



VI. Public Art



Strategic placement of public art at the top of this urban plaza creates a focus and an attraction for visitors.



Public art allows people to feel a sense of ownership.



Sculpture can encourage people to interact with public space.

Public Art

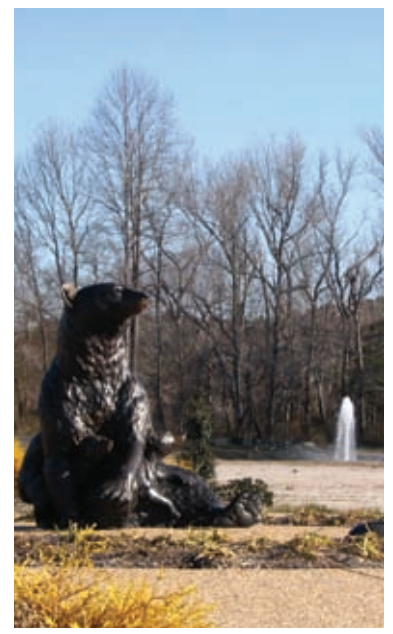
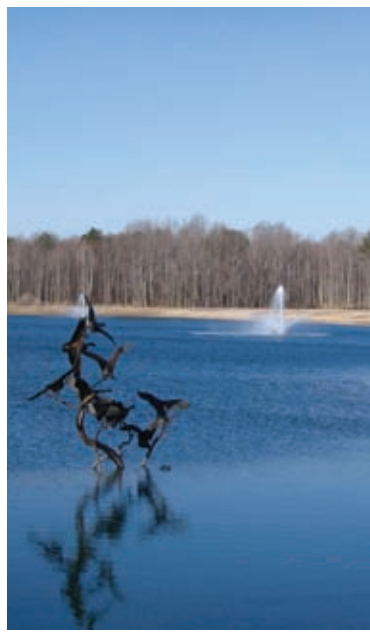
DEFINITION AND PURPOSE

The intention of public art is to provide visitors and residents of the city of Chesapeake with a visual landmark, large or small, that inspires a sense of identity, pride and creativity.

Like gateways, public art may have a variety of configurations and scales, although it should be sensitive to the human scale. Public art can be placed in a variety of places, on a variety of surfaces, and composed of a variety of materials. It should be consistent and coordinated with surrounding architectural features, street furniture, and events.

- **Location:** Public art has the potential to be located on such surfaces and structures as building façades, bridges, bus shelters and sidewalks and in places such as plazas, parks and intersections. They should be strategically located along established sightlines.
- **Type:** A wide variety of opportunities exist for public art exhibitions. Some examples of public art may include sculptures, mosaic walls, murals, paving patterns, monuments, memorials and water features.
- **Size:** Where space is limited, the size and placement of temporary or

rotating art features can be determined through the use of permanent plinths or pedestals.



The blue heron has been adopted as the symbol of the City of Chesapeake. The heron sculpture (left) and the flock of birds and the bear family (center and right) in the Edinborough neighborhood are examples of public art that express community appreciation of nature.



Public art contributes a carefree sense of fun to a neighborhood park.



This children’s fountain plaza is an example of interactive public art.



A formal fountain and seasonal plantings create an air of sophistication for this mixed-use retail street in Alexandria, Virginia.

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