

City Centre Public Art Plan



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City Centre Public Art Plan

The purpose of the arts in a city is to make a city fall in love with itself.

—Pier Giorgio Di Cicco (Poet Laureate, City of Toronto 2005–09)



INTRODUCTION

Public art, like architecture and urban design, contributes to a sense of place, ownership and cultural identity for a city's residents, while at the same time creating lasting memories for visitors.

The City Centre Public Art Plan identifies guiding principles that will create continuity throughout the City Centre and its individual villages. The City Centre Area Plan lays out an ambitious redesign of the urban core; it is a framework that includes new businesses, housing, parks, pedestrian precincts as well as arts and entertainment hubs. Public art will animate this revitalized urban core.

Priority will be given to the development of large-scale signature artworks that serve as landmarks and meeting places while also providing opportunities for intimate and "discovered" works. By situating art in strategic, high profile locations, signature artworks that create a sense of place and act as geographic locators will be recognized.

The City Centre Public Art Plan's vision is to enrich Richmond's urban identity through inspirational and purposeful art in the public realm.



THEMATIC FRAMEWORK

Richmond: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

The Richmond City Centre Public Art Plan identifies a wide range of opportunities for the City Centre over the coming years. Through extensive workshops and focus groups, it has been revealed that Richmond's unique past is important to current residents. "Richmond: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" will be the thematic construct within which artists will design their work. This framework offers context to create continuity and synergy, while allowing room for artistic expression and diverse projects.

Honouring Yesterday

Richmond's past has many faces. These faces are what make Richmond unique and provide visitors with an understanding of Richmond's history and how immigration has shaped the diversity of our unique City.

