

ITEM #: 13
DATE: 01-27-26
DEPT: ADMIN

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2026 NEIGHBORHOOD SCULPTURE PROGRAM ACCESSION

BACKGROUND:

One of the signature programs hosted by the Public Art Commission (PAC) is the Ames Annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition (AAOSE). Each year, sculptures exhibited through AAOSE are available for purchase by private individuals. Additionally, PAC typically acquires several sculptures each year into the City's permanent art collection through the Neighborhood Sculpture Program. The Neighborhood Sculpture Program involves accepting applications from residents to have an AAOSE sculpture placed on City property for residents to enjoy.

On January 6, 2026, PAC approved a recommendation that the City Council pursue accession of one sculpture for the Neighborhood Sculpture Program. The work "TipSee," is by the artist Craig Snyder. The acquisition cost of the piece is \$8,000. The FY 2025/26 Adjusted Budget for the PAC Neighborhood Sculpture Program contains a balance of \$42,197.

It is proposed that "TipSee" be placed on a Public Art Easement at Ames Community Preschool Center, 920 Carroll Avenue, near the Free Little Library that sits on the property. An application for the Public Art Easement has been submitted to the Planning and Housing Department and is anticipated to be presented for consideration at a City Council meeting in February. Further information regarding the sculpture is detailed in the attached report from PAC.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the accession of "TipSee" by Craig Snyder for the Neighborhood Sculpture Program as recommended by PAC.
2. Do not approve the accession of Neighborhood Sculpture Program artwork.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This annual program allows for works of art to be purchased for display in neighborhoods throughout the City. This aligns with the City Council's value of a fun, vibrant community that attracts and retains people. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[2026 Neighborhood Art Acquisition.pdf](#)
[Contract for TipSee \(Signed\).pdf](#)