



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee  
 From: Terry Crowe, Manager, Policy Planning  
 Re: HAMILTON COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING PUBLIC ART PROJECT

*to Parks, Rec & Culture - Aug. 31, 2004.*  
 Date: August 24, 2004  
 File: 11-7000-09-20-030/2004-Vol 01

Staff Recommendation

That:

- 1) An allocation of \$40,000 for the development of a public art project as part of the new Hamilton Community Safety Building, be approved.
- 2) Staff implement the installation of the "Spotty the Dog" Whirligig Public Art Project, as presented in the report dated August 24, 2004 from the Manager, Policy Planning.

Terry Crowe  
Manager, Policy Planning

Att. 3

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY					
ROUTED TO:		CONCURRENCE		CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Fire Rescue .....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Parks .....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Facility Management.....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Budgets .....	Y	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>REVIEWED BY TAG</b>	YES	NO	<b>REVIEWED BY CAO</b>		
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				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Staff Report

### Origin

On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2003, Council endorsed the following recommendation:

*That the allocation of \$51,000 for the development of public art projects as part of the new Hamilton and Sea Island Community Safety Buildings, (as outlined in the report dated May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2003, from the Manager, Policy Planning) be endorsed [e.g. \$25,500 each].*

Earlier, on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003, Council endorsed the 2003 Community Safety Buildings Capital Budget that included an allocation of \$36,000 (e.g. \$18,000 each) for the development of public art projects as part of the new Hamilton and Sea Island Community Safety Buildings.

Currently, Council has approved a total of \$87,000, which is equally allocated between the Sea Island and Hamilton Community Safety Building Public Art Projects.

Earlier, the Sea Island Community Safety Building Public Art Project “Shaping Hands” by Bart Habermiller and Emily Barnett was endorsed by Council on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

This report recommends the “Hamilton Community Safety Building Public Art Project” proposal for Council’s consideration and endorsement (e.g. \$43,500).

### Findings Of Fact

#### Common Public Art Theme for All Community Safety Buildings (Fire Halls)

As per Council discussion on June 23, 2003, the recommended common theme that will be applied to all community safety building (e.g. fire halls and police stations) public art projects is: “community safety”. “Community safety” covers a broad range of activities, services, apparatus and individuals that help to make Richmond a safe community.

Each community safety building public art project competition call will invite artists to work with area residents and community service providers to determine how best to interpret the theme at the new building and their surrounding landscape. The community interpretation of the artwork could focus on the firefighter, police officer, fire truck, community involvement in safety, community safety service providers, memorial and remembrance.

To ensure that the public art projects reflect community views, each artist will work with each community on that community’s fire hall, versus one artist that would be common to all new facilities. This approach will ensure community creativity, merit, and distinctiveness.

#### Terms of Reference – Hamilton Community Safety Buildings

The public art terms of reference for the Hamilton Community Safety Building Public Art Call (**Attachment 1**) describes the art opportunity, site description, scope of work, budget, selection process and design schedule.

#### Public Art Selection Process

The chart outlining the public art decision-making process for a City initiated public art project is presented as **Attachment 2**.

Hamilton Community Safety Building Public Art Project Panel

The Panel members, who reviewed 21 public art submissions and are recommending an artwork for the Hamilton Community Safety Building, include:

- Wolfe Strecko, Hamilton Resident
- Cathy Kluthe, Hamilton Resident
- Mark Glavina, Artist & Richmond resident
- Brian Foreman, Art Curator & Richmond resident
- Colleen Dixon, Artist and Architect
- Harold Kiesewetter, Richmond Fire Rescue

Kim Johnston, Johnston Davidson Architects (i.e. the Hamilton Community Safety Building Architect), provided architectural technical support to the panel.