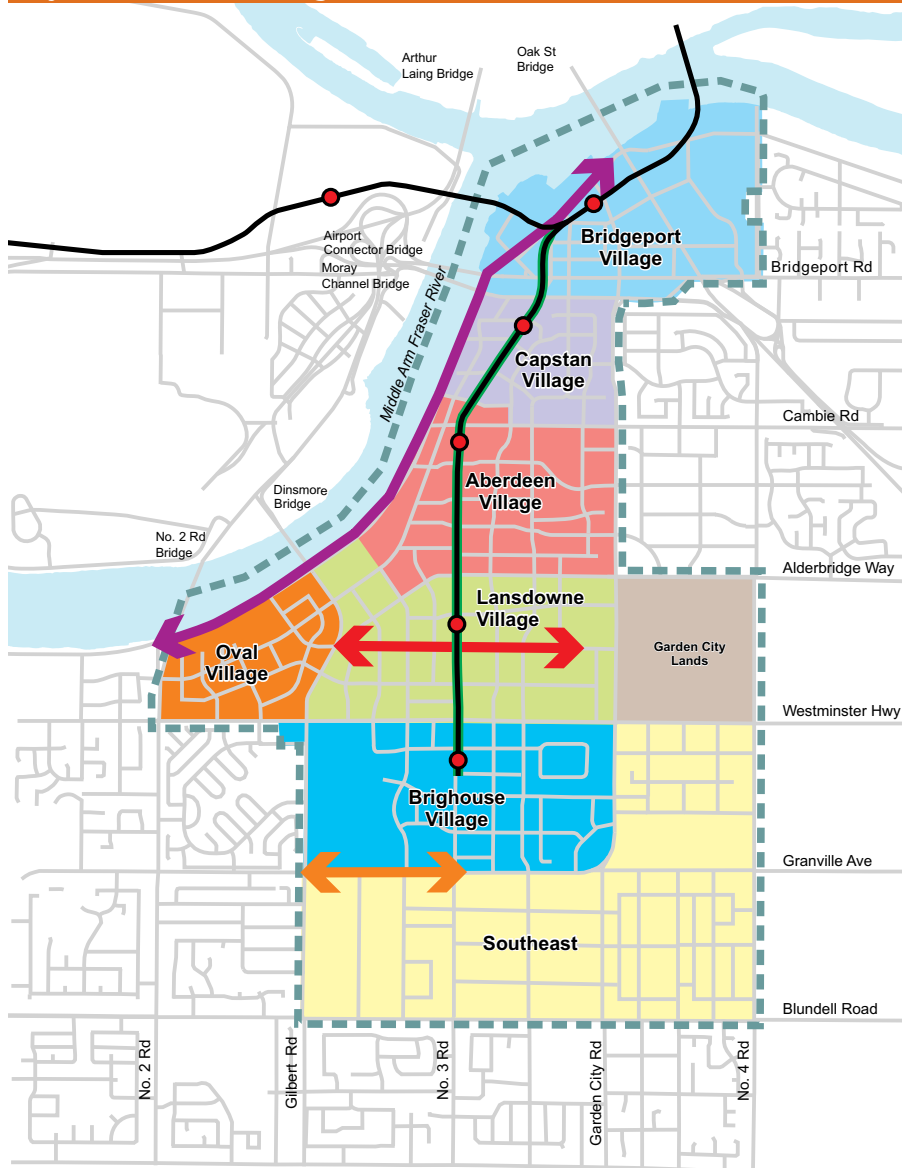
Celebrating Today

A city in transition: shifting demographics paired with rapid development and growth have given Richmond an exciting new profile. Still praised for its rich soil and abundant waters, Richmond is also developing as a cultural destination.

Building Tomorrow

Richmond is a "world class" urban centre that enhances quality of life, embraces the principles of sustainable living and provides opportunities to take pleasure in public life and celebrate its unique heritage and culture.

City Centre "Urban Villages"



City Centre Boundary

Canada Line Station

Village Centre

Garden City Lands

(Further Study Required)

No 3 Road/Canada Line

Civic Precinct

Waterfront Art Walk

Lansdowne Green Way & Village Park

VILLAGE PUBLIC ART MASTER PLANS

The City Centre Area Plan has identified a network of six attractive “urban villages” that break the City Centre into identifiable pedestrian-scaled communities and create a network of focal points. Public art can help establish the unique identity for each village while creating continuity, connectivity and synergy among them.

Bridgeport Village | 24/7 Entertainment and Arts Precinct

Bridgeport is an industrial area in transition to becoming a 24-hour entertainment precinct. Building on the River Rock Casino attraction, the area will be zoned to have a unique arts, culture and entertainment focus.

Capstan Village | Waterfront Arts Community

The Capstan area is designated as a zone for medium to high density mixed residential/commercial use, housing artist live/work studios and gallery spaces. Public art opportunities in this area need to support this mixed-use development.

Aberdeen Village | Cultural and Festival Hub

Aberdeen, designated as a commercial, non-residential area, is recommended as a locale for commercial galleries, as well as parades and festivals.

Lansdowne Village | Centre of the City

Lansdowne, a high-density, mixed commercial and residential district is an important location for public art. The unique growth planned for this area will provide numerous opportunities for integrating public art into its many future neighbourhood parks.

Brighthouse Village | Civic Heart

Brighthouse, the traditional heart and civic focal point of Richmond and its City Centre, is a high priority for public art. Like Lansdowne, it is a zone of high-density, mixed commercial/residential use, with some of the largest buildings in the downtown core.

Oval Village | Sport and Recreation

Building on the success of the Richmond Olympic Oval's public art program, redevelopment of this light industrial area into a high density mixed-use neighbourhood provides an opportunity to incorporate public art which reflects the cultural history and the waterfront environment.



TIMING

Throughout this plan, opportunities are identified as immediate or future priorities.

- △ Immediate Opportunities that have a high degree of prominence and complement existing public amenities are identified for immediate implementation.
- ▽ Future Opportunities that will develop over a number of years, and benefit from integrating public art as development occurs, are identified for future implementation.

OPPORTUNITIES

Achieving Urban Scale

Richmond residents have identified a desire to see art that is big, bold, interactive and urban. The following opportunities identify potential large-scale signature works in the City Centre, which can serve as landmarks and meeting places. Additional sites for large-scale works are presented in Enhanced Gateways (page 15). The City of Richmond will continue to prioritize additional sites for large-scale works in the future.

