

NOTICE OF MEETING
PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE
AGENDA

DATE: Monday, April 11, 2011

TIME: 4:30 p.m.

PLACE: Committee Room No. 1
Third Floor
Vancouver City Hall

PLEASE NOTE:

- *If you are unable to attend this meeting, please advise Tina Hildebrandt at 604.873.7268 or tina.hildebrandt@vancouver.ca.*
 - *Agendas and Minutes are available on the City of Vancouver civic agencies' web site at: <http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/civicagencies/publicart/index.htm>*
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Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of March 14, 2011.

Leave of Absence

1. 745 Thurlow Street Detailed Art Plan

Karen Mills and Justin Ridgeway, consultants, will present a Detailed Public Art Plan for 745 Thurlow Street. The attached material refers. Seeking approval.

2. Irish Monument

At its meeting on March 14, 2011, the Public Art Committee agreed to refer an update on a proposal for a monument celebrating the contributions of Irish Canadians to Canada to the next meeting in order to allow staff an opportunity to review the plans.

Accordingly, proponents of the proposal will present a final design to the Committee. Time pressures on the project are acute and a subcommittee may be appointed to resolve any unfinished business. Seeking approval.

3. Project Updates

Staff will provide updates on civic and private-sector projects currently in process.

4. Discussion Topics

Rachel Lafo assembled the following topics related to the public art program and committee, for discussion:

- i. What do you think are the most successful aspects of the city's public art program?
- ii. Where do you think improvement is most needed?
- iii. Is there a kind/type of art that you don't think is well represented in Vancouver?
- iv. Do you think the citizens and visitors to the city see much of the public art?
- v. How might we better get the word out to the public about what we are doing?
- vi. How might the Public Art Committee be a more effective advisory body?
- vii. Should the Public Art Committee be more of an advocacy group for the public art program, lobbying the city council to increase the staff and budget?

5. Other Business

Next Meeting:

May 9, 2011
4:30 pm
Business Centre, 2nd Floor, City Hall

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745 Thurlow Public Art Program

Detailed Public Art Plan

**Prepared for
Bentall Kennedy (Canada) LP**

**Prepared by
Public Art Management**

Detailed Public Art Plan

The Detailed Public Art Plan is provided subsequent to the submission and review of the Preliminary Public Art Plan by the Public Art Committee.

*The **Detailed Public Art Plan** describes in detail the arrangements made for the public art process. It should be undertaken in conjunction with the detailed design of the development. It provides a description of the major public art opportunities and sites; terms of reference for the selection of sites and artists; budget allocations to sites; a schedule indicating approximate dates of artist/art selection, installation and documentation; progress reports; and any anticipated needs for dedication, encroachment, maintenance, and de-accessioning agreements.*

*The **Detailed Plan** is reviewed by the Public Art Committee who will recommend it, along with any amendments to the Managing Director, Cultural services for formal approval.*

*The **Detailed Plan** should be submitted well before Development Permit application, and an approved Plan is a condition of Development Permit issuance.*

City of Vancouver Public Art Policies and Guidelines.

Adopted by City Council June 23, 1994 and November 22, 1994

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Legal Description

Current Zoning: DD

Proposed Zoning: CD-1

Site Area: 25,969 square feet

Street Address: 745 Thurlow Street, Vancouver

Legal Description: Lot 18, Block 18 D.L. 185 Group 1 N.W.D.

Plan 92; Parcel Identifier (PID): 009-393-463

Lot 19, Block 18 D.L. 185 Group 1 N.W.D.

Plan 92; Parcel Identifier (PID): 009-393-366

The North 1/2 of Lot 20, Block 18 D.L. 185

Group 1 N.W.D. Plan 92; Parcel Identifier

(PID): 009-393-421

The South 1/2 of Lot 20, Block 18 D.L. 185

Group 1 N.W.D. Plan 92; Parcel Identifier

(PID): 009-393-439

Total FSR Area: 399,052

Public Art Requirement: Participating re-zonings are required to allocate a portion of their construction budgets (\$.95 per foot) to public art as a condition of zoning

Amendment: 18,178 square feet of additional density was approved with a resultant increase in the public art requirement of \$32,902. (based on a charge of \$1.81/sf)

