

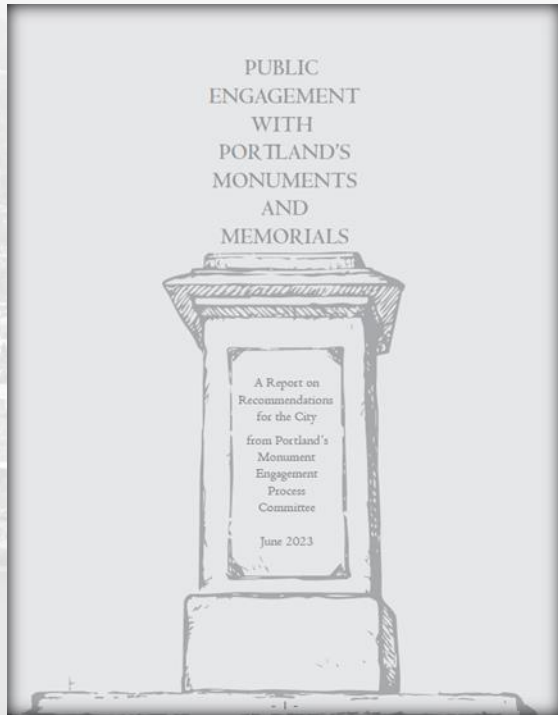
July 19, 2023

Portland City Council Meeting

Accept Public Engagement Recommendations Report from Portland's Monuments & Memorial Engagement Process Committee 2:00pm

Presented by:

- Jeff Hawthorne, *City Arts Program Manager*
- Stephan Herrera, *City Arts Policy Advisory & Council Liaison*
- Invited Guests:
 - Jess Perlitz, *Committee Lead & Associate Professor at Lewis & Clark College*
 - Mack McFarland, *Committee Member and Public Arts Manager at Regional Arts & Culture Council*



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**Supporting Portland's
vibrant arts and culture
ecosystem
and
expanding opportunities
for all Portlanders to
participate in creative
expression.**

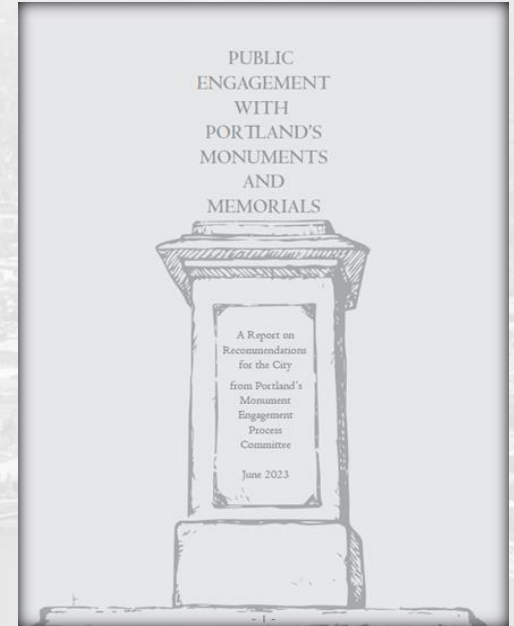


July 19, 2023

Portland City Council Meeting



Lewis & Clark
College



Accept Public Engagement Recommendations Report from Portland's Monuments & Memorial Engagement Process Committee



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July 19, 2023

Portland City Council Meeting

BACKGROUND

Abraham Lincoln,
1927; granite, bronze



George Washington,
1926, granite, bronze



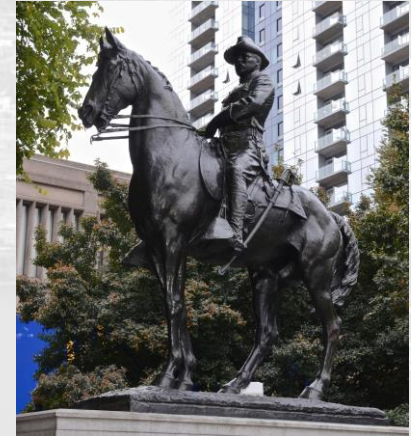
The Promised Land,
1993, bronze on
granite plinth