End of the Canada Line, Brighthouse Station

The guide way, which rests partially on the final support pillar, is presently unfinished and aesthetically unappealing. The structure at this important City Centre location provides an excellent opportunity for public realm improvement. A significant public art project would transform the current “unfinished” terminus into a creative public space and demonstrate a commitment to excellence in public works. Future developments around this location provide an opportunity to develop an urban public plaza as an extension of the Canada Line Brighthouse Station.

Budget Estimate for public art component, only:

\$400,000–\$500,000

△ Immediate

Lansdowne Village Centre/Canada Line Station

Located in the heart of the village centre (referred to in the City Centre Area Plan as the ‘Centre of the City’), the Lansdowne Canada Line Station sees a high volume of pedestrian traffic and provides a number of potential public art locations surrounding the station, including the widened pedestrian festival zone to the north. This area is temporarily hosting Javier Martin’s *Cabezas*, part of the Vancouver Biennale 2009–2011, and is ideal for a high impact artwork, temporary installations as well as performance artworks.

Budget Estimate: \$100,000–\$500,000.

▽ Future

Aberdeen Village Centre/Canada Line Station

Artwork at this high traffic station would act as an anchor to the cultural and festival hub within the City Centre. Aberdeen Centre and its amenities provide a link to some of the City's unique multicultural arts and heritage attractions.

Budget Estimate: \$150,000

△ Immediate

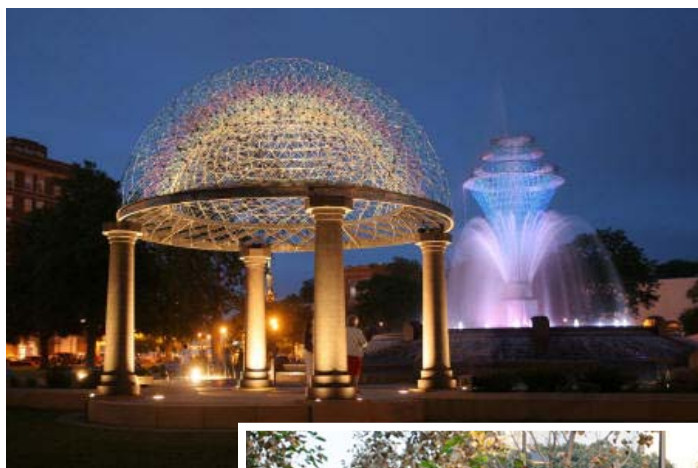
Capstan Village Centre/Canada Line Station

With the future Capstan Canada Line station being planned, the acquisition of a signature work for the Village Plaza would contribute character and vibrancy to this developing waterfront community. The work needs to be easily accessible to pedestrian traffic and maintain continuity with other works along No. 3 Road and the Canada Line.

Budget Estimate: \$200,000

▽ Future





Cambie Pump Station Plaza

Cambie Pump Station Plaza is a component of the Middle Arm Greenway Park and the Cambie Pump Station upgrade. It is an ideal location for a large-scale work to direct Canada Line users towards the future Arts District, offering spectacular views of the Fraser River's Middle Arm and North Shore Mountains.

Budget Estimate: \$500,000.

△ Immediate

Cultural Centre/Minoru Park

The Library/Cultural Centre Plaza is a prominent location for public art to strengthen Richmond's community amenities. The Richmond Library/Cultural Centre plaza has been described as "devoid of visual culture" and in need of public art to complement the building's purpose. The inclusion of an inspiring artwork would add vitality and life to the plaza and building entryway. A significant work unique to Richmond's community would bring art, sport and culture together in the Minoru precinct.