Recommended Public Art Project – “Spotty the Dog” Whirligig

The artwork “Spotty the Dog” whirligig by artist Doug Taylor was selected by the Public Art Project Panel for the Hamilton Community Safety Building. The sculpture’s proposed siting is to be located at the fire hall’s front or side yard. A specific location will be determined as part of the building’s development stage, involving local fire staff, Park staff, project architect and the community.

The Richmond Public Art Commission supports the Panel’s recommendation.

“Spotty the Dog” whirligig will be a professionally executed wind machine approximately 10 feet long with a 6 feet diameter propeller and sitting on top of a 20 foot high pole (**Attachment 3**). The piece will continually turn to face the oncoming wind. The propeller will operate slowly at very light breeze. However, when the wind gets beyond 60 kph (40 mph) the governing mechanism will allow the propeller to turn sideways and slow down.

The “Spotty the Dog” whirligig will be made of cast aluminum with the rest of the materials consisting of stainless steel and aluminum with delrin (i.e. nylon) bushings to reduce noise. The artwork will be mounted on a pole 18 ft. high.

If there is a lot of heavy wind, the artwork may require maintenance to replace the flexible drift shaft once every 2 to 3 years at a cost of \$150. This is the only maintenance required to keep the artwork operational and is already budgeted.

The artwork evokes the following message to the passer-by:

*“Spotty the Dog” symbolizes the fire station Dalmatian, one of the most recognized symbols of the fire service. It is known that the Dalmatian, because of its poor hunting abilities, was relegated to the stable area of fine manor homes. It was in these stables that the Dalmatian became acquainted with the horses. Dalmatians were used by the fire service in the days of the horse drawn fire engines because they were not afraid of the horses and they would guard fire wagons. The Dalmatian, with its superior agility and endurance would run out in front of the horses and clear the streets for the approaching fire engine. When the horses were replaced by gasoline driven fire engines, many fire departments kept their Dalmatians. Today, you can still visualize the Dalmatian standing proudly, on top of the fire engine as it races to another emergency.”*

The artwork also includes the image of a large firefighter's helmet that helps to direct the position of the whirligig in windy days. On the helmet itself you can see the image of "The Maltese Cross" that all firefighters wear, a symbol of protection and the badge of honour.

#### Artist – Community Involvement

The artist attended several community meetings in the community. A maquette of the "Spotty the Dog" whirligig was shown at the annual Hamilton Community picnic held on June 18, 2004. Majority in the community like the artwork and thought that this is a wonderful and whimsical element to Hamilton, one that will be attract on going observation and become a community marker for a long time to come.

#### **Financial Impact**

1. *Budget*

Council has approved a budget of \$43, 500 for the Hamilton Community Safety Building Public Art Project (\$18,000, originally approved in the Community Safety Buildings Capital Budget for 2003, and the \$25,500 from the 2001 Public Art Reserve Project #40802, originally approved in the 2001 Capital Plan for expenditure on art work).

2. *Spent To Date*

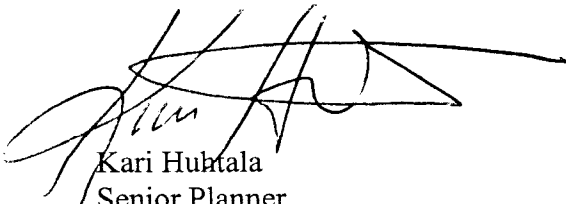
For the public art project competition: \$3,500.

3. *Approval Sought*

To construct the public art project: \$40,000.

#### **Conclusion**

The new community safety building represents an opportunity to provide public art in consultation with the community to enhance the identity and vibrancy of the community safety building and the Hamilton Community.



