

Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan - Consultant's Report

Date: March 5, 2018

To: Scarborough Community Council

From: Director, Community Planning, Scarborough District and Director, Urban Design

Wards: Wards 37 and 38 - Scarborough Centre

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SUMMARY

This report presents the conclusions and recommendations of the Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan (SCPAMP).

In July 2016, City Planning commissioned the firm of du Toit Allsopp Hillier (DTAH), in consultation with Andrew Davies Public Art Consulting (PAC), to undertake the Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan. The consultants' work program included public consultation meetings, local advisory group meetings, a public art workshop with St. Andrew's Public School and a peer review from the Toronto Public Art Commission (TPAC) to solicit ideas and to gather feedback on their findings, draft plans and recommendations.

The purpose of the SCPAMP is to provide strategic direction for the public art program in Scarborough Centre. The SCPAMP establishes the vision, guiding principles and framework recommendations for its public art program. To ensure public art is long-lasting, functional, safe, economical, sustainable and beautiful, the master plan provides implementation, maintenance and conservation strategies, including funding mechanisms available, to support the Public Art Plan vision. It reflects the regional importance of Scarborough Centre, current and emerging planning policy directions and the aspirations of the local community. See Attachment 1: Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan - Executive Summary.

With the significant investment in civic infrastructure associated with the Scarborough Subway Extension, the emerging transportation network resulting from the Scarborough Centre Transportation Master Plan and the revised vision and planning framework stemming from the upcoming Scarborough Centre Focused Review Study, a once in a lifetime opportunity exists to create an exemplar civic vision and signature, one that embodies the highest quality in both urban community and built form design. Public art

is an integral component of this city-building process and the Public Art Master Plan will help guide how public art contributes to and enhances the public realm in meaningful ways, contributing to identity and place-making in Scarborough Centre.

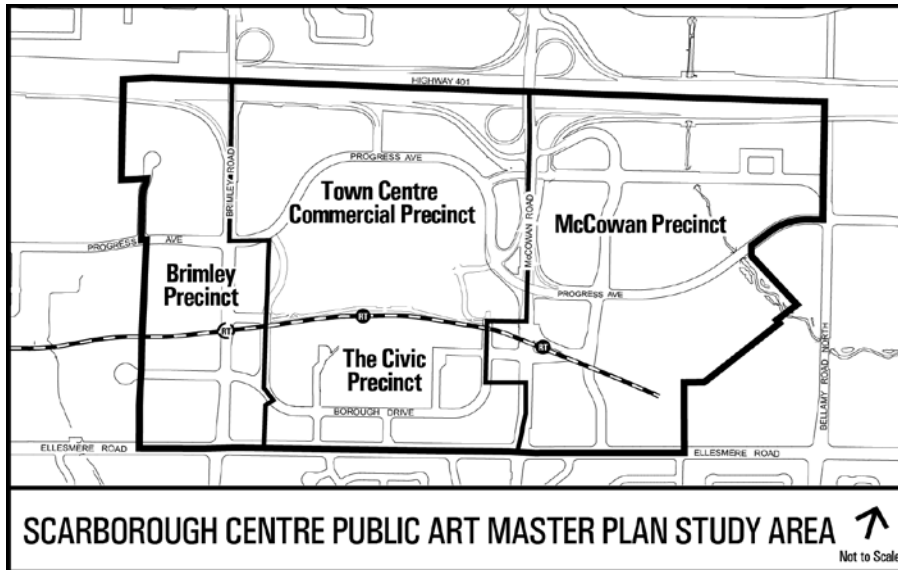


Figure 1: Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan Study Area

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Planning Division recommends that City Council:

1. Direct the Director, Arts and Culture Services, Economic Development and Culture to circulate the "Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan" to all City Divisions, Boards, Agencies and Commissions, including the Toronto Transit Commission, working on capital projects in Scarborough Centre;
2. Approve the "Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan" and endorse the use of this document by all City Divisions, Boards, Agencies and Commissions when reviewing public art in the Scarborough Centre, in order to, over time, enhance the public realm with high quality public art in support of the City's Official Plan policies; and
3. Endorse the implementation of the Priority Projects Plan (Figure 17) and Priority Projects Matrix (Table 1) identified in the "Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan" document.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The recommendations in this report have no financial impact.

DECISION HISTORY

Scarborough Centre Focused Review Study (SCFR)

At its February 21, 2018 meeting, Scarborough Community Council received the Scarborough Centre Focused Review Study (SCFR) report for information, which can be found at: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2018.SC28.5>. The intent of the SCFR is to update and further articulate the Scarborough Centre Secondary Plan and develop a revised vision and planning framework that will guide and support future growth and encourage city building.

Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan (SCPAMP)

At its February 22, 2017 meeting, Scarborough Community Council received the SCPAMP report for information, which can be found at: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.SC20.11>. The report identified the commencement of the study and the consultants retained to undertake the Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan. The intent of the study is outlined in the report.

Scarborough Subway Extension (SSE)

In March 2017, City Council approved, as described in the February 27, 2017 report <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.EX23.1>, the extension of Line 2 (Bloor-Danforth Subway) from Kennedy Station to Scarborough Centre via the McCowan alignment and the Triton bus terminal concept. The SSE received full Transit Environmental Assessment approval on October 30, 2017, thus granting authority to proceed with the transit project. Currently, the project is advancing detailed design, with the expectation of reaching 30% design by the end of 2018. The ongoing work on the SSE and associated bus infrastructure provides a unique opportunity to integrate public art through the design process.

Scarborough Centre Transportation Master Plan (SCTMP)

At its February 22, 2017 meeting, Scarborough Community Council received the SCTMP Phase 1 Status Report, which can be found at: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.SC20.12>. The goal of the SCTMP is to develop a framework and direction for the transportation network within Scarborough Centre to *support the Secondary Plan vision for a vibrant urban centre*. The SCTMP *identifies a number of initiatives and projects that would transform the existing auto-oriented transportation network into more walkable streets*. The preferred transportation network, which was presented for public input on November 20, 2017, creates a finer grid pattern with appropriately sized development blocks which support placemaking and city building. A final report is expected in the second quarter of 2018 and amendments to the Secondary Plan are anticipated. This work will help to inform the SCPAMP by identifying a more fine-grained pedestrian friendly transportation network.

Scarborough Centre Public Space and Streetscape Master Plan

At its meeting of July 11, 2012, City Council endorsed the Scarborough Centre – Public Space and Streetscape Master Plan. The purpose of the Master Plan was to establish

a vision for the Civic and Commercial Precincts and to identify priority projects and implementation strategies to improve and enhance their public space framework. One of the implementation action items identified was the preparation of a Scarborough Centre Public Art Plan, which would guide acquisitions, ensure the quality, location and placement for new installations, and inform the relocation of existing pieces. Refer to: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2012.SC17.22>

Scarborough Centre Secondary Plan

The Scarborough Centre Secondary Plan was adopted by City Council at its meeting of December 5, 6 and 7, 2005. It establishes a vision and strategic implementation policies for the Centre and sets out broad goals for the future development of the Scarborough Centre. As the Centre develops, high quality, urban design will play a significant role in promoting the Centre as a destination, unifying its parts and connecting it to its surrounding areas. In Section 3.1.4, public art is encouraged along public streets and at prominent locations on private and public lands. Refer to: <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2005/agendas/council/cc051205/cofa.pdf>.

COMMENTS

Scarborough Centre is identified in the Official Plan as one of the City's four designated Centres described in Chapter Two of the Official Plan. Each of the four Centres is different in terms of its local character, its demographics, its potential to grow and its scale.

Support for public art is articulated in a range of existing City of Toronto planning and policy documents, including the Official Plan, Scarborough Centre Secondary Plan and the Scarborough Centre Public Space and Streetscape Master Plan.

Section 1.1, Making Choices, in the Official Plan states that the vision of the Plan is "...about creating an attractive and safe city that evokes pride, passion and a sense of belonging - a city where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy a good quality of life."

The Plan is grounded in principles of: diversity, opportunity, beauty, connectivity, leadership and stewardship and sets out the basis of successful city-building. All successful cities astonish with their human-made and natural beauty. People choose to live and businesses choose to invest in beautiful cities. Building a high quality realm featuring public squares and parks, community gardens, public art, and a comfortable environment for pedestrians and cyclists, is essential to attract business, workers, residents and shoppers.

At its meeting of July 12, 2012, City Council endorsed the Scarborough Centre Public Space and Streetscape Master Plan. The purpose of this plan was to establish a vision for the Civic and Commercial Precincts, to identify priority projects and implementation strategies, in order to, over time, significantly improve the quality and character of the public spaces and streets in the Scarborough Centre. One of the implementation action items identified was the preparation of a Scarborough Centre Public Art Plan that would

guide acquisitions, ensure the quality, location and placement for new installations, and inform the relocation of existing pieces.

SCARBOROUGH CENTRE PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN

The Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan reinforces the Official Plan's definition of public art as a key component in its city-building objectives. This master plan will serve as an important and proactive guide in prioritizing sites, both publicly and privately owned, that offer the most potential and impact for public art opportunities.