Budget Estimate: \$250,000

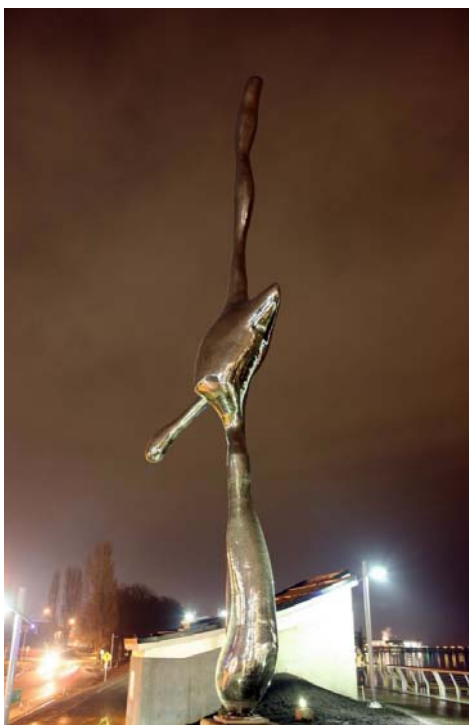
▽ Future

Neighbourhood Parks

Many neighbourhood parks, plazas and squares will be developed in Richmond's City Centre. These open green spaces are ideal for festivals, performances and temporary artwork installations and often provide sight lines from apartment dwellers above. Placing public art in neighbourhood parks adds character to new and upcoming areas and helps create community identity. Future parks that would benefit from public art include the town square in Bridgeport Village, Samuel Brighthouse Homestead site in the Oval Village and along Hazelbridge Way in Aberdeen Village.

Budget Estimate: \$100,000–\$200,000 per artwork

▽ Future



Art Walks/Trails

These corridors provide opportunities for kinetic works, referencing the motion of passing visitors, commuters and natural elements. Art walks that link to small plazas enhance opportunities for creating outdoor exhibition and destination sites which could host activities such as open-air markets, picnics, parades and other forms of recreation.

The following are opportunities for interpretive walkways and outdoor museums, connecting key areas in the city:

No. 3 Road

Smaller street level enhancements would soften the major roadway for pedestrian users. Temporary and permanent artwork of varying scales along No. 3 Road would link potential large-scale artworks at each of the Canada Line stations and create an open-air art gallery in Richmond's urban core.

Budget Estimate: \$50,000–\$200,000 per artwork

△ Immediate

Middle Arm Waterfront

The Middle Arm dyke trail commences at Sea Island Way, and continues towards the Cambie Pump Station Plaza and the Richmond Olympic Oval. The Middle Arm Greenway Park is one of the City's top priorities for locating public art. Potential artworks range in size and objective from small intimate artworks for education and reflection to larger landmark pieces. Sites that would benefit from notable works include the Bridgeport Entertainment District and the Cambie Pump Station Plaza.

Budget Estimate: Varied

△ Immediate



Civic Precinct in Brighthouse Village

Major changes are expected in the coming years. A civic art trail linking all City-owned buildings from City Hall to Minoru Park would promote the city's cultural identity and the Minoru precinct's significance within the downtown core. Plazas and public art opportunities incorporated into future upgrades would create continuity throughout the precinct. The Library/Cultural Centre Plaza has already been identified as an ideal location for artworks or a significant artwork.