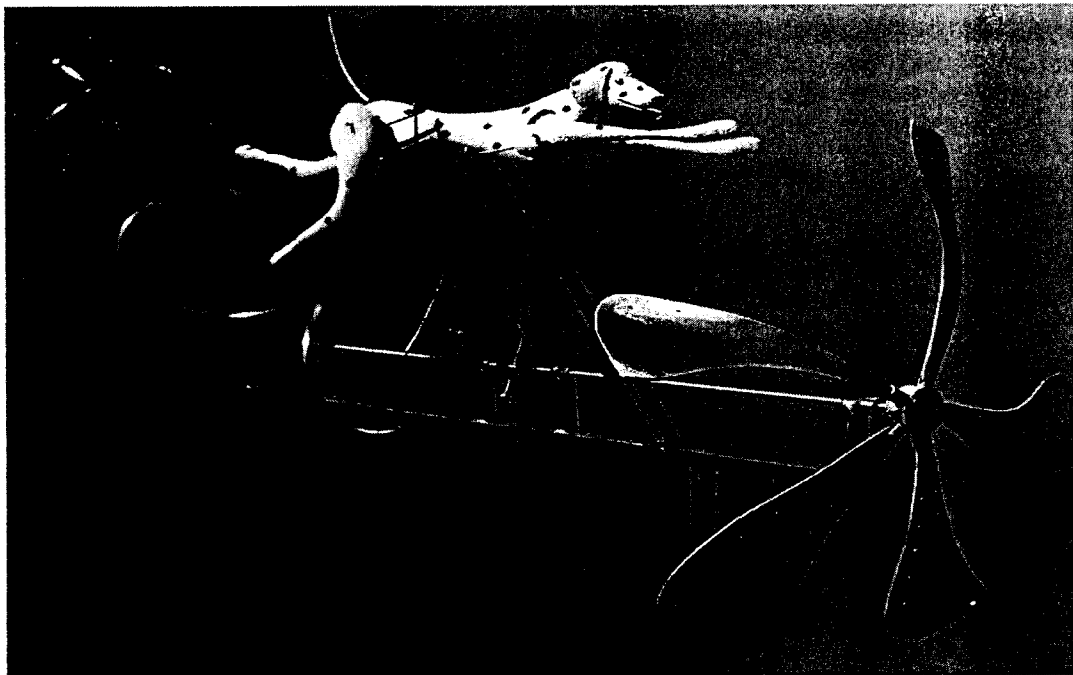
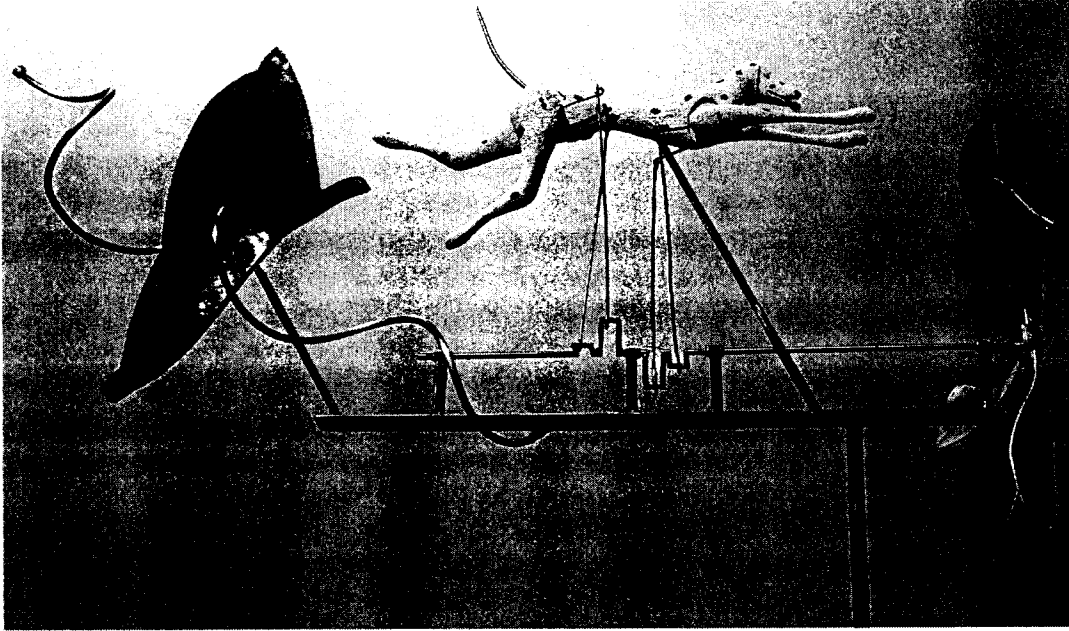
Kari Huhtala  
Senior Planner  
(4188)