Public Art Process: Option “A”

Project Team and Contacts

Owner / Developer:

John Cordonier
VP Development, BC Real Estate Services
Bentall Kennedy (Canada) LP
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Vancouver, BC V7X 1B1
T 604-661-5000
bentallcapital.com

Architect:

Mark Thompson
Musson Cattell Mackey Partnership Architects Designers Planners
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Vancouver, BC V7X 1M9 Canada
T 604-687-2990 F 604 687 1771
mcmparchitects.com

Public Art Consultant:

Karen Mills
Public Art Management
Suite 3208, 381 Front St. West
Toronto, Ontario M5V 3R8
T 416-917-7664
publicartmgmt.com

Introduction

The Detailed Public Art Plan (DPAP) for the 745 Thurlow development project follows the submission and review of the Preliminary Public Art Plan by the Vancouver Public Art Committee on October 19, 2009.

Bentall Kennedy (Canada) LP has elected Option A¹ for its development of the 745 Thurlow Public Art Program. Public Art Management has been engaged as the Public Art Consultant to develop and execute the Public Art Program, commencing with the Detailed Public Art Plan.

This DPAP identifies the public art opportunities and zones / locations for the 745 Thurlow site based on analysis of the context comprised of site and community. The DPAP also identifies artists for consideration, as well as the selection process to determine recommendation of award of commission.

The final budget and anticipated schedule are also provided in this document. The intent of the DPAP is to outline the goals and objectives of the 745 Thurlow Public Art Program to ensure the mandate of high caliber public art that will appeal to the community and represent the City of Vancouver as an esteemed cultural centre.

¹ Option A requires a full public art process including staff and Public Art Committee review of Preliminary and Detailed Public Art Plans.

Context: Site and Architecture

The address 745 Thurlow, lying between Alberni St. to the North East and the prestigious retail strip of Robson St. to the South West, is firmly situated in Vancouver's downtown core and defined by its relationship to the diverse urban fabric comprised of the business district and shopping destinations. An array of restaurants, retail establishments, the Vancouver Art Gallery and other iconic cultural and governmental institutions abound, while the Robson Street shopping district and the newly expanded Vancouver Convention Centre are in close proximity. With the North Shore mountains visible in the near distance, the Pacific Ocean a short walk away and a thriving metropolitan hub at its doorstep 745 Thurlow can be described as being located in the heart of all that is Vancouver.

The 745 Thurlow project fulfills the need for increased commercial space within the Business District by providing a 23-storey office tower, including a 2-storey retail podium. The building will introduce a unique architectural vernacular to the area with its beveled façade of green and clear curtain wall glazing along Thurlow that veers outward as it reaches upward. Three major landscape components to be included are: ground-level / streetscape strategy; vibrantly vegetated rooftop delineation between the retail podium and the commercial tower above and; a "green" penthouse, the Sky Garden, an outdoor amenities space for tenants. The 745 Thurlow project will target LEED Gold status, putting into a practice a philosophy of sustainable design.



Context:

Massing - (left) Oblique aerial perspective

(right) Aerial View of 745 Thurlow site



Context: Community and Existing Public Art

Since the inception of Public Art in Vancouver, commissioned works have consistently reflected the changing ideals and sensibilities of the city’s artists, designers and architects and citizens. Contemporary public art practice bears witness to these paradigm shifts, continuing to respond to the present social and urban evolutions. Today, public art embraces myriad mediums, including light / multi-media installations that, while speaking through technology maintain a dialogue with the city’s inhabitants and visitors alike.

Recent public art commissions in Vancouver have set great expectations for all future work and demonstrate that the city is developing an exciting collection to showcase to the world. Examples of this would include pieces commissioned for the Vancouver Convention Centre Expansion program (both as voluntary contributions and as part of the City’s Public Art Program): “Digital Orca” by Douglas Coupland, “Floats” by Finnish artist Jaakko Pernu, Germaine Koh’s “Candelabrum”, Roy Arden’s “ Big House”, Derek Root’s “Permanent Light” floor project and “The Drop” by Berlin-based arts collective, Inges Idée. Likewise, the City of Vancouver’s Olympic and Paralympic Public Art Program provided, through its legacy program, several permanent pieces including Myfanwy MacLeod’s “Birds” in the Olympic Village Southeast False Creek, Gündä Foerster’s “Ice” at Vancouver City Hall, Rodney Graham’s “Aerodynamic Forms in Space” and Ron Terada’s “Words Don’t Fit the Picture”.