Budget Estimate: \$200,000–\$400,000 for major acquisitions

△ Immediate

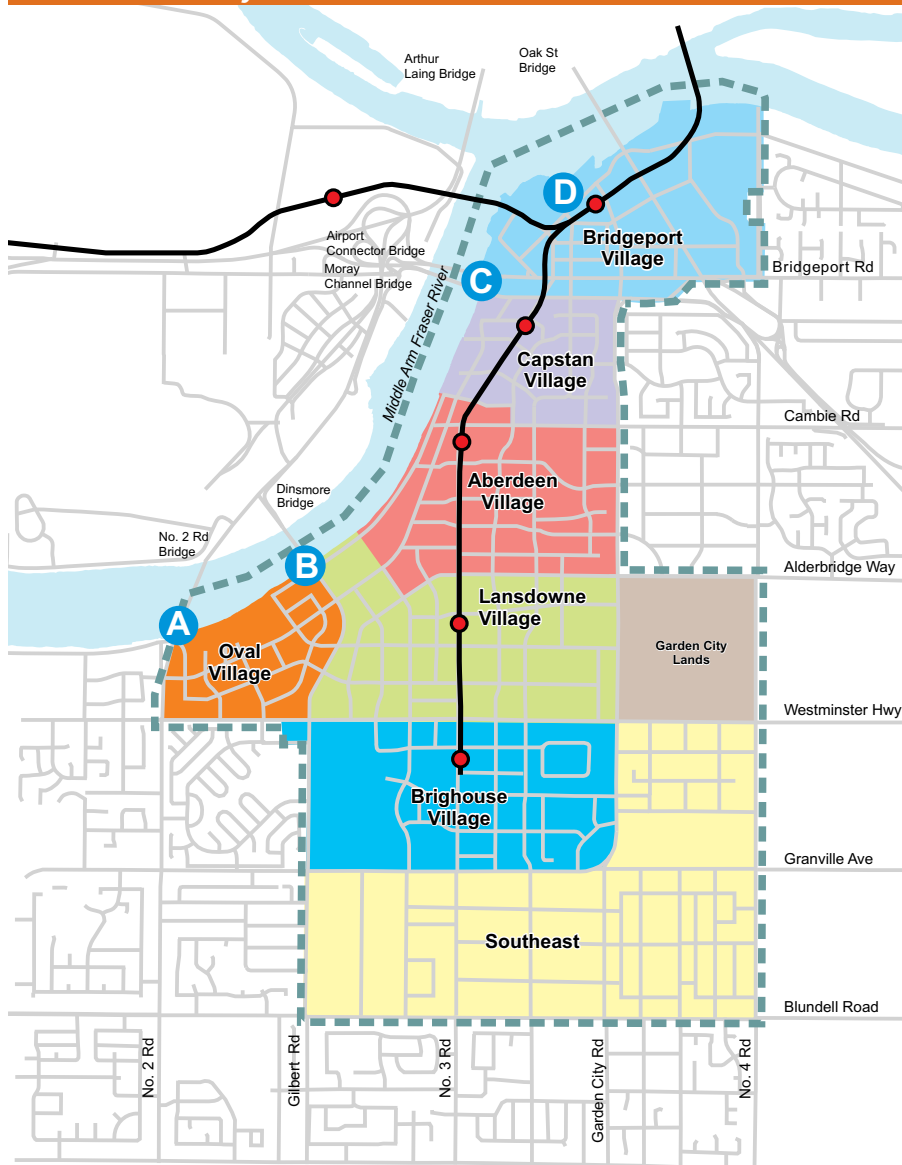
Lansdowne Greenway and Village Park

Redevelopment of the commercial area in the heart of downtown Richmond will include the creation of a new 10-acre village park along the north side of Lansdowne Road. The Lansdowne Road Greenway, from No. 3 Road to Hollybridge Way, will link Kwantlen Polytechnic University to the Richmond Olympic Oval site. The linear greenway will benefit from the inclusion of large-scale iconic works as well as interactive, intimate works and interesting street furniture.

Budget Estimate: \$50,000–\$250,000

▽ Future





— City Centre Boundary

● Canada Line Station

⊕ Village Centre

■ Garden City Lands

(Further Study Required)

A No. 2 Road Bridge

B Dinsmore Bridge

C Connector Bridges

D Bridgeport Canada Line Station

Enhanced Gateways

Richmond is an island city connected by roads, highways and bridges. Such gateways are strategic locations for achieving maximum impact with public art. As these locations are mainly viewed by moving vehicles, ideal artworks would be vibrant and bold, incorporating lighting design and new technology.

Connector Bridges

Heavily used by airport traffic, the Moray Channel Bridge and the Airport Connector Bridge connecting to and from Highway 99, are ideal locations to welcome visitors to the City and more specifically the Bridgeport arts and entertainment precinct.

Budget Estimate: \$50,000–\$150,000

▼ Future

Bridgeport Canada Line Station

The first station located in Richmond and the transfer station to the Vancouver International Airport, Bridgeport station sees the most traffic of all Richmond Canada Line stations and would benefit from artwork that welcomes visitors and introduces them to Richmond's unique character.

