

Subject: Response to letter from Mr. Ron Jermana re Public Art :

Date: Sun, 25 Apr 2004 22:05:26 -0700

From: "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

To: "Nathalie Valdes" <Nathalie_Valdes@dnv.org>, "Agnes Hilsen" <Agnes_Hilsen@dnv.org>, "James Ridge" <James_Ridge@dnv.org>, "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "Senior Management Committee" <managecomm@dnv.org>

CC: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>, <Cagebc@yahoo.com>

Dear Mr. Jermana:

District Council has adopted a Public Art Policy which stipulates that a developer must contribute 1% of the total cost of any project over and above a certain value to the beautification of the community or as the policy states "to celebrate or stimulate the cultural spirit and identity of the community through the creation of art in public places". Council does not make the selection nor does Council interfere with the process of selecting the artwork. The responsibility for this lies with the Public Arts Advisory Committee consisting of volunteers with an Arts background. It is they who make the final decision for approval.

We do however have an Arts Commission, an Arts Council and a staff person on Council dealing with Arts per se. Although they are not directly involved, I will send a copy to all of these committees as well as the relevant community associations to make them aware of your concerns. I will also send a copy of my reply to you, to our CAO and to Mayor and Council as well as the relevant park staff.

There is also an opportunity for neighborhood associations to provide input in this process. In this case this would be the Inter River, the Lynn Valley, the Maplewood and even the Seymour Community Association as they are all affected more or less.

I will ask our clerk to provide you with names to contact in case you wish to pursue this matter further. It is good that you have taken the trouble to put your thoughts in writing. Notwithstanding the pros and cons of this particular project and or its artistic value, I am certain that a greater degree of public interest would in the end also produce a better art product.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Yours truly,

Ernie Crist

