

Artwork Project Plan

This document outlines key objectives, budget, timeline, artist selection, and deliverables for a proposed public artwork project.

Complete **Sections 1–11** prior to project start and present to the **Art in Public Places Advisory Board (APP)** for final approval. This form will accompany the APP's recommendation to County Council and will be updated as the project progresses.

1. Name of Project/Working Group: _____ **Police Station Art Project** _____

2. Working Group Members

Role	Name
a. APPB Member	_____Jasmine Stephens_____
b. APPB Member (Optional)	_____Tim Foley_____
c. Affected Location Representative	_____James Rodriguez_____
d. Other Interested Party (Optional)	__Chelsea Ashcraft_____
e. Other Interested Party (Optional)	__Russell Naranjo_____

3. Introduction – Project Overview

Describe the artistic opportunity, project background, goals, how it originated, its fit in the Los Alamos Public Art Collection, and any other important context.

Project Introduction:

Due to issues with roof drainage, the memorial at the police station will have to be removed and relocated. Though the county will take care of the memorial wall and the plaques that go with it, Deputy Chief Rodriguez has asked APP to assist with an art installment to make the memorial area more attractive to those who pass by.

4. Site and Context

Describe the proposed location and any associated capital projects, plans, or site-specific considerations.

Site Description:

Outside of the main police station entrance- in between the Justice Center signage and the door for the police storage.

Update 7/10/25: From the call for artists info: Overview: The Los Alamos, New Mexico Art in Public Places Board (APPB) invites artists to submit qualifications for a public art project: a sculpture of an African male lion to be

installed at the center of a designated area surrounded by the newly relocated Police Memorial Wall, outside the main entrance of the police station. This sculpture will serve as a visual enhancement to the site but is not a memorial in itself.

This open call seeks to identify qualified artists interested in being considered for the project. Selected artists from this call will be invited to submit a Concept Proposal and present it to the APPB. Those invited to develop proposals will receive a stipend. A single artist may be selected from this group to fabricate and install the final work.

Project Context: The sculpture will be installed at the center of a designated area surrounded by the newly relocated Police Memorial Wall, situated between the Justice Center signage and the police storage entrance. The lion sculpture will contribute to the visual identity of the site, offering a bold and symbolic presence that complements the setting without representing or replacing the memorial itself.

5. Artist Selection Process

a. Proposed Method for Artist Solicitation (Check one):

- ☒ Open Call for Art (RFQ)
- ☒ Artist Invitation
- ☐ Direct Selection (explain rationale below)
- ☐ Completed Work of Art (explain rationale below)

If Direct Selection or Completed Work is chosen, provide rationale:

If there is a potential, perceived, or direct conflict of interest, provide details (see Appendix C for COI definition):

b. Selection Process Details:

Describe number of finalists, whether proposals or interviews are required, if artists will be compensated for proposals and any other details deemed appropriate for this section.

Three finalists will be considered. A combination of interviews and proposal submissions should be requested. Only submissions that meet the “desires” of the project will be considered. The artwork requested must be police related and preferably a lion.

Update: 7/10/25- released call for artists; Two phases: 1st- call for art- request for qualifications; due date for this qualification packet is 8/18/25 8:00 a.m.; 2nd phase-select finalists who will be invited to create a design for this project; They will be paid a stipend for their design; Left it open to not select any finalists if no qualified packets are submitted

Police Chief Sgambellone would like him and Deputy Chief Rodriguez to be included when finalists are selected- wants to meet artists to discuss vision for sculpture.

6. Artist’s Scope of Work

Describe the artist’s expected responsibilities (e.g., design, fabricate, install, participate in planning meetings).

Scope of Work:

Scope of work for the artist includes design, fabrication, and collaboration such as attending meetings to further discuss the needs of LAPD for this work of art.

Update 7/10/25: From the Call for Artists: Artist Scope of Work:

- Create an African male lion sculpture.
 - The sculpture must fit within a 9 ft x 9 ft footprint and must not exceed 5 ft tall x 3 ft wide x 8 ft long.
 - Approved materials ideally include bronze or stone but can be other durable mediums suitable for long-term outdoor installation; all artwork must satisfy the Los Alamos public art ordinance requirement of a permanence of at least 20 years.
 - Artists are responsible for the complete project: concept development, fabrication, transportation, and installation.
 - Final installation ideally will be completed before May 2026, in time for site readiness ahead of the annual Police Memorial Ceremony.
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7. Evaluation Criteria

All proposals will be evaluated using the criteria below. Add any project-specific criteria as needed.