Budget Estimate: \$50,000–\$250,000

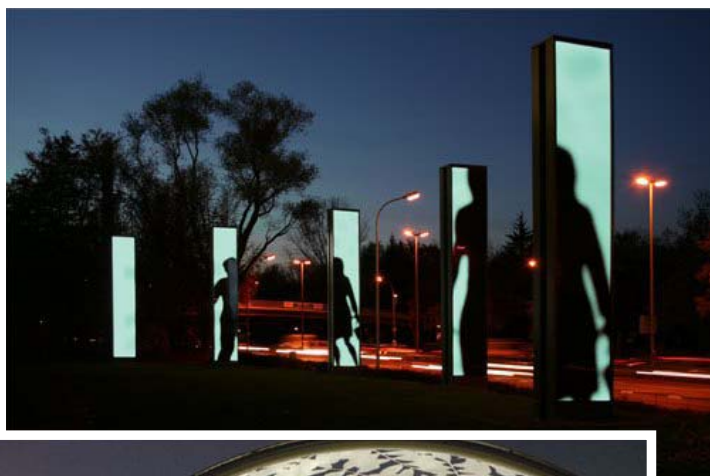
▲ Immediate

Dinsmore and No. 2 Rd Bridges

These two bridges are heavily used by commuter traffic, connecting Vancouver and the Airport to two arterial roads in Richmond, No. 2 Road and Gilbert Road. Both bridges are visible from the Richmond Olympic Oval precinct. Artwork associated with these two bridges would ideally speak to the area's history and would relate to the Middle Arm Waterfront Art Walk.

Budget Estimate: \$100,000–\$350,000

▲ Immediate



Street Furnishings

Incorporating art into functional objects is an affordable, high-impact way to meet the City's goal of integrating the arts into everyday life and making art accessible to the public. Integrating public art into infrastructure design will require the City to work with artists in the design of benches, drinking fountains, fencing, public washrooms, bicycle racks, fountains, man-hole covers, tree grates, traffic signal boxes and pump stations. This should be done on a program-by-program basis with first priority being to contribute to a vibrant streetscape along No. 3 Road.

Budget Estimate: Artist fees to design and fabrication of infrastructure, \$30,000 minimum.

Temporary Work

Temporary opportunities provide exposure for experimental and varied works. Transitional properties can become a stage for performances or experimental built works. For example, construction fencing and sidewalk protectors can be transformed into artistic outlets. Including temporary works throughout the City Centre can provide creative opportunities for emerging artists and new partnerships.

Budget Estimate: Temporary installations \$25,000–\$150,000; construction fencing and protectors \$15,000.



FUNDING MECHANISMS

To bring components of this plan and the more ambitious projects to fruition, resources need to be shared and partnerships must be forged. To achieve this, the City of Richmond's Public Art Program needs to:

- Work with developers to pool public art contributions for major public art installations.
- Work with transit authorities (InTransit and TransLink) to fund art programs to enhance Richmond's transit routes.
- Encourage local businesses to make contributions to the City Public Art Reserve, which can be used for community and major public installations.

The creation of vibrant and inspirational urban spaces in the City Centre can only be achieved by collaborating with other stakeholders.

CONCLUSION

The City Centre Public Art Plan provides a framework to enrich Richmond's urban identity by incorporating inspirational and purposeful art in the public realm. As a result of this Plan, there is now a vision for the City Centre, which will enable Richmond's Public Art Program to be more purposeful and strategic in commissioning and locating a complement of permanent and temporary, small and large scale public artworks.

