

Steven Huss Consulting

Public Art Advisor / Planning / Project Management

Former director of public art programs for the cities of Seattle and Oakland and the County of Alameda, **Steven Huss** has maintained a consultancy to cities and real-estate developers in the San Francisco Bay Area for over 20 years. He currently manages the public art programs of Walnut Creek and Petaluma, California, and has developed public art plans and projects for cities including Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville, Pleasanton, San Jose, and San Leandro. Private clients include South Bay Development and Greater Bay Development Corporation.

Strengths:

- Expertise on both sides of the Public Art in Private Development equation: municipal public art management *and* private developer consulting and advocacy
- Access to hundreds of qualified California and Pacific Northwest artists
- Close collaboration with developers, planners, architects, landscape architects, engineers, builders, and artists
- Master planning for development projects
- Expertise in artist and artwork selection processes
- Integration of art concepts with design process and construction timelines
- Expert facilitation of artist contracts and negotiations
- Supervision of projects from design through fabrication and installation
- Identifying and documenting future maintenance needs of completed artworks
- Broad knowledge of all cities' public art in private development requirements
- Seasoned presenter to community organizations, municipal governments, Arts Commissions, Public Art Committees and boards
- Guides clients to exceed baseline requirements, deliver excellence in public art practice and provide the best outcome for the project

Huss has completed dozens of publicly accessible projects with sculptors, muralists, ceramic and glass artists, conceptual artists, design team art integration, etc., in the Bay Area and Pacific Northwest. He is sought after to advise private-sector clients on project feasibility, budgeting, artist selection, concept development, artwork integration, and implementation.

In 1999, Huss founded the Northern California Public Art Administrators Network (NorCal PAAN), a coalition of over 50 Bay Area public art managers and consultants, designated as the regional partner for the national Public Art Network operated by Americans for the Arts in Washington, D.C. As coordinator of NorCal PAAN he has mentored many of the public art professionals and consultants currently active in Northern California.

Experience

- **Huss Consulting, 1999-present, Oakland and Santa Rosa, CA**
Freelance consultation to private developer clients and municipalities including Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Pleasanton, San Jose, San Leandro, Petaluma, Santa Rosa, and Laguna Beach, California. Arts master planning, art grants, consulting project officer, artwork conservation advisor, etc.
- **Public Art Specialist (Consulting), M-Group Planners for City of Petaluma, 2019-present**
Oversee municipal public art projects, guide public art in private development, coordinate maintenance and conservation of Petaluma's public art collection.
- **Public Art Manager, City of Walnut Creek, 2015-present**
Coordinate public art in private development for new construction projects, guiding developers through public process and requirements. Also budget, initiate, and manage municipally funded projects for public spaces throughout the city. Developed interactive self-guided walking tour of City's public art with network of dedicated signposts, dial-in audio, online content.
- **Cultural Arts Manager, City of Oakland, 2004-2015**
Implement and manage multiple public art projects annually, directing local and national artists. Oversee Public Art project portfolio worth \$5.5 million. Conduct master planning process for citywide public art program. Design and develop amendments to policies and ordinances for both public art private public art requirements. Oversee award of \$1.4 million in arts grants annually.
- **Executive Director, Alameda County Arts Commission (Oakland, CA), 1996-2004**
Administer Public Art Program serving 1.7 million County population. Develop and execute long-range and annual plans and multi-year project budgets. Oversee all public art project development, fabrication and installation. Advise Bay Area city and county government officials on development of public art legislation, programs, and projects. Administer grants program to arts and culture organizations throughout Alameda County.
- **Public Art Program Director, Seattle Arts Commission, 1985-1996**
Administer nationally acclaimed and influential municipal public art program, overseeing forty new and ongoing projects per year and the expenditure of 1% for Art budget averaging \$1.5 million annually. Advise local government agencies of various U.S. cities, Canada, Britain; European, African, and Pacific Rim countries on development of public art legislation, programs, and projects.

Phone: 925-448-1968

hussconsulting@gmail.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/steven-huss-7505789/>