Harvey Scott, 1933,
bronze on a basalt
pedestal



Theodore Roosevelt,
Rough Rider; 1922;
granite, bronze



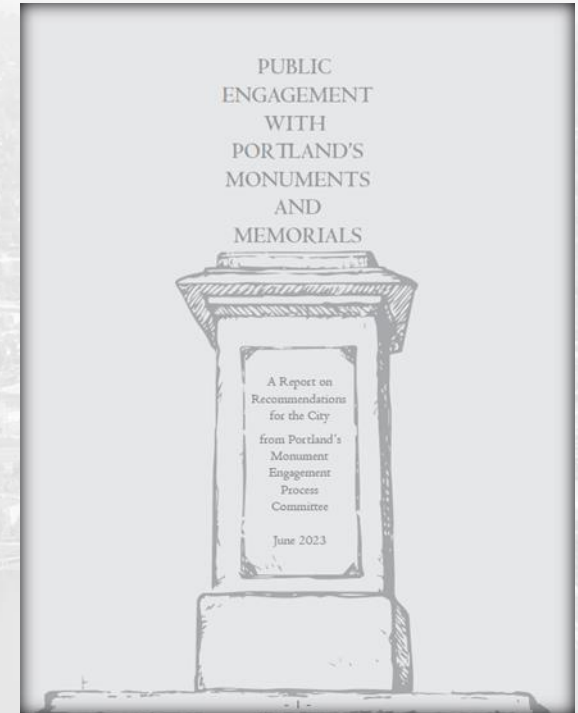
Accept Public Engagement Recommendations Report from Portland's
Monuments & Memorial Engagement Process Committee



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Portland City Council Meeting



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Monuments & Memorial Engagement Process Committee



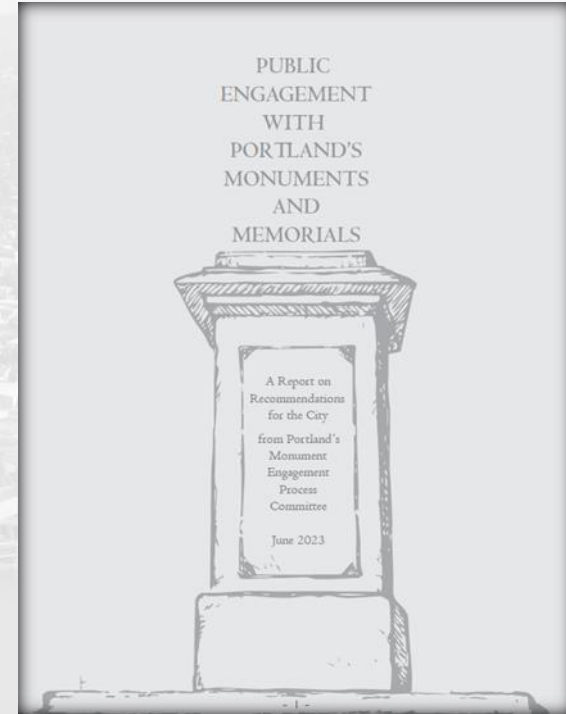
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July 19, 2023

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Monuments & Memorial Engagement Process Committee



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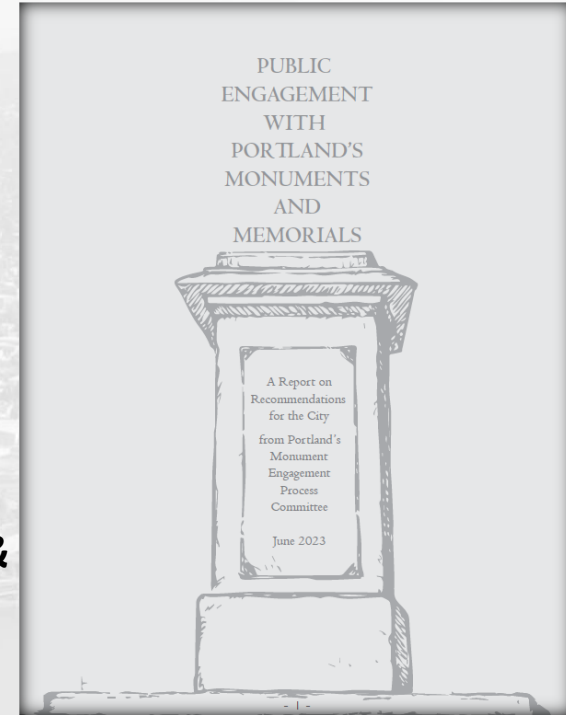
Portland City Council Meeting

Jess Perlitz,

Committee Lead & Associate Professor at Lewis & Clark College

Mack McFarland,

Committee Member and Public Arts Manager at Regional Arts & Culture Council



Accept Public Engagement Recommendations Report from Portland's
Monuments & Memorial Engagement Process Committee