CONTACTS

Visit our website

richmond.ca/publicart

More information

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PHOTO CREDITS

- P. iii Holger Mader, *Cam*, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, NY. photo credit: ©2008 Aubrey Mayer
- P. 1 DeWitt Godfrey, *Buttress*, Outdoor Installation May 2010–May 2011, Kennedy Museum of Art, Ohio
- P. 2 **Top** Bill Reid, *The Raven and the First Man*, The University of British Columbia's Museum of Anthropology. Photo: Bill McLennan
- P. 2 **Middle** Yue Minjun, *A-maze-ing Laughter*, Vancouver ©2009 Biennale. Photo: Dan Fairchild
- P. 2 **Bottom** Tera Taiko Drummer. Photographer unknown.
- P. 6 Anish Kapoor, *Cloud Gate*, Millennium Park, Chicago
- P. 8 **Left** Brad Oldham and Brandon Oldenburg, *The Traveling Man*, Dallas, TX ©Brad Oldham and Brandon Oldenburg
- P. 8 **Right** Steve Tobin, *Trinity Roots*, Trinity Church, New York, NY. ©Steve Tobin
- P. 9 **Top** Brower Hatcher, *Wellspring & Oculus*, Bayliss Park, Council Bluffs, Iowa
- P. 9 **Middle** Peter Shelton, *sixbeastsandtwomonkeys*, City Walking Park, Los Angeles, CA ©Peter Shelton
- P. 9 **Bottom** Alexander Calder, *Flamingo*, Federal Plaza, Chicago, Illinois, photo: City of Richmond
- P. 11 **Top Left** Cliff Garten Studio, *Sentient Beings*, Art Institute of California, ©Cliff Garten Studio
- P. 11 **Top Right** Jun Ren, *Water #10*, Richmond, BC, ©Dan Fairchild
- P. 11 **Bottom** Maya Lin, *What is Missing?*, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA ©Maya Lin
- P. 12 Giny Vos, *Traveling Sand*, Apeldoorn ©Giny Voss–2009
- P. 13 Jun Kaneko, *Rhythm*, Mid-America Centre, Council Bluffs, IA
- P. 16 **Top** Holger Mader, *Reprojected*, Munich. Photo: ©2007 MSW
- P. 16 **Middle** Barbara Grygutis, *Desert Passage*, Chandler Gilbert Community Collage, Chandler, AZ. ©2009 Barbara Grygutis. Photo: Kelly Kickpatrick
- P. 16 **Bottom** Christian Moeller, *News Reader*, King County Public Art Collection
- P. 17 **Left** Monique Genton, *Habitat*, Richmond, BC, ©Monique Genton
- P. 17 **Right** Colleen Dixon, *Four Corners*, Richmond, BC. ©Kiyoshi Otsuji

CITY CENTRE PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunity	Location	Timing	Current Condition	Proposed Artwork	Potential Contributors	Estimated Budget
End of the Canada Line	Brighouse Station, No. 3 Rd	Immediate	guideway resting partially on the final support pillar is unfinished and aesthetically unpleasing	large scale work at high profile location; high impact as it will be viewed from street level and Canada Line platform	InTransit BC; TransLink; Private Developers from 6300 and 6340 No. 3 Road.	\$400,000– \$500,000 for artwork
Cambie Pump Station Plaza	conjunction of the Middle Arm Greenway Park and Cambie Road	Immediate	Vancouver Biennale piece, <i>Water #10</i> by Ren Jun, is currently located at the plaza	a vertical work to be used as a landmark and beacon to the park plaza and dyke trail	Private Sponsors developing in Aberdeen Village centre	\$500,000
Lansdowne Village Centre	Lansdowne Road at No. 3 Road	Future	widened pedestrian walkway north of the Canada Line Station host to Vancouver Biennale's Cabezaz by Javier Marin; some street furniture	Iconic work to represent the "Centre of the City" and intersection of No. 3 Road and Lansdowne Road art trails	InTransit BC; Private Sponsors and Private Developers in Lansdowne Village Centre	\$100,000– \$500,000
Cultural Centre/ Minoru Park	7191 Granville Ave	Future	concrete plaza with a lack of visual presence; <i>Minoru Horse</i> installed with good reception	artwork and upgrade to water fountain to highlight the community anchor	Civic Public Art Program, Private Sponsors	\$250,000
Aberdeen Village Centre / Canada Line Station	conjunction of No. 3 Rd. and Cambie Road	Immediate	widened pedestrian walkway and Canada Line Station devoid of artistic enhancements and landmarks	artwork to act as an anchor to the cultural and festival hub	InTransit BC; TransLink; Private Developers	\$150,000

