworks housed within the Nillumbik Shire Art Collection.

### 7. Policy implementation

In accordance with the Public Art Implementation Guidelines 2019-2022:

- 7.1 The equivalent of 1% of the total project budget of publicly accessible capital works projects valued in excess of \$2million, be allocated to incorporate a major public artwork as an integral feature and a key component to the project management plan.
- 7.2 A negotiated developer contribution scheme for publicly accessible developments with a total project value exceeding \$2million, will require 1% of the total project cost be allocated to the commissioning of public artwork as a key element to the development. A negotiated arrangement would be triggered through the planning permit process, and specify that a qualified public artist be commissioned to develop works congruent with the Nillumbik Shire Art Collection.
- 7.3 An innovative ephemeral public art program be undertaken to meet the goals of the Arts and Cultural Plan 2018-2022 and operational budgets.
- 7.4 Private and community-driven initiatives be assessed in accordance with the public art criteria.

### 8. Related policies

- 8.1 Council Plan 2017-2021;
- 8.2 Nillumbik Shire Council Procurement Policy 2018-2019;
- 8.3 Arts and Cultural Plan 2018-2022;
- 8.4 Arts Advisory Committee Terms of Reference endorsed 30 October 2018;
- 8.5 Nillumbik Shire Public Art Implementation Guidelines 2019-2022;
- 8.6 Nillumbik Shire Art Collection Policy 2019-2022;
- 8.7 Nillumbik Shire Art Collection Curatorial Guidelines 2019-2022;

### 9. Policy review

This policy should be reviewed by September 2022, whichever is the earliest.

### 10. Endorsed by Ordinary Meeting of Council on \_\_\_\_\_