KEH:cas

ATTACHMENT 3

**Maquette of Proposed Hamilton Community Safety Building Public  
Art Project**

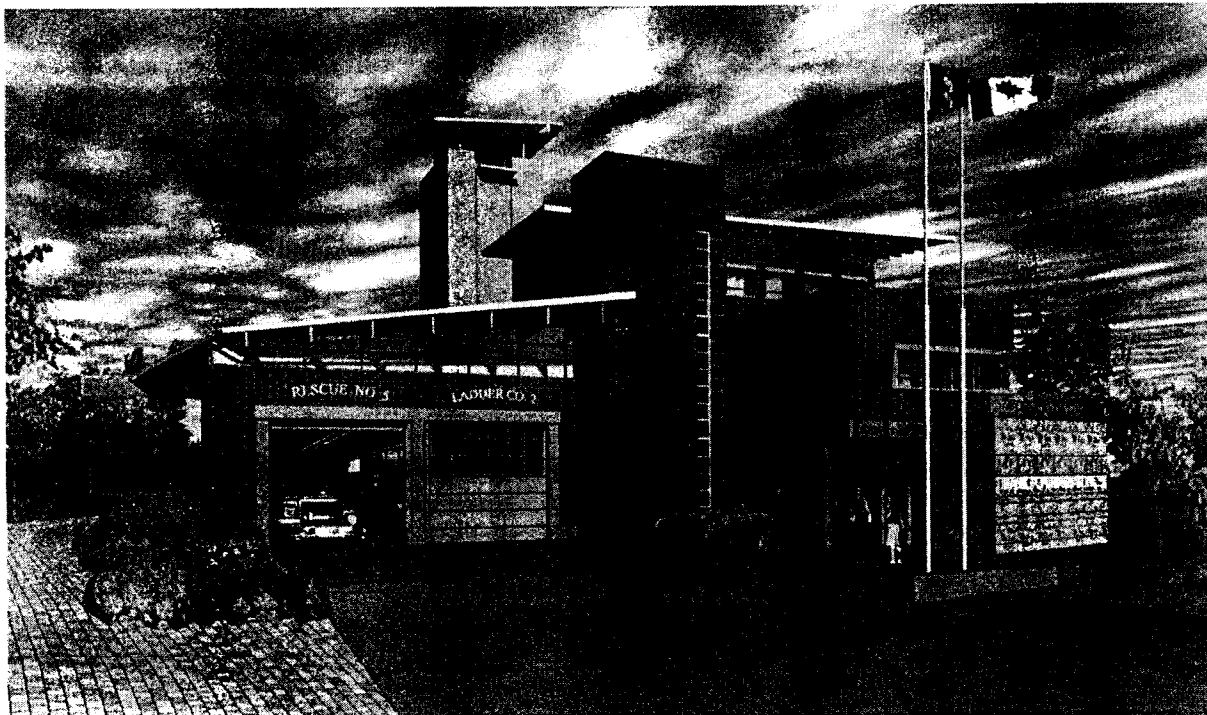
“Spotty the Dog” Whirligig by Doug Taylor





# Hamilton Community Safety Building (Fire Hall)

# Public Art Call For Entry



## CALL FOR ARTIST SUBMISSIONS

**Submission due Friday, September 26th , 2003**

For more information, please contact  
Kari Huhtala at 604 276-4188 or  
Email [khuhtala@city.richmond.bc.ca](mailto:khuhtala@city.richmond.bc.ca)

## **RICHMOND PUBLIC ART PROGRAM**

### *HAMILTON COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING PUBLIC ART CALL COMPETITION TERMS OF REFERENCE*

#### **Invitation for Artist/Artist Team Submission**

Artists and artist teams are invited to participate in a two-stage competition to provide a public art project, which is to be integrated as part of the proposed new Hamilton Community Safety Building or the development's landscape design, under this terms of reference. Each artist/team is limited to one entry.