Capstan Village Centre / Canada Line Station	conjunction of No. 3 Rd and Capstan Way	Future	undeveloped	signature work to contribute to the character and vibrancy of developing waterfront community	InTransit BC; TransLink; Private Developers	\$200,000
No 3 Road Art Walk	From Bridgeport Canada Line Station to Brighouse Station	Immediate	No. 3 Road Art Columns Program provide two-dimensional art at each station, Javier Marin's <i>Cabezas</i> are temporarily located at Lansdowne Station; concrete guide-way dominates the space	larger works at each Canada Line station to create a more graceful and engaging space; smaller enhancements along No. 3 Road and guide-way	InTransit BC; TransLink; Private Developers	\$50,000–\$200,000 for larger works at each station
Middle Arm Waterfront Art Walk	Along the dyke trail from Bridgeport to the Oval	Immediate	the Oval showcases a range of works by local and international artists; Cambie Pump Station Plaza is currently hosting the temporary <i>Water #10</i> ; Bridgeport is void of artistic presence	the inspiring efforts put into the art work at the Oval need to continue along the dyke; some work should be intimate, an contemplative, allowing for education and reflection; other works should highlight and commemorate key sites along the trail	Private Developers along the waterfront; River Rock Casino	Varied
Civic Precinct Art Trail	from City Hall to Minoru Park	Immediate	<i>Minoru Horse</i> recently installed in Minoru Park; <i>Span</i> is located at City Hall; Patrick Hughes' <i>Doors of Knowledge</i> is temporarily installed in Minoru Park	a art trail would promote the City's cultural identity and significance within the downtown core	Private Sponsors	\$200,000–\$400,000 for acquisitions

Opportunity	Location	Timing	Current Condition	Proposed Artwork	Potential Contributors	Estimated Budget
Lansdowne Greenway and Village Park	along Lansdowne Road from Kwantlen Polytechnic University to the Richmond Olympic Village	Future	Lansdowne Station temporarily hosts Vancouver Biennale's Cabezas by Javier Marin; Lansdowne greenway yet to be developed; Lansdowne Rd west of No. 3 Rd will see further residential development.	large iconic work at Lansdowne Station with street furniture and smaller works along the greenway.	InTransit BC; TransLink; Kwantlen Polytechnic University; Private Developers	\$50,000–\$250,000
Airport Connector Bridges	Connectors from YVR to Bridgeport Road and onto HWY 99	Future	lack of artistic presence or acknowledgement that traffic is passing through Richmond	high impact larger works welcoming airport traffic to Richmond and the Bridgeport entertainment and arts precinct	YVR; Private Developers	dependant on project scope; range from \$50,000 for smaller detailed elements to \$150,000 for larger sculptural works
Bridgeport Canada Line	at Bridgeport bus loop off Great Canadian Way	Immediate	large concrete station and bus loop devoid of colour and inspiration	creative work to enhance the commuters' wait at bus loop and identify location	InTransit BC; TransLink; River Rock Casino	dependant on project scope; range from \$50,000 for smaller detailed elements to \$250,000 for larger sculptural works
Dinsmore & No. 2 Rd Bridges	Sea Island Way connector to Gilbert Road and No. 2 Road	Immediate	bridges are uninspiring and are missed opportunities to highlight entrances to the City	work incorporated into bridge or south of bridge to identify the new Oval Village	YVR; Private Developers	dependant on project scope; range from \$100,000 for smaller detailed elements to \$350,000 for larger sculptural works

Neighbourhood Parks	various locations throughout the City Centre	Future	a few parks have public art projects; many parks lack artistic expression	community projects and interactive works to enhance community parks, neighbourhoods and residents' quality of life	Private Developers; City Parks Department	\$100,000–\$200,000 per artwork
Street Furnishings	various locations throughout the City Centre	Immediate	many street furnishings are functional yet unoriginal; artists are starting to be included in pump station design teams	include an artist in design team for street furniture and pump stations	City Engineering Department	\$30,000 minimum
Temporary Work	neighbourhood parks, plazas, vacant lots, construction hoardings and manhole covers	Immediate	Eleven Vancouver Biennale works are temporarily installed throughout the city; construction hoarding and manhole covers are solely utilitarian	experimental and ephemeral work; enhancing construction sites	Private Developers; other non-profit groups; Private Sponsors	temporary installations \$25,000–\$150,000; construction fencing and protectors \$15,000



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