The public art intended for 745 Thurlow, as anticipated in this DPAP, will be in keeping with the progressive tradition of Vancouver’s Public Art collection.

Precedent images:

Existing public art in the vicinity

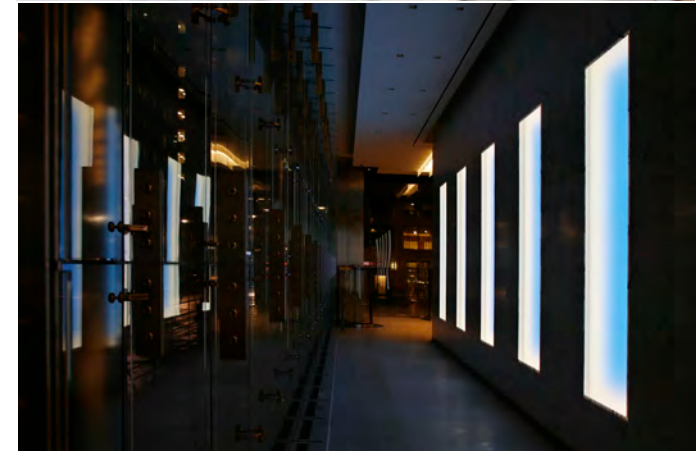
(left) "Digital Orca," Douglas Coupland, Vancouver Convention Centre Expansion Project, Vancouver, 2010

(right top) "The Birds," Myfanwy MacLeod, City of Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Games