#### **New Hamilton Community Safety Building**

The new Hamilton Community safety building will be located on a one acre parcel at 22451 Westminster Highway in the Hamilton Community (East Richmond), just adjacent to McLean Park (see location map attached). The community safety building will be three storeys with a high training and hose drying tower structure, and include a community safety office for the RCMP.

The Hamilton community is located at the eastern end of Richmond and is defined by the Agricultural Land Reserve (west), the Fraser River (north and south), and Queensborough, New Westminster (east). The community with a population of 4,146 (2001 Census) is a family oriented neighbourhood, which has experienced rapid housing growth since 1991. 67% of the population has identified themselves as visible minorities (42% Chinese, 13% South Asian and 4% Filipino).

It is anticipated that the construction of the community safety building will be completed by 2004.

#### **Artist Opportunity**

The City of Richmond is seeking artwork that will be a highly visible art integrated into the design and development of the community safety building and/or associated landscape. The artwork will respond to the character and function of the building and/or neighbourhood (e.g. fire hall, RCMP, etc.).

The artist should be site oriented and be prepared to work in a collaborative fashion with the Project Committee, community private design consultants, and City staff. The artwork will become integral to the project so that the community safety building structure and/or associated landscape and the artwork will be mutually supportive. The artist will be required to work within the constraints of the community safety building project, pedestrian activity area(s), safety, durability, and ease of maintenance.

The concept of the artwork proposal is open to the artist's discretion. The location of the artwork is flexible, and could include the community safety building's entryway, fire truck doorways, tower, building façade, or other. It can be functional, educational, building or landscape oriented, informative, a community landmark and one which presents an artistic surprise to the entering and/or passing public. The design should be simplistic and complement the community safety building's purpose and its location within an established public park and residential area.

**The selected artist will be encouraged to involve the community in the design, development, and creation of the public art project.**

The public art project at the Hamilton Fire Community Safety Building is constituted under the mandate set out by the City of Richmond Public Art Commission.

#### **Public Art Theme**

The public art project theme is "community safety". This is a general theme and can accommodate a variety of artist and community interpretations (e.g. fire trucks, community safety apparatus, police, community safety providers, etc.).

#### **Budget**

The total budget available to the artist(s) or artist team, inclusive of all expenses (including GST), will be \$40,000.

#### **Eligibility**

This invitation is open to professional artists. Ongoing communication between the selected artist is a requirement of this project. Artists who reside outside of Greater Vancouver should be within a reasonable commuting distance.

#### **Selection Panel & Process**

The process of selecting the final artist(s)/team for the project will occur in two stages by the selection panel. The 5 person selection panel will be comprised of two (2) members from the artistic community, one (1) local resident, one (1) member of professional design community, and/or one (1) fire department staff. A city staff team made up of staff from the Fire, Parks, Facility Management and Policy Planning will act as a resource to the panel as part the public art selection process.

A resource team of City staff and/or private design consultants will participate in the selection discussion of the artist as advisors and resource to the Panel, but not vote on artist selection.

The Panel will review the artist's credentials and a detailed description of their conceptual artwork approach, which is to include:

- The building and site, which expresses community identity, entry and place,
- Key materials key that will promote an identifiable artwork for the passing public,
- The kind of symbolism relevant to the location and community,
- Examples of previous relevant artistic work, and
- Other related information.



The short listed artist(s)/teams will be paid a fee of \$500 to prepare a conceptual artwork proposal for the new Hamilton Community Safety Building.