Standard Criteria:

- The work of art must be located in a public place with public visibility and impact.
- The work of art shall have a permanence generally of at least twenty (20) years, and shall be likely to remain a thing of value for this time period given appropriate site selection and maintenance.
- The work of art shall enhance the environment of the County.
- Quality and craftsmanship.
- Artist's reputation and/or recognition.
- Appropriateness for intended location.
- Long-term maintenance needs, based on artist's description and/or County's maintenance and restoration Contractor.
- Environmental impact (light, sound, exposure).
- Security and vandalism resistance.
- Public safety.
- Community input.

Additional Criteria for This Project:

Update 7/10/25: From the Artist Call for Art: Phase 1 - Qualifications Review

Artists will be selected to move forward based on the following criteria:

- Artistic excellence and innovation as demonstrated in past work
 - Ability to develop a design that supports the goals of this public art project
 - Demonstrated understanding of and interest in creating work for the specific site
 - Experience with projects of similar scale and budget
 - Proven ability to work with durable materials appropriate for exterior public installation
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8. Project Timeline

a. Artist Selection Timeline:

Before completion of the drainage project (Fall 2025)

- Qualification Submissions Due: Monday, August 18, 2025, by 8:00 a.m.
- Artists Invited to Compete will be Notified: Week of September 1, 2025

b. Design, Fabrication, Installation Timeline:

Before the next police memorial ceremony. May 2026

9. Budget

Break down the full project budget, including artist selection, design, fabrication, installation, signage/plaques, events, outreach, and contingency. Include an explanation of how this budget was determined (e.g. by allocating 1% from a specific capital project budget, based on the costs of similar projects, etc.)

Total Budget: **between \$50000-75000 for total cost of the project**

Breakdown and Explanation:

Based on research by Jasmine and James, we have found that artwork similar to what we are looking for is priced for about \$35000-50000 for the work. We would like to increase this limit in hopes of attracting a wonderful artist who will work with us on this project. The budgeted amount includes installation. Desired dimensions of the artwork are described as being “close to lifelike size”. Realistically, the artwork will have to fit in a 9’ by 9’ area- artwork will have to be no bigger than 5ft tall x 3ft wide x 8ft long(size based on a similar work found of a “reclined lion”). The artwork is preferred to be big enough to be interacted with by the community.

Updated 7/10/25: Total Project Budget for Artist advertised at \$45,000 to \$55,000; This leaves a \$20,000 contingency for stipends and other unknown costs.

10. Anticipated Hurdles

Identify any challenges related to permitting, installation, coordination, or logistics.

Potential Hurdles:

We do not anticipate hurdles for this project but challenges may arise with the coordination of installation and community feedback. Facilities will have an area created as well as the other elements for the project. We need to secure the art and make sure it gets to the police station. Members of the community may not approve of this artwork so obtaining feedback as well as public outreach will help with these issues.

11. Community Engagement, Marketing & Communications

a. Marketing and Outreach Strategy:

Describe methods to communicate with the public and promote the project.

Facebook posts, articles in the papers and word of mouth will help promote.

Updated 7/10/25: Sent Call for Artists out to APPB mailing list; Press Release; Social Media (Instagram & FaceBook posts); printed flyers at the library and LAAC; State Cultural Affairs Department; County PIO

b. Community Input Survey Questions:

List proposed questions for gathering community feedback.

The Los Alamos Police Department requested a lion sculpture because lions are widely used in law enforcement symbolism to represent strength, courage, protection, and vigilance. The artwork will complement site improvements planned as part of the Police Memorial renovation, though it is separate from the memorial itself. While the exact placement hasn't been finalized, the location for the proposed sculpture is the area between the Justice Center and the Police Station facing the north parking lot.

Your feedback will help APPB select a preferred design for recommendation to the County Council. This brief survey includes five questions. Please review both Options A and B, then share which one you prefer.

1. Which lion sculpture design do you prefer?

- Option A: Daniel Borup
- Option B: Jocelyn Russell
- Both are acceptable
- Neither meet my expectations

1a. What most influenced your preference between the two designs?