The consultants' final report is available on the City Planning web page at: <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/planning-studies-initiatives/scarborough-centre-public-art-master-plan/>. The Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan provides an extensive overview and analysis of public art in four main sections:

Introduction and Background

The Introduction and Background sets out the physical and planning context for public art in the Centre. This section outlines the purpose of a public art master plan; a definition and role of public art in place-making; types of public art; and, the public consultation process for this study. The Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan provides a direction for the public art program, reflecting current policy directions and aspirations of the local community. The plan's purpose is to guide the development, aspiration and maintenance of public art; provide guidelines, principles and best practices for future commissioning, implementation and management of public art; provide the framework and criteria to select and prioritize future sites for public art; create synergies with existing public art; and, reinforce the vision for the Scarborough Centre as set out in the City's planning and policy framework.

The Introduction and Background section also provides a definition of public art; the various types and ranges; the role of public art in place-making; the involvement of professional artists; and, the placement of art in publicly-accessible locations. This section also provides background on the study process, study area and consultation process. The planning and policy context is outlined; enhancing a sense of place is addressed, and the existing public art in the study area is documented.

Strategic Framework

The Strategic Framework outlines a vision for Scarborough Centre's distinct and particular sense of place, which is defined by its historic evolution, natural heritage, landmarks and destinations, existing neighbourhoods and cultural diversity. Nine guiding principles are:

1. Contribute to the overall cultural vitality and sense of place in Scarborough Centre;
2. Use public art to connect people and places;
3. Encourage high quality public art that fosters learning, inquiry and dialogue;

4. Promote community identity, involvement and participation in the selection and making of public art;
5. Encourage works by local, national and international artists;
6. Support diverse approaches including permanent and temporary works, integrated art, design collaborations and new media practices;
7. Promote creativity and innovation; reflect a variety of artistic expressions that represent excellence in creativity and design;
8. Prioritize sites that are both high profile and under-served to enrich the experience of Scarborough Centre; and
9. Ensure that public art is an integral component of public works, public facilities, new buildings, transit areas and open spaces.

This section outlines key criteria to evaluate artworks; site selection and placement, and artist selection. For this public art plan, seven categories of public art types have been identified: Primary Gateways; Secondary Gateways; Places of Cultural Identity; Places of Green Identity; Art Infused Infrastructure; Future Transit and Private Development.

Implementation, Maintenance and Conservation Strategy

In order to make public art happen, to ensure it is long-lasting, functional, safe, economical, sustainable and beautiful, this plan recommends that all relevant divisions be strategic in planning and delivering the public art program, and to align public art implementation within upcoming or ongoing initiatives, private development and/or municipal capital projects. As such, this section addresses different means of procurement processes, as administered by Economic Development & Culture for art on public lands, and, City Planning's process for private development on publicly-accessible private lands.

The plan also outlines various budget ranges; funding programs and acquisition strategies. Many of these strategies are already in place. Typical funding, as outlined in the Official Plan, can be generated through development review, capital projects and, other agencies, boards and commissions (such as the Toronto Transit Commission) under the jurisdiction of the City. Potential grants, sponsorship, donations, and partnerships may also be a source of funding. The plan also outlines the City's acquisition strategy which includes art selection processes, selection panel recommendations, the roles and responsibilities of City Planning, Economic Development & Culture, the Toronto Public Art Commission; and public art consultants.

Maintenance and Conservation recommendations address how the Scarborough Centre Public Art Collection should be inspected and conserved, and how the privately owned public art, while the responsibility of property owners, could be appropriately maintained.

The plan offers priority projects with a matrix that identifies 11 projects, organized into three time horizons: immediate to short term (0-5 years); medium term (5-10 years); and long term (10-15 years). Priority locations and phasing recommendations are identified based on upcoming or ongoing initiatives, development or municipal capital projects and incoming contributions. This Priority Project Matrix is outline on page 39 of the Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan.

Appendix: Public Consultation Summary

The Appendix lists the public consultation summary which included sessions with the Local Advisory Committee, public meetings, student participation, and City Planning's Advisory Panel, the Toronto Public Art Commission (TPAC). Key Messages from each public meeting are listed, as are summaries of the Imagining Public Art session with Grade 7 Students from St. Andrews Public School. The plan also notes the support of the Toronto Public Art Commission at its July 12, 2017 public meeting.

In addition to identifying a hierarchy of priority locations (refer to page iv in Attachment 1: Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan - Executive Summary), this master plan offers an approach for phasing and implementing public art. Appropriate budget ranges are suggested to indicate the scale of the projects (Temporary or Small; Medium; and Large). Competition methods that are in accordance with the City's process for both private and public commissions are also identified. It provides best practices for commissioning art and site selection criteria to ensure the public art in Scarborough Centre is of the highest quality and contributes to the overall build out of this area of the City.