Following the short listed presentation, the panel will recommend the artist/team for the project.

### **Selection Process & Criteria**

#### **Artist(s)/Team Review**

- Compliance with the competition requirements.
- Artist/team previous experience, including artistic achievements.
- Appropriateness of the proposed artistic approach to the site.
- Imagination and artistic merit.
- Feasibility in implementation.
- Artist Interview and discussion
- Examples of relevant artist work.
- The artist's ability to work co-operatively with interdisciplinary City design team.

The Panel will select the artist/team, which in their judgement, best meets the above criteria. The recommended artist/team must be prepared to design an artwork in collaboration with the design team and see it completed and installed within the time as agreed with the project developer, or their representative.

### **Submission Requirements**

- A **typed statement**, which introduces ideas you would like to develop at the community safety building and how these ideas relate to your art practice (**2-page maximum, which can be easily photocopied**).
- A **conceptual artwork sketch or design proposal** that presents an easy to understand image of the proposed public artwork, which can be easily photocopied (**if presented in colour format, 10 copies should be submitted**).
- Curriculum vitae or **resume of past work**, including any public art commissions.
- A **sleeve of up to 10 labelled slides** showing previous artistic work experience, accompanied by a slide list.
- A 9" X 12" **self addressed stamped** envelope.

### **Schedule for Artist Selection & Project Development**

- Terms of reference available July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003
- **Artist/Staff Information meetings with design team** August 13<sup>th</sup> or August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003, 7:00 PM, Richmond City Hall, Meeting Room 2.004
- **Deadline for submission of interest** **September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2003, 5 PM**
- Panel Selection of short listed artist/team October 6<sup>th</sup> to October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003
- Artist interview & selection of artist/team November 24<sup>th</sup> to December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003
- Council approval of selected artist proposal December, 2003/January, 2004
- Artist/City Agreement signed January, 2004
- Artwork design & construction Winter, 2004 to Summer, 2005

**Mail or Drop Submission to:**

Kari Huhtala  
City of Richmond  
6911 No. 3 Road  
Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

***By Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2003, 5 PM, Richmond City Hall***

**Contract**

A contract between the recommended artist or team and the city will be signed. The contract will include a schedule of payment and fabrication and installation. The budget for the contract is to include all costs including artist's fees, other fees, GST, insurance fabrication, delivery, installation, clean up, and any consultant's fees. The artist or team will also be expected to produce regular progress reports to the City.

The final work and requisite documentation will become the property of the City. At project completion, the artist will provide the City with a detailed art documentation report, as listed in the Richmond Public Art Program Report (copy available from the City of Richmond).

