



**CITY OF SAN ANGELO PUBLIC ART COMMISSION  
DEACCESSIONING POLICY**

Adopted by City Council on January 21, 2025

## **I. Introduction**

The City of San Angelo and its Public Art Commission are entrusted with the acquisition, preservation, and maintenance of the City's Public Art Collection. Given the significance of removing a work from this Collection, the City's policy is to approach deaccessioning with caution and deliberation.

## **II. Purpose**

This policy establishes a clear and transparent process for the San Angelo Public Art Commission to evaluate, discuss, and recommend the potential deaccessioning of permanent public artworks located in City-owned buildings, parks, or other public spaces. The policy ensures that deaccession decisions are thoughtful, respect the integrity of the artworks, consider community interests, and align with the Commission's mission. Final decisions on deaccessioning rest with the San Angelo City Council.

## **III. Definition**

Deaccessioning refers to the process of removing an artwork from the City's permanent public art collection. This may involve relocating, transferring ownership, selling, or otherwise disposing of the artwork.

## **IV. Criteria for Deaccessioning**

The following criteria guide the Commission in recommending a work for deaccession to the City Council:

- 1. Condition and Preservation**
  - The artwork is damaged or deteriorated beyond reasonable repair.
  - Conservation or repair costs are disproportionate to the artwork's value or significance.
- 2. Public Safety and Accessibility**
  - The artwork poses a risk to public safety or impedes accessibility. (If the artwork poses imminent danger, it may be immediately removed, with follow-up actions for repair or re-siting in line with policy.)
- 3. Relevance and Context**
  - Changes in the community, context, or cultural standards render the artwork no longer relevant or appropriate.
- 4. Location and Environmental Suitability**
  - The original site is no longer accessible or suitable, and no alternative site is appropriate.
- 5. Legal or Ethical Concerns**
  - Issues with provenance or acquisition raise legal, ethical, or cultural concerns.
- 6. Community Sentiment**
  - Community feedback indicates the artwork no longer aligns with public values or expectations.
- 7. At the Artist's Request**
  - The artist or co-artist submits a written deaccession request with specific reasons.
- 8. Acts Beyond Our Control**
  - The artwork is missing due to theft, accident, or natural disaster.

## **V. Deaccessioning Process**

### **1. Evaluation and Recommendation**

- The Public Art Commission may initiate a deaccession review or consider recommendations from City staff, stakeholders, or community members. Requests, which may come from a City resident, artist, or Public Art Program Administrator, should include grounds for deaccession and the requester's relationship to the artwork. (Residency requirements do not apply to artist requests.)
- With staff assistance, the Commission will evaluate the artwork's condition, historical significance, and relevance to deaccession criteria, coordinating with the overseeing department if applicable. The artist will be consulted, and repair possibilities and costs will be considered, if feasible.
- After evaluation and a public meeting, the Commission may formally recommend deaccessioning to the City Council.

### **2. Community Engagement**

- The Commission will seek public input to gauge community sentiment, including potential feedback sessions or public comment opportunities. Community input will inform the Commission's recommendation to the City Council.

### **3. City Council Decision**

- The San Angelo City Council makes the final decision on deaccessioning, reviewing the Commission's recommendation and supporting documentation.

### **4. Disposal Methods**

- If the City Council approves deaccession, the artwork may be relocated, transferred, sold, donated, or otherwise disposed of in a manner deemed appropriate. Preference will be given to relocation within other City spaces when feasible.

## **VI. Documentation**

Records related to the deaccession process—including evaluations, public feedback, Commission meeting minutes, recommendations to the City Council, and the artwork's final disposition—will be maintained as part of the Public Art Commission's official records.