Civic Art

The FY2010-20014 CIP provides for the City of Houston Civic Art Program. The program was established in December 1999, when City Council adopted an ordinance mandating the inclusion of civic art in selected capital improvement projects. Each year, the civic art component of new civic art as part of the City's collection.

The primary objective of the program is to enhance the environment through the inclusion of artist-designed features in new municipal facilities, contributing to a sense of community pride . The Civic Art Program supports the City's commitment to neighborhood enhancement and improving overall quality of life. As enhancement and improving overall quality of life. As projects are completed, they will add to Houston's image as a vibrant and culturally rich metropolis, both nationally and internationally.

Ordinance Summary

In FY2001, 1.75% of design and construction appropriations of selected CIP projects were appropriated for civic art. FY2002 was the first full implementation of the program

While every eligible CIP project will include a civic art allocation, not every eligible CIP project will actually have an onsite civic art component. A department may elect to pool civic art funds from several smaller projects together to enhance a facility with significant public access, or use funds to restore an existing piece of art. However, amounts appropriated for the Civic Art Program for distinct portions of the CIP will be kept separate and will be spent only for civic art purpose of funding.

Not all CIP projects are eligible under the ordinance. In general, the civic art allocation will not be applied against the following type projects or expenses: paving projects, street resurfacing, runways and ramps, parking lots, signal and traffic control projects, underground projects (i.e.: water lines, sanitary sewers, storm sewers), land acquisition, equipment purchases, and projects with budget amounts under $500,000.

The civic art allocation may be used to cover new art project costs, such as design, acquisition, installation, and conservation project costs for works of art in the City collection