This master plan was produced to be used by Economic Development and Culture and City Planning, and to be shared with the private sector when identifying public art opportunities on publicly accessible areas of new development sites. Further, this document will assist City Planning when securing funding contributions from private developers to be directed to publicly owned sites. Those “off-site” contributions may be directed to future capital projects, and/or pooled until sufficient funds are available to proceed with public art competitions and implementation.

In anticipation of upcoming capital projects in Scarborough Centre, including the significant investment in civic infrastructure associated with the Scarborough Subway Extension (new station entrance(s) and a new bus terminal), this plan will help to prioritize and identify public art opportunities in the coming years. This plan allows for the proactive planning of public art, whether it is independent sculptures or art works integrated into infrastructure. As recommended, the Public Art Master Plan should be circulated by Economic Development and Culture to all City divisions working on capital projects in the Scarborough Centre, including Transportation Services, City Planning, Parks Forestry and Recreation and all boards and agencies including the Toronto Transit Commission, for use in their long-term planning. It is important to note that the Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan is intended to be a living document that will evolve in accordance with changes in urban development and will be updated regularly.

CONCLUSIONS

As new development applications, infrastructure and capital projects (including works associated with the Scarborough Subway Extension and the Scarborough Centre Transportation Master Plan) are approved, the Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan will serve as an informed and proactive guide when planning for high quality public art on both public and private sites within Scarborough Centre.

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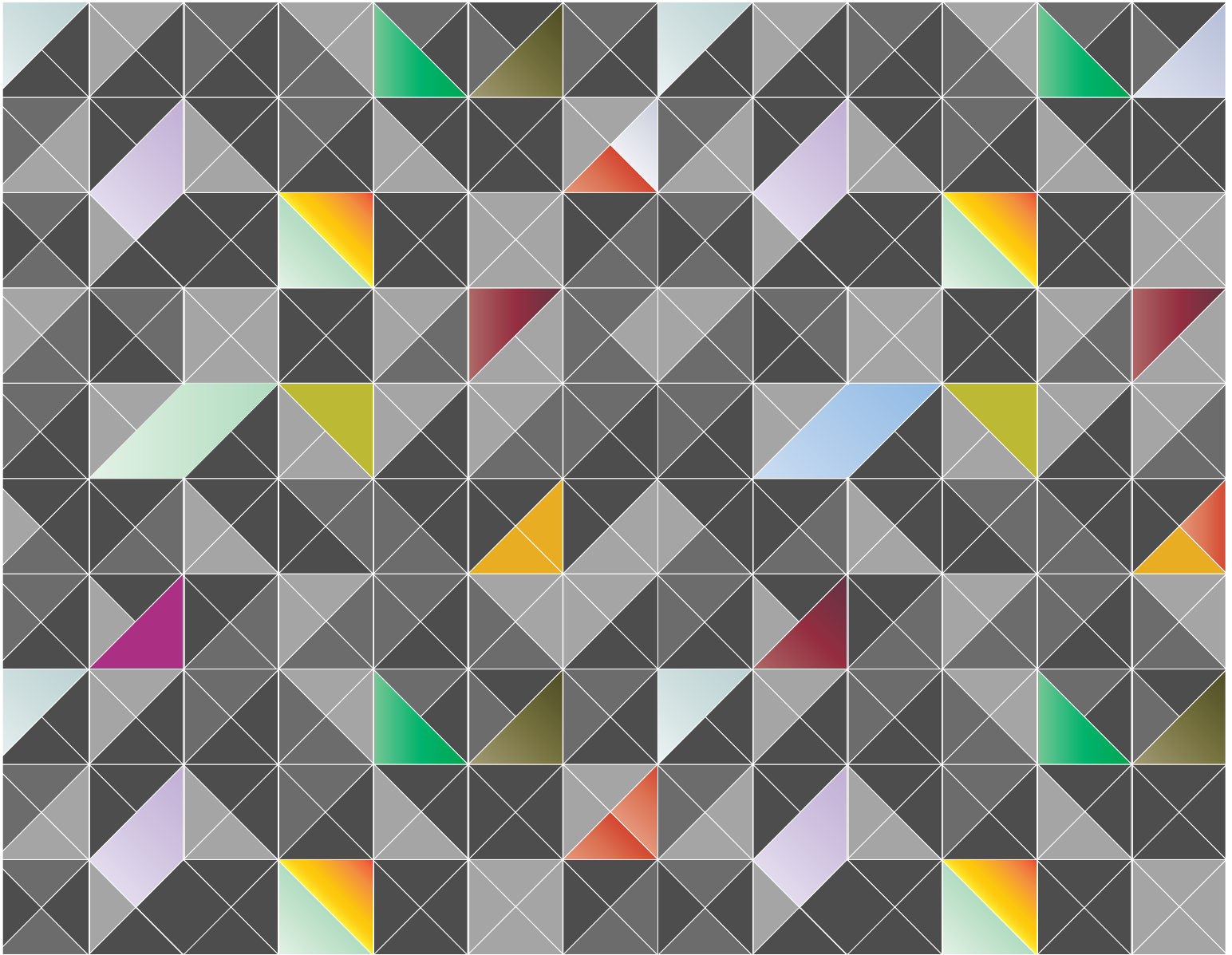
ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan: Executive Summary

