

**REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**

Meeting Date: March 2, 2026

Agenda Item: 5A	Prepared by: L. Suzanne Pritchard, PLA, AICP, CFM
Agenda Section: Consent: Resolution	Date: February 25, 2026
Subject: Adopt the Bylaws for the Public Arts Commission	Division: Planning and Development

**Background and Proposal:**

The Public Arts Commission was established by ordinance to serve in an advisory capacity to City Council and the Planning and Development Department. The ordinance authorizes the Commission to award façade improvement grants, review and select public art projects, and make recommendations regarding arts and cultural initiatives.

§ 2-130 of the City Code provides that City Council shall establish and maintain bylaws governing the performance of the Commission’s duties. The attached bylaws have been prepared by staff in alignment with the adopted Comprehensive Plan, standard advisory board practices, and the structure established in the enabling ordinance. The bylaws are designed to clarify officer roles, meeting procedures, reporting expectations, and general operating principles while reinforcing the Commission’s advisory status and Council’s authority over funding and final decisions.

**Staff Review:**

The amendment has been reviewed by the Department of Planning and Development; no concerns have been expressed.

**Public Arts Commission Action:**

The Public Arts Commission held a public hearing on February 11, 2026, and voted unanimously to recommend approval of the bylaws to City Council. There was no public comment.

**Recommended Actions:**

Adopt a resolution approving the bylaws for the Public Arts Commission

Reviewed by Department Head	Reviewed by City Manager	Reviewed by City Attorney
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Council Action:  
Motion By \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> By \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE BYLAWS  
FOR THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council have formed the 5-member Public Arts Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the City’s Comprehensive Plan identifies Main Street, Sea Mountain Highway, 17th Avenue South, and 37th Avenue South as key focus areas for reinvestment and placemaking, while emphasizing the importance of strengthening community identity throughout the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Arts Commission was created to support implementation of these goals by promoting high-quality design, awarding façade grants, and fostering public art initiatives that enhance the City’s sense of place and serve residents and visitors across North Myrtle Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, a set of bylaws has been created that govern its management as a Commission of the City of North Myrtle Beach.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA:**

**Section 1.** Hereby adopt the bylaws for the Public Arts Commission as attached hereto.

**Section 2.** This resolution shall be effective upon the date of passage.

**DONE, RATIFIED, AND PASSED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2026.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor J.O. Baldwin, III

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allison K. Galbreath, City Clerk

Resolution: RES 26-03

# PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION BYLAWS

## **Article I. Purpose**

The Public Arts Commission exists to implement and advance the City’s adopted Comprehensive Plan by strengthening community identity, enhancing the public realm, and reinforcing North Myrtle Beach’s historic and cultural character through public art, façade improvements, and placemaking initiatives.

The Commission’s work shall support reinvestment in the City’s historic main streets and key corridors while ensuring public art resources benefit the City as a whole.

## **Article II. Relationship to City Policy**

The Commission is established pursuant to § 2-125 of the City Code and serves in an advisory capacity to City Council and the Planning and Development Department. All actions, recommendations, and awards shall be consistent with: the City’s Comprehensive Plan, applicable ordinances and adopted policies, and funding authorizations approved by City Council.

## **Article III. Guiding Framework**

In carrying out its duties, the Commission shall apply the following framework:

1. **Comprehensive Plan Implementation.** Public art and façade initiatives shall support Comprehensive Plan goals related to:
  - a. Strengthening the identity of historic main streets and corridors
  - b. Encouraging compatible reinvestment and redevelopment
  - c. Promoting arts, culture, and high-quality design as economic and placemaking tools
2. **Priority Areas with Citywide Balance.** Consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, particular attention may be given to Main Street, Sea Mountain Highway, 17th Avenue South, and 37th Avenue South as historic “hearts” of the community. At the same time, the Commission shall seek equitable geographic distribution of public art investments across the City’s full extent, including all historic beach communities and areas west of the Intracoastal Waterway.
3. **Context-Sensitive Placemaking.** Projects should respond to local history, scale, and setting, reinforcing neighborhood character rather than applying a uniform aesthetic citywide.
4. **Public Value and Accessibility.** Public art should be publicly visible or accessible, durable, and contribute lasting value to the community.

#### **Article IV. Responsibilities**

Within the authority granted by City Council, the Commission shall:

1. Review and award façade improvement grants.
2. Select artists and review proposals for public art projects.
3. Recommend policies, criteria, and priorities for arts and culture initiatives.
4. Support partnerships and funding opportunities that further placemaking and cultural development.
5. Coordinate with Planning and Development and other City of North Myrtle Beach staff on implementation and administration.

#### **Article V. Officers**

The Commission shall annually elect from among its members a Chair and Vice Chair. The Commission may elect a Secretary if deemed necessary. The Chair shall preside at meetings and serve as the primary liaison to City staff and City Council. The Vice Chair shall act in the absence of the Chair.

Administrative support, including preparation of agendas and minutes, shall be provided by the Planning and Development Department in accordance with City Code.

#### **Article VI. Meetings and Subcommittees**

The Commission shall meet regularly throughout the calendar year in compliance with applicable open meetings requirements. Special meetings may be called as necessary.

The Chair may establish subcommittees or artist selection panels for specific projects or initiatives. Subcommittees shall report recommendations to the full Commission for action.

#### **Article VII. Reporting**

The Commission shall provide an annual summary of activities, recommendations, and expenditures to City Council.

#### **Article VIII. Adoption and Amendments**

These bylaws shall be adopted by City Council and may be amended by City Council following recommendation by the Public Arts Commission.