**Confidentiality**

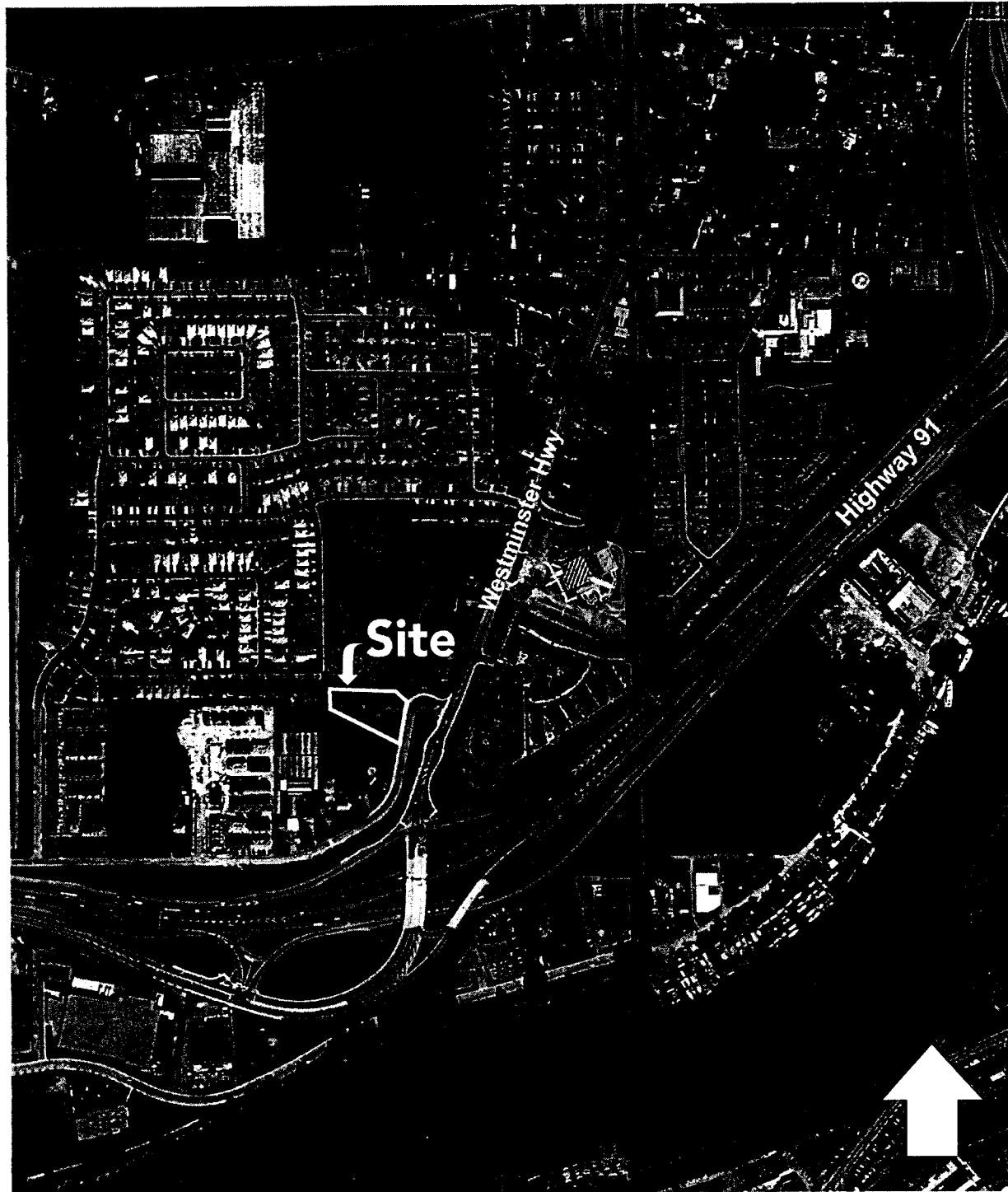
All information provided to, or created by the artist/team and selection panel shall be considered confidential until such time as it has been released or made public by the City of Richmond.

**Project Information & Contacts**

- David Naysmith, P. Eng Facility Planning & Construction (604-233-3312), [dnaysmith@city.richmond.bc.ca](mailto:dnaysmith@city.richmond.bc.ca)
- Clarence Sihoe, Parks, (604 233-3311 ), [csihoe@city.richmond.bc.ca](mailto:csihoe@city.richmond.bc.ca)
- Kim Johnston, Johnston Davidson Architecture + Planning Inc. (604 684-3338), [kim@jdarch.bc.ca](mailto:kim@jdarch.bc.ca)
- Kari Huhtala, Planning, (604-276-4188), [khuhtala@city.richmond.bc.ca](mailto:khuhtala@city.richmond.bc.ca)