(Select all that apply) [Conditional question if Option A or Option B is selected in Q1]

- Differences in the lion's expression or personality
- Differences in sculpting style, texture, or detailing
- How well each design conveyed the intended themes (strength, courage, protection, and vigilance)
- My overall visual impression
- How well the design fit the surroundings
- Other (please describe)

1b. Why did neither lion sculpture design meet your expectations? (Select all that apply) [Conditional question if "Neither meet my expectations" is selected in Q1]

- The style of the designs did not appeal to me
- The proportions or overall look of the lions did not feel right
- The level of detail was not what I expected
- The designs did not reflect the character or symbolism I associate with lions
- I am not interested in this project / I do not want APPB to pursue this artwork
- Other (please describe)

2. Do you have any additional thoughts or suggestions you'd like the Art in Public Places Board to consider about either design (style, scale, visibility, placement, etc.)?

- Yes (please share)
- No additional feedback

3. How well did this survey give you the information you needed to choose between the two lion sculpture designs?

- I had all the information I needed
- I had most of the information I needed
- I had some of the information I needed
- I did not have enough information

If you felt information and/or specific questions were missing, what could we have provided or explained better to help improve this survey?

(Free text box)

Sections 12–16: To Be Completed During and After the Project

Project Notes – Progress Summary 6-12-26

Following the release of the Call for Artists and subsequent community engagement efforts, the project advanced through a multi-phase design review and evaluation process. A public survey was conducted to help the APPB understand community preferences regarding two finalist lion sculpture designs. Final survey results showed 58% (260) preferred Jocelyn Russell’s design, 16% (71) preferred Daniel Borup’s design, and 22% (101) selected “Neither meet my expectations.” A deeper analysis of written comments indicated that many respondents chose Russell’s design not because it was strongly preferred, but because it appeared less aggressive than Borup’s. Deputy Chief Rodriguez agreed with this assessment and indicated that he did not prefer Russell’s design.

Originally, four semi-finalist artists were selected to create lion sculpture designs, with County Council approving a \$1,500 stipend for each artist. Before stipend contracts were issued, one semi-finalist (a local artist) withdrew due to budget limitations and workload constraints. Before the design submission deadline, the second local semi-finalist also withdrew after determining that fabrication of his proposed design would exceed the project budget. Consequently, only two semi-finalist designs remained available for public review and feedback, forming the basis of the community survey.

To address concerns identified in the survey, both remaining artists were contacted to determine whether they were willing to revise their designs. Russell was open to the idea, but because her original submission was already a completed sculpture, the cost to redesign would be approximately \$95,000, beyond feasible limits for the project. Borup expressed interest in reworking his concept and submitted four new sketches: two less-aggressive African lion designs (one reclining, one in a sphinx pose) and two mountain lion concepts, reflecting several community comments recommending a mountain lion instead. After reviewing the redesigned options, the Working Group agreed to advance one of Borup’s African lion redesigns to the full APPB for consideration.

Throughout this time, the Working Group is continuing coordination on the companion site improvements. Although earlier discussions considered relocating the existing police memorial wall due to drainage concerns, those issues were ultimately resolved through other means, eliminating the need to move the memorial. The Police Department will plan and fund the renovated memorial, while APPB requires ongoing updates to ensure the accompanying lion sculpture is coordinated appropriately and enhances the memorial space. It was also agreed that the sculpture will sit on a concrete base (ideally designed to resemble natural rock) to provide an aesthetically cohesive setting; this base will be designed and funded by the Police Department.

12. Appraisal or Conservator Report (If Applicable)

a. Findings: *(attach documents if available)*

b. Justification for Purchase *(if cost and value significantly vary):*

13. Pacific Coast Maintenance and Restoration Information, Recommendations and Requirements (if applicable)

Details:

14. Recommendation to County Council

Select one:

- ☐ **Do NOT recommend; project cancelled.**

Explanation: _____

- ☐ **Recommend to Council** (note: include this document in the agenda packet for the Council's agenda item)

Important Details: APPB voted 4-0 to recommend commission and \$75K total project budget on July 23, 2026.

15. Closing of Working Group

Once the project has been either cancelled or approved by County Council, the Working Group may be disbanded. Details regarding the purchase, installation, and celebration can then be coordinated with the staff liaison, individual APPB members, and/or the appropriate County staff.

16. Closing of Project

Provide a narrative on project closure (e.g., completed, installed, celebrated, cancelled).

Closure Summary: On APPB's July 23, 2026 regular meeting, working group recommended to full board to recommend to Council the commissioning of Borup using revised Design #1 (Sphinx Pose). Since working group task was completed, it was closed within same vote.