Attachment 1

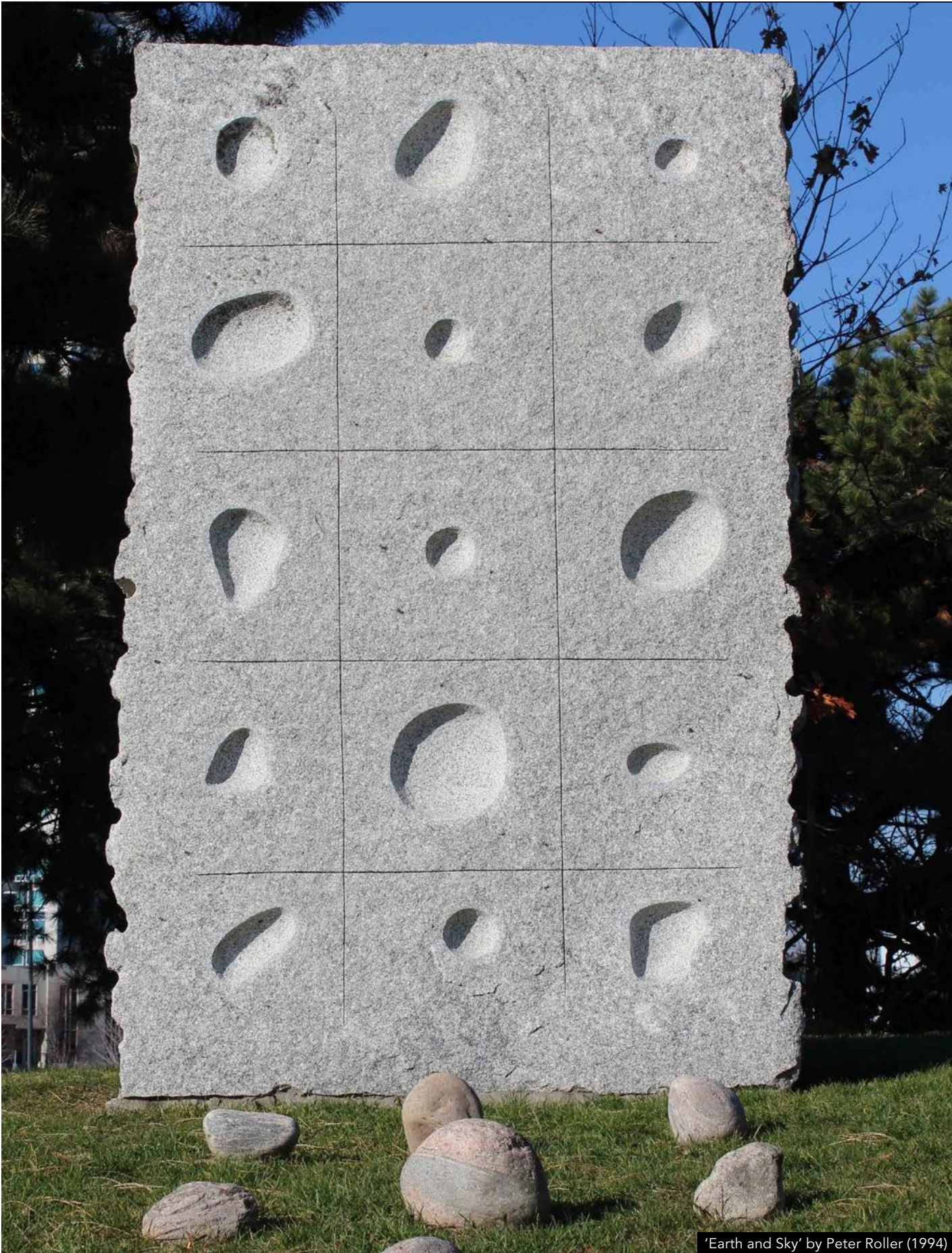
Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan: Executive Summary

SCARBOROUGH CENTRE PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN



CITY OF TORONTO
DECEMBER 21, 2017
FINAL REPORT

dtah **PAC**
ANDREW DAVIES
PUBLIC ART CONSULTING



'Earth and Sky' by Peter Roller (1994)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“Public art should contribute to the overall cultural vitality of Scarborough Centre, be complementary to specific qualities of sites and help to articulate the sequence of public spaces.”

