

RETREAT FRAMING

Annual Budget Retreat

Beautification & Public Art
Commission (BPAC)

October 23, 2026



A SHIFT IN BUDGETING STRATEGY

PREVIOUSLY: Staff capacity + available time

MOVING FORWARD: Emphasis on available funding

**MAIN FOCUS
DEDICATED PROJECTS**

COLLECTIONS + MAINTENANCE

PRIORITIZE REMAINING PROJECTS



FULL STAFF CAPACITY

Allows for

- 25 active projects per year
 - Quality over quantity
- 2 project slots for maintenance and restoration projects in FY28
- 2 project slots reserved for emergent projects
 - Council
 - Upper Management
 - Other Departments



ASPIRATIONS + OUTCOMES + KEY POINTS



ASPIRATIONS + OUTCOMES

ASPIRATIONS

- Develop a balanced workplan that aligns time and budget capacity with Commission priorities
- Expand on what is in place in ways that achieve guidelines

OUTCOMES

- A tailored list of projects for FY28 & FY29 workplans
- A list of recommended projects (alternates)
- Staff develops a 5yr plan for BPAC review in December and recommendation in March, and then Council approval.
 - The official budget may include additional projects as placeholders for future use.

KEY POINTS

- **BPAC's Advisory Role:** Helps shape public art priorities and projects. City leadership also provides direction and establishes priorities, which are shared with the Commission.
- **Creative Input Within Capacities:** While staff time and budget limits opportunities for new projects, BPAC's input remains essential to reprioritizing existing projects and guiding implementation.
- **Guiding Principles:** Reflect collectively on the guiding questions to inform decision making and align priorities.



GUIDING QUESTIONS: PLACEMAKING

- Does the project/design enhance our sense of place? Does the project/design enhance the vitality of the community?
- Is the project appropriate to the character, identity, and aspirations of Flagstaff? Does it contribute to a sense of connection and belonging?
- Have we valued our location in the natural world? Have we considered the project's connection with the overall environment and social context?
- Is the beautification effort or public art project well integrated into the larger context or is it an “add-on.”
- How publicly accessible is the project?
- Have we considered maintenance needs?



GUIDING QUESTIONS: EXCELLENCE, DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVENESS

- Have we given balanced attention to all neighborhoods? Have we ensured resources are directed to underserved areas?
- Have we found ways to include local artists?
- Have we provided opportunities for diversity across cultural, economic, age, and gender groups?
- Have we provided ample opportunities for public participation? Have we conducted sufficient outreach for projects and programming?



GUIDING QUESTIONS: AESTHETIC CONTINUUM

- Have we promoted a variety of aesthetic styles?
- Does the project work at multiple levels and address multiple senses?
- Have we taken into consideration ways to address multiple modalities of sense experiences?
- Does the project extend, expand, and/or challenge our art horizons?
- Have we considered the balance of creativity, messaging, and skill?



GUIDING QUESTIONS: PARTNERSHIPS + COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS

Does the project/design enhance the values and efforts of other city agencies and commissions (and thereby strengthen the impact of the project)?

Have we considered ways to integrate BPAC's mission with the work of other commissions through mutually beneficial projects?



GUIDING QUESTIONS: STAFFING PRIORITIES

- Does the project require coordination with another City department, and if so, is it included in that department's work plan and for which year? Is a capital project manager required or preferred?
- If other City departments need to include the project in their work plan, has that coordination already occurred or will additional planning and advocacy be needed to secure their participation.
- Is it a project that lends itself to future programming or promotion?



STAFF PERSPECTIVE DISCUSSION

GOALS

- Create processes and projects within constraints.
- Ensure transparency in planning and decision-making.
- Engage diverse partners
- Make Flagstaff a distinctive arts/culture community

NUTS & BOLTS

- **Community Voice:** Use BIA grants and cabinet art wraps to amplify community voices
- **Program Visibility:** Maintain a high profile for the program and high-quality projects
- **Budgeting:** Develop healthy, flexible budgets
- **Project Delivery:** Expand the use of on-call, JOCs and capital projects
- **Temporary Art:** Create more opportunities for art and local artists
- **Build on Core Projects:** Strengthen outreach and programming to existing project/workplan

THANK YOU