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PUBLIC
ENGAGEMENT
WITH
PORTLAND'S
MONUMENTS
AND
MEMORIALS



A Report on
Recommendations
for the City
from Portland's
Monument
Engagement
Process
Committee
June 2023

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PORTLAND'S MONUMENT ENGAGEMENT PROCESS COMMITTEE

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Key Points Driving the Report

- ❖ Across seemingly vast political divides, we can all agree that history matters.
- ❖ Monuments and memorials also matter. They signal our values through the stories they tell.
- ❖ Monuments should not be conflated with actual history. Stone and bronze easily miss and neglect the complexity of America's past. Instead, monuments are an artifact of the moment they were erected. While monuments are static, the values they represent are not. Questioning monuments is a means of determining the values Portlanders would like to carry into the present and future.
- ❖ Telling an accurate and inclusive history is important, as is addressing who gets to tell those stories in public space and how they get told.
- ❖ Meaningful public engagement takes time. Engagement around our monuments and memorials and related issues should be creative, responsive, and unhurried. Our communities should be allowed to ask questions and explore possibilities as much as seek conclusions and outcomes. The process of meaningful engagement should be honored as an outcome and way forward in and of itself. **Meaningful public engagement allows us to engage and transform conflict and helps to ensure inclusive and equitable outcomes.**

Key Ideas that Provide a Framework for the Recommendations

- Conflict transformation
- Partnerships and capacity building



Initial Engagement Tool Recommendation

- A **dedicated website** for Portland Monument & Memory Work is needed. The website should be a central hub for the City to house related information. It provides a responsive and accessible tool for public engagement, feedback, and transparency. It is an organizational tool and quickly also becomes an archive.



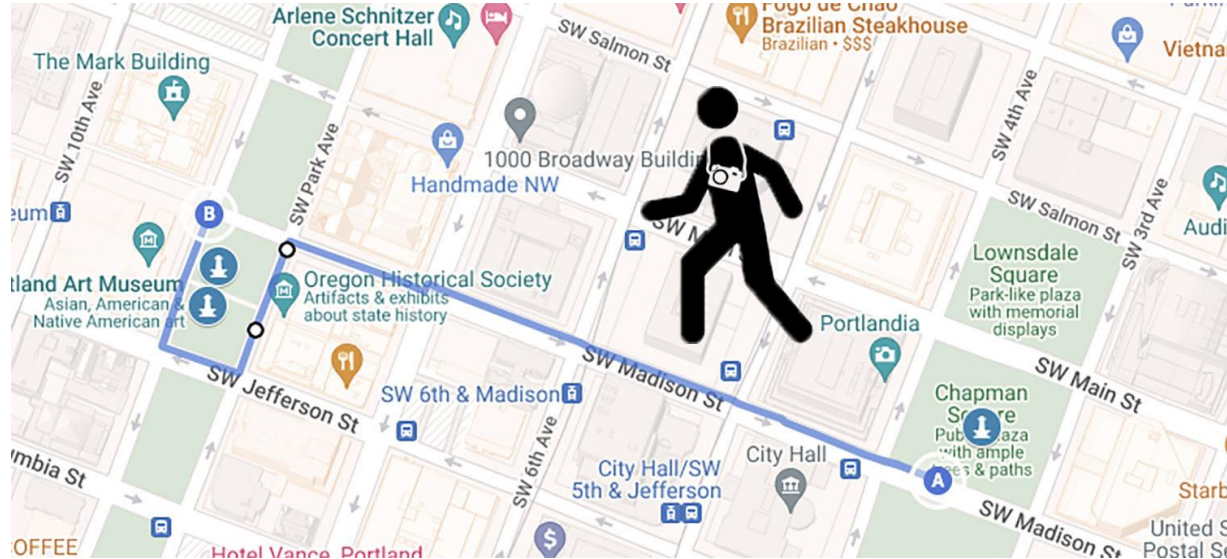
Specific Public Engagement Recommendations

Specific Public Engagement Recommendations

- Walking tours
- Public talks and conversations
- Art Programming
- An Archive

Specific Public Engagement Recommendations

- **Walking tours** and scavenger hunts designed to engage and educate people, both locals and visitors, about monuments and historical sites in Portland, creating a way to present oral histories and highlight untold stories.



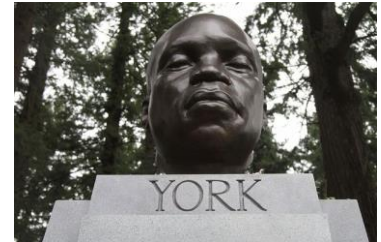
Specific Public Engagement Recommendations

- **Walking tours** and scavenger hunts designed to engage and educate people, both locals and visitors, about monuments and historical sites in Portland, creating a way to present oral histories and highlight untold stories.
- A series of **Public talks and conversations** to engage individuals and communities from a range of backgrounds in the histories and issues at hand.