- Principle 21, Scarborough Centre Public Realm Plan, 2012.

Public art has played a role in the identity of Scarborough Centre for decades. The Hand of God statue located in the Civic Common south of Borough Drive has long served as one of the lasting symbols of the Centre. A number of additional public artworks are also located in the Civic Precinct, including eight pieces that were commissioned as part of the 1994 Granite Sculpture Symposium—a showcase for stone as a sculptural medium. As the Centre redevelops further, public art will become increasingly important to help define the character of new public spaces and contribute to identity and place-making.

PURPOSE

The Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan (SCPAMP) provides strategic direction for the public art program in Scarborough Centre. The Master Plan reflects the regional importance of Scarborough Centre, the current planning policy directions and the aspirations of the local community. It is expected that the public art program will be implemented incrementally based on ongoing development, municipal capital projects and future initiatives.

The purpose of the SCPAMP is to:

- guide the development, acquisition and maintenance of public art;
- provide guidelines, principles and best practices for future commissioning, implementation and management of public art;
- provide the framework and criteria to select and prioritize future sites for public art;
- create synergies with existing public art; and
- reinforce the vision for Scarborough Centre as set out in the City’s planning and policy framework.

MASTER PLAN ORGANIZATION

The SCPAMP is organized into three primary sections:

- 1. Introduction and Background** sets out the physical and planning context for public art in Scarborough Centre;
- 2. Strategic Framework** establishes the vision and guiding principles for the public art program. The Public Art Plan identifies the locations, types and criteria for public art; and
- 3. Implementation, Maintenance and Conservation Strategy** provides guidance on the funding, procurement, maintenance and conservation of public art.



'Red Ribbon' by Turenscape, China



'Reticulated Gambol' by Young + Giroux, Toronto

THE ROLE OF PUBLIC ART IN PLACE MAKING

Public art is a component of the public realm and should contribute in meaningful ways to the experience of Scarborough Centre's sense of place. Public art projects should aim to contribute to the creation of memorable places, strengthen connections to the past, improve the quality and experience of Scarborough Centre's private and public realm, assist in wayfinding and create landmarks that provide focus and pride of place.

POLICY CONTEXT

Support for public art is articulated in a range of existing City of Toronto planning and policy documents including the Percent for Public Art Program, the Scarborough Centre Secondary Plan (2008), the Scarborough Centre Civic Precinct Implementation Plan (2009), the Scarborough Centre Public Space and Streetscape Master Plan (2012) and the McCowan Precinct Plan (2014). The Official Plan defines public art as a key component in its city-building objectives.

A LIVING DOCUMENT

The SCAMP is intended to be a living document that will evolve in accordance with changes in urban development and policy and be updated regularly. The Scarborough Subway Extension Project Assessment and the Scarborough Centre Transportation Master Plan, both major initiatives currently underway, are advancing the

evolution of Scarborough Centre into a walkable and connected urban centre with a strong sense of place. The implementation of public art within Scarborough Centre will play a vital place-making role and further contribute to the distinct character of the Centre.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The Strategic Framework set out in Chapter 2.0 establishes the vision and guiding principles for the Scarborough Centre public art program. The Public Art Plan (page iv) identifies the locations, types and criteria for public art projects throughout the Centre. Projects may change and/or new opportunities may be presented, but as long as the vision, guiding principles and framework recommendations are met, then the introduction of public art in the Centre will progress in a coordinated and cohesive manner.



'Echo' by Jim Hodges, Toronto



'Kinetic Facade' by Ned Khan, Brisbane, Au

IMPLEMENTATION, MAINTENANCE AND CONSERVATION STRATEGY

It is essential to base future implementation activities in technical excellence so that public art is long-lasting, functional, safe, economical, sustainable and beautiful. Chapter 3.0 of the SCAMP provides the implementation, maintenance and conservation strategies to support the Public Art Plan vision.

The Public Art Priority Projects (on page iv) identifies 11 priority public art projects based on upcoming and/or ongoing initiatives, development or municipal capital projects and incoming contributions. Priority projects have been identified to provide maximum benefit and to ensure coordinated momentum as Scarborough Centre develops. The Priority Projects Matrix (Table 1, page 39) organizes the projects into three time horizons: immediate to short

term (0-5 years); medium term (5-10 years); long term (10-15 years) and includes recommended budget ranges and potential partnership opportunities.