Public Art Legacy program, 2010

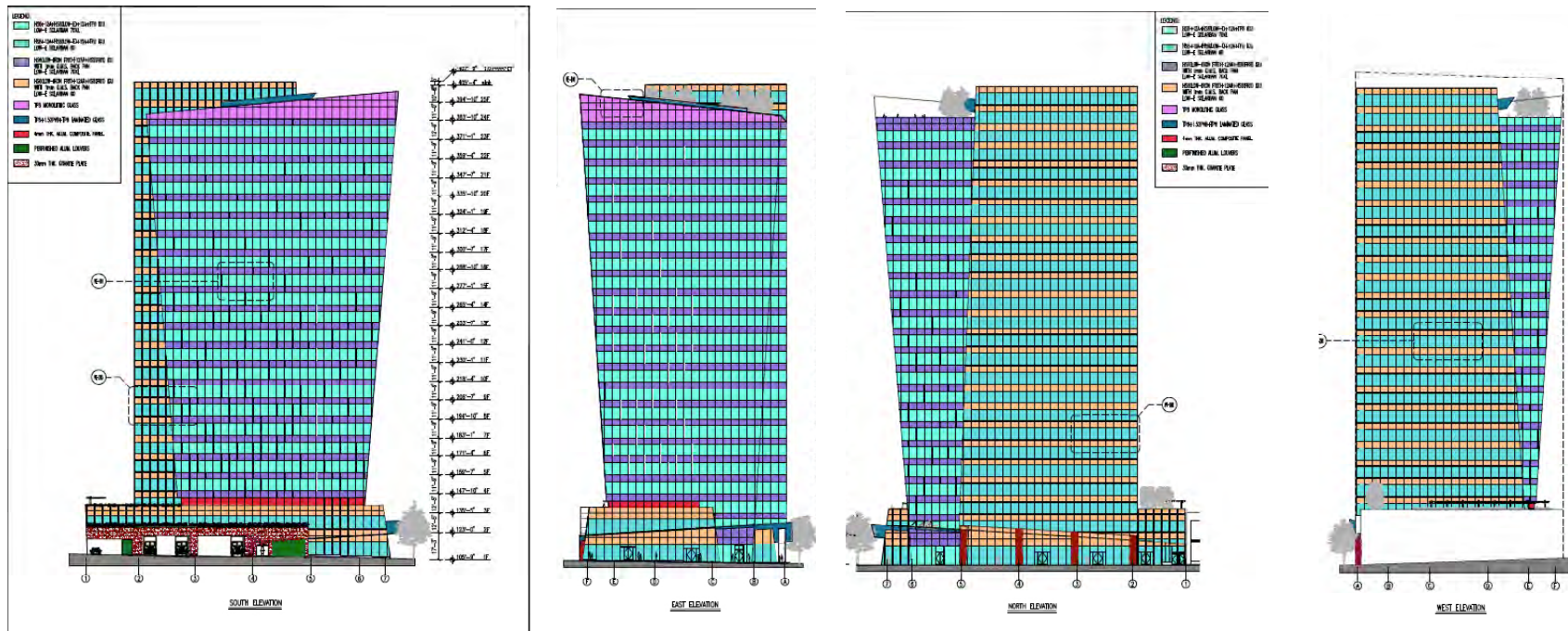
Light-based artworks

(right bottom) "Straight Flush," James Turrell, Bay-Adelaide Centre, Toronto, 2009



Public Art Opportunity: Zone and Location

An architecturally integrated LED artwork ranging across the south and east facades of the building is proposed. The placement, programming and arrangement will be developed by the artist in collaboration with the project architects and will be sensitive to the concerns of the neighbourhood.



Artists for Consideration

The following artists have been selected as artists for consideration due to their extensive experience in the fields of both art and technology, experience essential to the success of this project:

- Jason Bruges Studio (United Kingdom)
- LAb(au) Laboratory for Architecture and Urbanism (Belgium)
- Mader Stublic Weirmann (Germany)
- United Visual Artists (United Kingdom)

Selection Process

The artist for the 745 Thurlow public art program will be selected through a process of juried interviews. Artists will be invited to speak to the jury about their work and possible approaches to 745 Thurlow public art project.

The selection process will culminate in a review by an assembled public art jury. The jury will consist of:

- One (1) Owner representative Bentall Kennedy
- One (1) outside art expert- Bob Rennie, collector
- One (1) Vancouver-based artist- Scott Plear, RCA
- Alternate: Derek Root, artist

Estimated Budget

The estimated budget for the 745 Thurlow Public Art Program is \$397,277 based on \$0.95 / square foot building (FSR) for 399,052 square feet and an additional \$32,902. for 18,178 square feet in new density at \$1.81/ square foot.

Of this budget:

- Up to 18% Public Art administration (allowance for consulting, artist selection and related fees)
- 2% of \$39,902.00 provided to City of Vancouver for Administration costs
- 80% for Artist design fees and expenses; supply, fabrication and installation.
- The developer will provide on-going maintenance of the artwork as part of the building operating costs.

It is understood that the total project cost may be in excess of the public art budget and that the developer may be prepared to commit additional funds to execute a landmark work for their development.

Schedule

Vancouver PAC presentation:	April 11/11
Jury Interviews:	By April 30/11
Artist Selected:	By May 5/11
Design Development:	May/June 11
Fabrication and Installation:	In conjunction with building program

Planning: Objectives, Guidelines

The intent of the 745 Thurlow Public Art Program is to engage an artist to develop content for the integrated LED façade(s) and this will define the scope of the artist's work. This approach could be considered new media or interactive art and has been pushing the boundaries of contemporary public art by not only utilizing technology but, by engaging the public as a multitude, creating a public realm that contains and provides a communal experience.

The objectives of this public art approach comprise:

- Thematic significance – a development of content that speaks to and of the City of Vancouver, generating a dialogue about what it means to be a city that is Northern, frontier, young and modern
- Suitable scale – the façade will be of a scale of significant impact, ensuring that it is highly visually accessible to the public (without detrimental effect on neighbouring residences)
- Providing light and colour to the cityscape to augment the existing palette and light conditions
- Utilize the latest technology to integrate a façade that is as elegant as it is innovative
- Openness to a comprehensive range of artistic possibilities,
- Assurance that the public artwork and its programming will endure the test of time, so that it can be enjoyed for generations.

Credits

p.8 Google Earth 2009

p.10 (left) Martin Tessler

p.10 (right top) Karen Mills

p.10 (right bottom) Eamon MacMahon

p.11 Musson Cattell Mackey Partnership (MCMP)