Specific Public Engagement Recommendations

- **Walking tours** and scavenger hunts designed to engage and educate people, both locals and visitors, about monuments and historical sites in Portland, creating a way to present oral histories and highlight untold stories.
- A series of **Public talks and conversations** to engage individuals and communities from a range of backgrounds in the histories and issues at hand.
- **Art Programming** to engage people in thinking about monuments and memorials, celebrating Portland's arts and culture sector as a way to come together, activate community, and sustain conversation. Programming should include *an Augmented Reality Monument Exhibition, Temporary Projects, and New Commissions*.



Specific Public Engagement Recommendations

- **Walking tours** and scavenger hunts designed to engage and educate people, both locals and visitors, about monuments and historical sites in Portland, creating a way to present oral histories and highlight untold stories.
- A series of **Public talks and conversations** to engage individuals and communities from a range of backgrounds in the histories and issues at hand.
- **Art Programming** engage people in thinking about monuments and memorials, celebrating Portland's arts and culture sector as a way to come together, activate community, and sustain conversation. Programming should include *an Augmented Reality Monument Exhibition, Temporary Projects, and New Commissions*.
- **An Archive** - Interviews, oral histories, visual documents, notes, and historical contexts for Portland's monuments and memorials should be gathered to form an archive. The archive can become a site for programming, education and dissemination of information.



Public Engagement & Capacity Building

- **Curriculum** - this work provides many opportunities for place-based, experiential learning. Engaging our youth will help usher in a new generation of leaders who can think critically, creatively, and constructively about the challenges of historical memory and public spaces - giving our younger generations tools to transform conflict and spark civic imagination.



The Monument Review Guidelines (MRG)

- Art in the public realm, including monuments, needs to have a public process for considering the purpose, content, and placement. The City, with RACC, has been working to integrate and support arts and culture in all aspects of community life for many years, including communities in that process.
- When considering new monuments in Portland, the City of Portland has policies in place, including:
 - City Code Chapter 5.74 Acquisition of Public Art
 - Percent for Art Guidelines
 - Guidelines for Donation of Artwork

The Monument Review Guidelines (MRG)

- The Monument Engagement Process Committee reviewed RACC's proposed MRG and suggested edits to them. The Committee views the guidelines as a tool for decisions about the five monuments in question and any future contested works.
- The Monument Review Guidelines outline the criteria and processes for when an existing public monument is being contested. The guidelines outline the process of review and, as part of that, outline the membership composition of a Monument Review Panel.
- RACC, with input from the Public Art Committee and other key groups, drafted Monument Review Guidelines in 2021.
- Edits to the MRG focus on the makeup of the Monument Review Panel, elements of the review, and an expanded list of possible recommendations for next steps.

The guidelines do not presuppose any outcome for any particular monument currently under discussion, nor do they dictate a specific form of public engagement about any particular monument, only that gathering public input is vital to the process.

The Monument Review Guidelines (MRG)

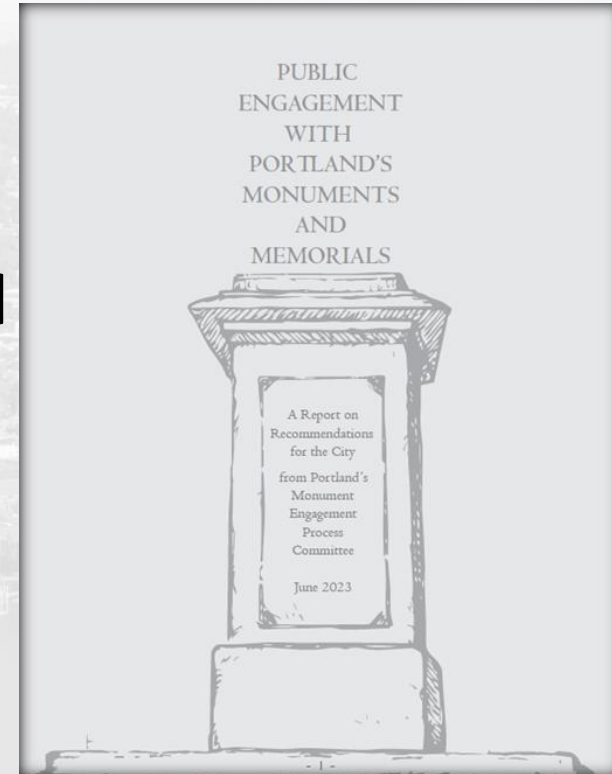
- The Monument Engagement Process Committee was asked to suggest a process for public input for the MRG. For the Monument Review Guidelines, the Committee recommends that the City Arts Manager, in collaboration with RACC, proceed with public consultation and an engagement process that is typical to other administrative policies:
- City Arts Manager and RACC staff consult with key constituencies and partners in public art. The Monument Review Guideline should be circulated to bureau/office directors and managers who frequently interact with RACC and the public art collection.
- The City Art Manager and RACC should hold public hearings where the board considers City of Portland staff and public input about the Monument Review Guidelines.
- Once finalized, the Monument Review Guidelines would return to this Council for final approval.