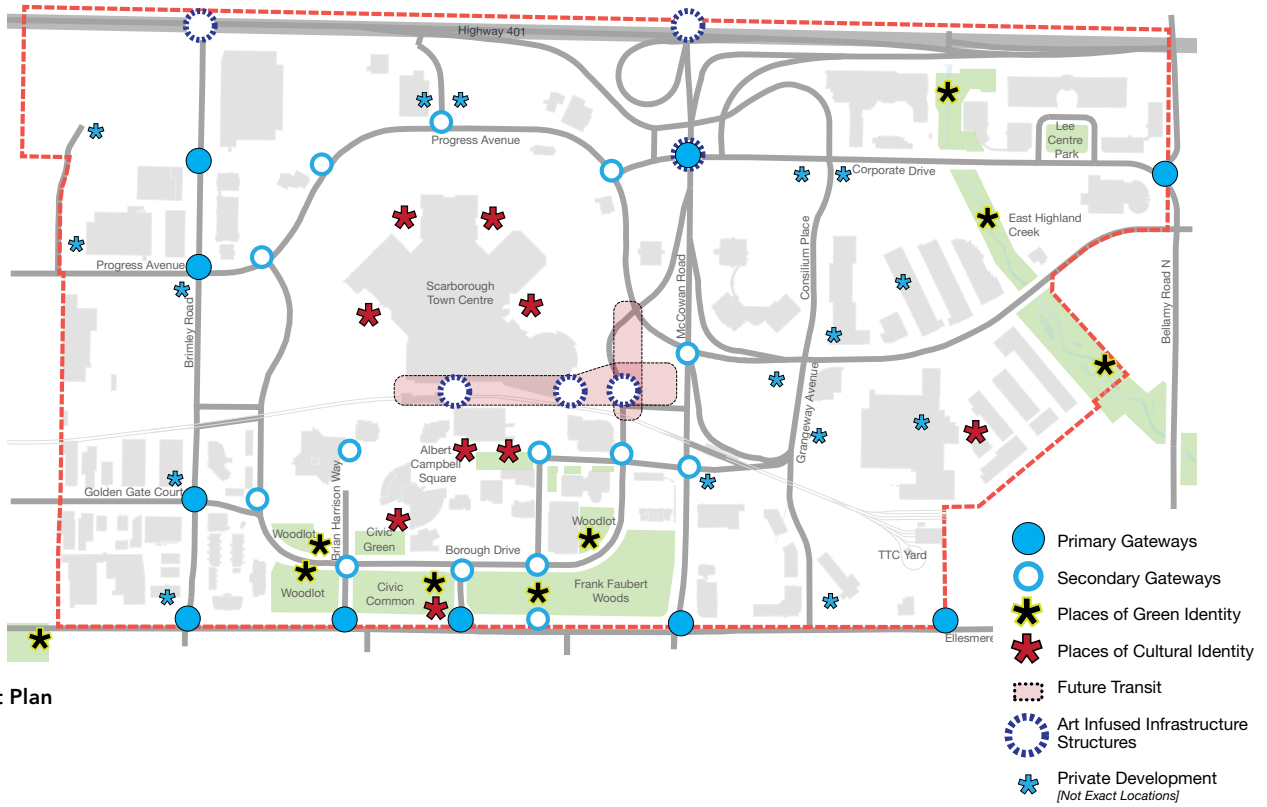
The first steps should concentrate efforts in the Civic Precinct to help strengthen the heart of the Centre, then expand into the other Precincts as part of capital works projects and private development. Four initial 'actions' or 'quick wins' are recommended to kick-start the implementation of the SCPAMP vision:

1. Expand public art intensity outwards from Albert Campbell Square.
2. Celebrate and promote the existing collection. i.e. art walk, use of social media, interpretation.