# New Hamilton Fire Hall

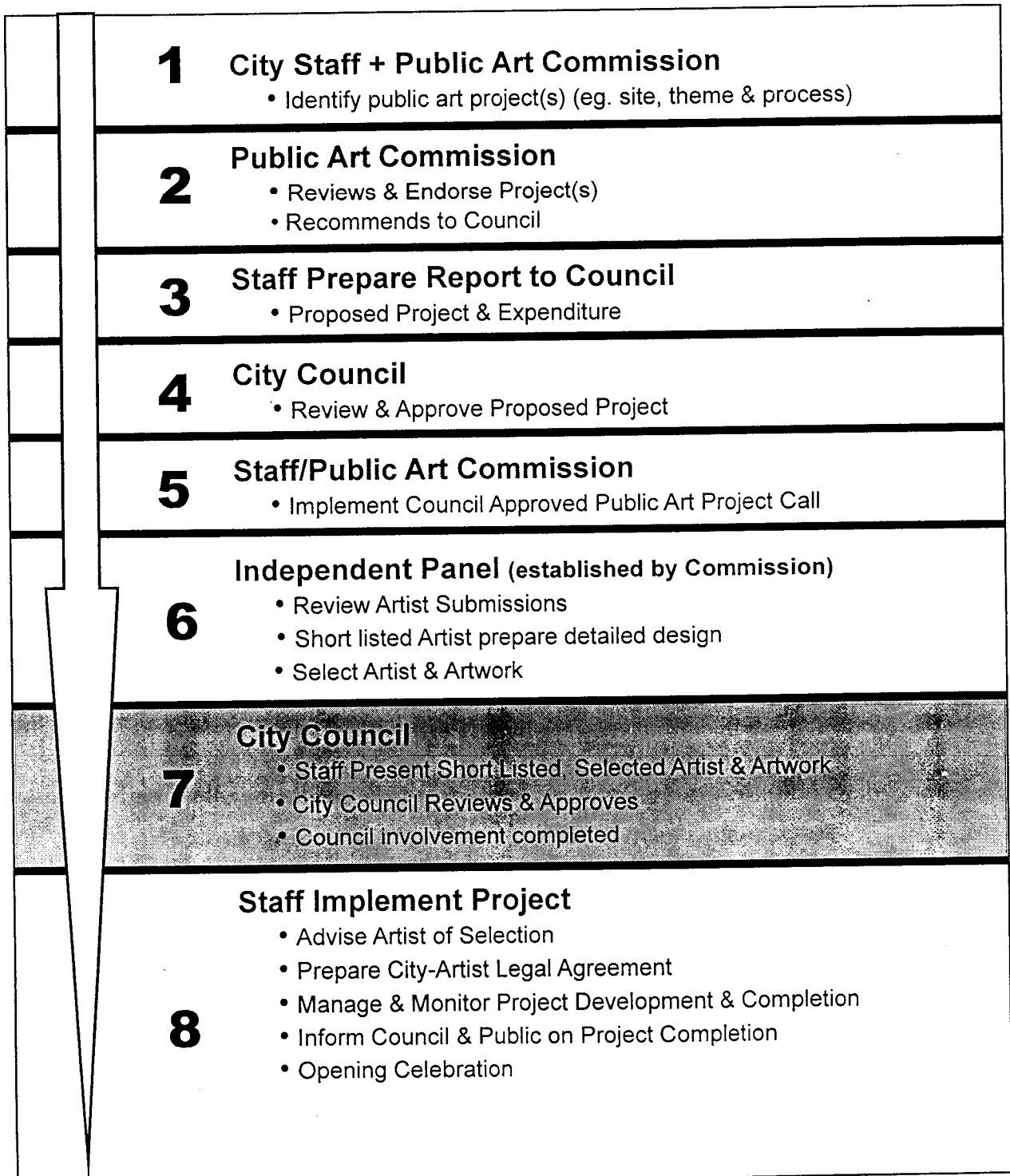
22451 Westminster Highway



# Richmond Public Art Program Management City Owned Projects

Purpose: To incorporate public art into the development / renovation of City streets, buildings and parks.

This chart outlines the decision-making process for a City initiated public art projects.



**Maquette of Proposed Hamilton Community Safety Building Public Art Project**

“Spotty the Dog” Whirligig by Doug Taylor