Thank you

July 19, 2023

Portland City Council Meeting

- **Discussion / Q & A with City Council**
- **Public Testimony**
- **Voting**



Accept Public Engagement Recommendations Report from Portland's Monuments & Memorial Engagement Process Committee

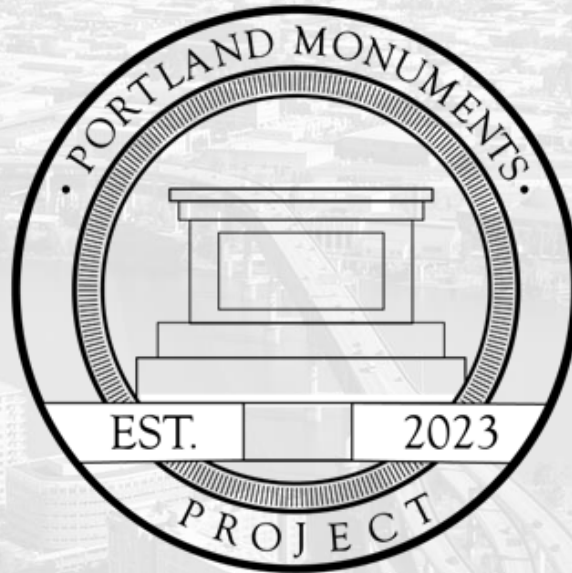


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July 19, 2023

Portland City Council Meeting

Accept and appropriate grant from the Mellon Foundation for Portland Monuments Project for \$350,000 (Emergency Ordinance) 3:00pm



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July 19, 2023

Portland City Council Meeting



BACKGROUND



Accept and appropriate grant from the Mellon Foundation for Portland Monuments Project for \$350,000 (Emergency Ordinance)



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July 19, 2023

Portland City Council Meeting



Mellon Foundation Application & Award Process

Mellon news

Monuments Project Giving Exceeds \$150M; Grantmaking Expands to Nine Municipalities

Location New York, NY

Grantmaking area Presidential initiatives

Date June 19, 2023



Accept and appropriate grant from the Mellon Foundation for Portland Monuments Project for \$350,000 (Emergency Ordinance)



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July 19, 2023

Portland City Council Meeting



Next Steps

The City will launch a two-phased, City-led Community Engagement Process

- **Phase 1: PUBLIC TALKS AND CONVERSATIONS**
 - August 2023 - February 2024
 - Goal: This phase aims to address the 5 toppled monuments in question.
- **Phase 2: CREATIVE ARTS PROGRAMMING GRANTS**
 - January 2024 – July 2024
 - Goal: This phase will fund several grants to arts organizations to help the City re-imagine the future of monuments.

Accept and appropriate grant from the Mellon Foundation for Portland Monuments Project for \$350,000 (Emergency Ordinance)



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Next Steps (continued)

August 2023

1

- Convene a Core Planning Team
- Launch Community Engagement Phase 1: **PUBLIC TALKS AND CONVERSATIONS**

August 2023 - February 2024

January 2024

2

- Convene a Monuments Advisory Board
- Award Creative Arts Programming Grants

February 2024

3

- Share Phase 1 findings and make recommendations made about the 5 monuments in question
- Launch Community Engagement Phase 2: **CREATIVE ARTS PROGRAMMING GRANTS**

February 2024 – July 2024

August 2024

4

- Share all community engagement findings
- Create, refine, and present policy recommendations.
- Evaluate Project

Accept and appropriate grant from the Mellon Foundation for Portland Monuments Project for \$350,000 (Emergency Ordinance)



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July 19, 2023

Portland City Council Meeting



- **Discussion / Q & A with City Council**
- **Public Testimony**
- **Voting**



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