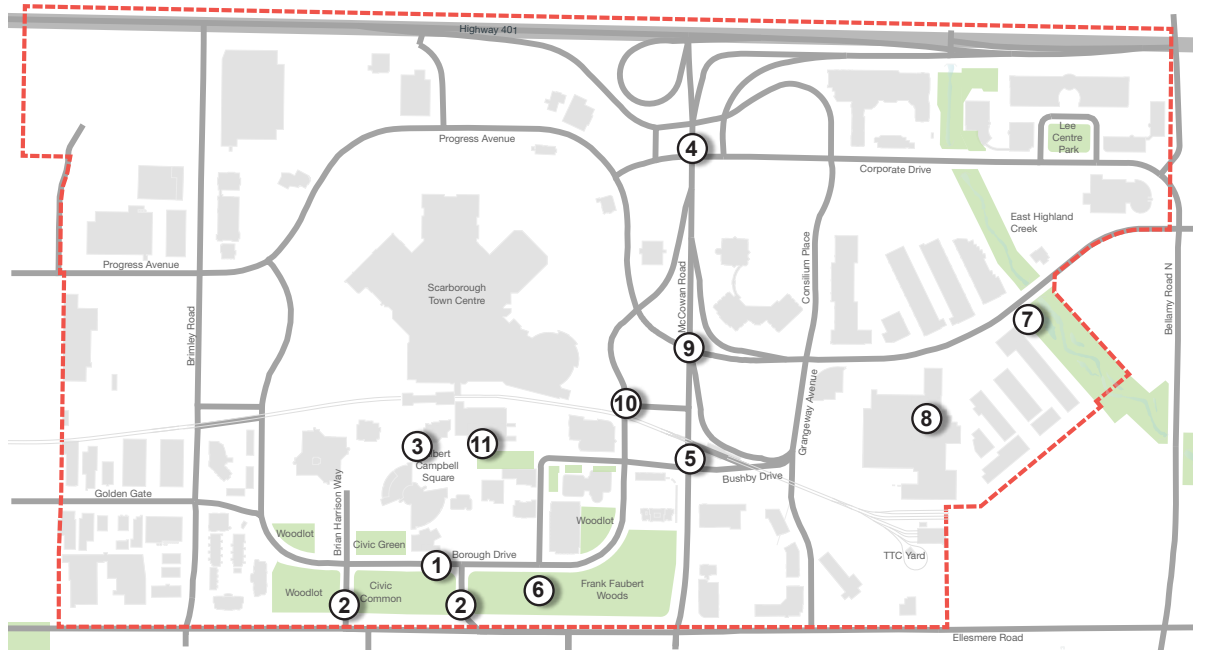
3. Link public art to infrastructure or municipal projects, such as future transit, intersection improvements or projects identified as state of good repair in the capital program. Specific public art opportunities include the redesign of the Borough Drive Approaches at Ellesmere Road and the future subway station and bus terminal.

4. Introduce public art into the development of the Bushby / Town Centre Promenade to connect the Civic Precinct to the new park and public school site in the McCowan Precinct.

SCARBOROUGH CENTRE PUBLIC ART MASTER PLAN
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Public Art Plan



Public Art Priority Projects

Priority Public Art Locations

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

This document is a tool to deliver a successful public art master plan for Scarborough Centre. The path to implementation should be a logical, incremental process with each step building upon those before it. City staff from many departments and the community at large need to work together to successfully deliver the recommendations presented in this plan. Eight recommendations for successful implementation of the SCPAMP vision are listed below.

1. Aim for the highest quality contextual public art made by professionals. Follow the best practices for commissioning and site selection set out in the SCPAMP to ensure public art is of the highest quality and contributes to the overall evolution of Scarborough Centre.

2. Focus Funding on Priority Projects. It is recommended that the City focus public art funding on the recommended Priority Projects and ensure coordinated momentum as Scarborough Centre is developed. (Refer to Fig. 17 on page 38 and Table 1 on page 39)

3. Build Synergies with Upcoming or Ongoing Initiatives. It is recommended that the SCPAMP be circulated by Economic Development & Culture to all of the City departments that will be

undergoing capital projects in Scarborough in the next ten years. This should include: Transportation Services / StreetARToronto; City Planning; Parks, Forestry & Recreation; and the TTC. It is also recommended that regular meetings between all of these departments and/or Agencies, Boards and Commissions occur so that opportunities for public art through capital projects can be identified at early stages. Economic Development & Culture should take the lead on establishing regular meetings. An outcome from the first of these meetings should be an inter-divisional working group made up of one representative from each of the above departments. This would prioritize the potential for public art within future capital projects and help in the planning and implementation of the SCPAMP.

4. Work in an Interdisciplinary Way. The implementation efforts should become part of department work plans to ensure efficient delivery of each project. It is important for all involved to be strategic in planning and delivering the public art program, and to align public art implementation with upcoming or ongoing initiatives, private development or municipal capital projects.

5. Build Interest and Participation. Generating interest and participation from the Scarborough community is essential. Successful temporary art installations and festivals could be supported as “quick wins” that help to secure momentum, collaboration, and implementation on the larger long term projects. City staff should identify community stakeholders to consider as members who could participate on selection panels.

6. Consider Strategies to Expand the Funding Options for Public Art. Funds for public art can come from beyond typical sources. The SCPAMP recommends looking to government granting agencies in partnership with artists or non-for-profit organizations, sponsorship, donations and crowdsourcing as potential funding opportunities.

7. Update Regularly. The City should review this master plan every five years making updates that reflect policy changes and take advantage of all new opportunities.

8. Measure Success over Time. Document the success and challenges of the SCPAMP and build upon lessons-learned from previous projects to ensure its long term use.



Scarborough Civic Centre and Library