Dear Mr. Ruller,

TANK, The Artists Network of Kent, would like to formally request a Percent For Art program be commissioned for the City of Kent. This program, similar to over 350 nationwide, would enhance public environments and improve the character and quality of municipal buildings and lands by creating an accessible, publicly-owned heritage of enduring, inspirational and stimulating public art.

While public art may take many forms and may be overseen by various forms of administration, TANK suggests that Kent's public art share a commitment to the placement of permanent art of the highest possible quality in public spaces accessible to the broad Kent community; a commitment to the integration of artist, the community and city officials as a cohesive team; and the goal of helping artists expand the public experience of art while stimulating the vitality and economy of the City and region.

We are suggesting one percent of all city capital construction or renovation over $100,000 be earmarked for the acquisition of works of art to be placed in public spaces constructed.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss such a program for the city of Kent. I will be calling within the week to arrange an appointment to discuss this matter, and look forward to our dialog.

Sincerely yours,

Bradley Hart
Co-President
TANK - The Artists Network of Kent
(330)678-0751
tank_coprez@mac.com
OVERVIEW

In March 2002 Chapel Hill Town Council established the Town's Percent for Art Ordinance. This Ordinance allocates 1% of selected capital projects for the creation, fabrication/construction, installation, and maintenance of permanent works of public art. Funding for Percent for Art projects comes from each project's construction budget, which can include Federal, State, County, Town, and private support.

Public art enriches our lives, helps define the unique and special qualities of Chapel Hill, and teaches us about each other. Through investment in public artworks, the Town of Chapel Hill is investing in its residents, its visitors, and its future. Percent for Art projects bring public art into the realm of daily life, accessible to all. Percent for Art commissions are administered by the CHPAC. We are committed to an open and democratic process that relies upon interaction among the artist, community, site, designers and architects, civic leaders, and Town department or agency.
DOWNTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE - LOT 5

The Town of Chapel Hill is partnering with Ram Development Company on a development project which will include a three-section building complex combining condominiums, retail, and parking on Town-owned Parking Lot 5. The Lot 5 site is approximately 1.73 acres located in downtown Chapel Hill, North Carolina, at the intersections of West Franklin, Church, and West Rosemary Streets.

Ram Development Company is dedicating one percent of the overall project budget for public artwork in the design of the Lot 5 site and is working with the CHPAC to coordinate its public art commissions. Public landscape artist Mikiyoung Kim was selected in December 2005 as the lead artist for this project. Kim has developed an arts master plan, proposing artworks that respond to the life cycles of light and water - phenomena that highlight the sense of place in Chapel Hill.

Two public art commissions are identified in the plan: Art Area I (represented in magenta) and Art Area II (represented in green). In Area I Kim will create a sculptural stormwater retention and flow area. Gordon Huether was selected in February 2008 to create art for Area II, which may include architectural integration with areas of the development on Rosemary Street and Church Streets at Lot 5.

Click here for the Arts Master Plan

For more information about the overall project, please visit:
http://townhall.townofchapelhill.org/projects/dedi
http://www.ramrealestate.com/properties/overview.php?id=32
FRANKLIN STREET BENCHES

Through the town’s streetscape improvement initiative, artist Arlene Slavin was selected to design and fabricate stainless steel benches located in downtown Chapel Hill. Slavin’s sculptures draw upon the tradition of using the natural world and various cultural systems combined with symbols, abstract entities, and patterns. Working in a wide range of sculptural material, including metals, concrete, and terrazzo, her forms weave an interplay of silhouettes and shadows. Slavin seeks an enigmatic line that abstracts and animates nature. Ms. Slavin has extensive experience in executing site specific sculptures. She truly enjoys the collaborative process of public sculpture, and is committed to an art that enlivens the urban public space. Her current work consists of sculpture, ornamental fences, gates, railings, floor inlays, room dividers, folding screens, and carved glass windscreens. The “emblematic imagery” is both personal and accessible to the public at large.
FIREHOUSE #5

Humankind's ability to contain and control the power of fire was the creative source for Roig's interpretation of the Chapel Hill Fire Department. Commissioned shortly after September 11, 2001, the work acknowledges the firefighters as sentries surrounding a fire while permitting its force to live among us. *Promethean Honor Guard* captures the inherent tension between the job of constraining the destructive aspects of fire while acknowledging its positive attributes.

This percent for art project used funds from the construction of Firehouse #5 to create this dynamic sculpture dedicated to firefighters. Mike Roig sculpts in recycled materials, primarily steel, and his work is widely collected. Many local residents are familiar with his fountain at Weaver Street Market in Carrboro. Torches, bells, wind and water are often features of Mike's art. He lives and works in the Heartworks Studio in Carrboro, NC.
TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Located near the entrance to the Chapel Hill Transit Administration building, Around Town is an engraved marble bench, 45' in length, sited on the sidewalk between the parking lot and the front door. The seat height of the bench will be 4' tall and 5' wide. Along the length of the bench, the back shifts sides, suggesting that a participant, like a bus passenger, can look out into nature when facing one direction, or to the populated community from the other. The top of the seat back is a sculpted undulating elevation that references the rolling topography of the surrounding neighborhoods of Chapel Hill and Carrboro. Across the surface of the marble bench, and wrapping over its top, are engraved images of the community. Each end of Around Town terminates in two smaller, flat, round granite benches, inspired by the size of a bus tire. The bench is a place to gather, to be alone at the end of the work day, or to observe the surrounding landscape while waiting safely for a ride home.
Chapel Hill Arts Master Plan.

This Arts Master Plan for the Lot 5 Project focuses on public art commissions that integrate environmental concepts into the architecture and landscape of the redevelopment projects in downtown Chapel Hill. Public artworks will create important collaborative relationships among the art, landscape, and architecture, and will define new paradigms for environmental art. This arts master plan proposes the creation of artworks that respond to the life cycles of light and water, phenomena that highlight the sense of place in Chapel Hill. Art Integration with sustainable design in the architecture and landscape will highlight processes in rainwater harvesting and solar light collection.

December 11, 2007
Two public art commissions are identified by the Plan: Art Areas I and II are indicated by the different colors as shown on the diagram.

Art Area I: Two potential sites for public art commissions are identified by the Plan: Art Areas I and II. Artists may choose concept A or B to work within the area indicated in green in the diagram. Concept C suggests linking sculptural elements to the street condition on Rosemary and West Franklin Streets.

Art Area II: The potential sites include architectural integration with areas of the development on Rosemary Street and Church Streets at Lot 5. Artists may choose concept A or B to work within the area indicated in green in the diagram. Concept C suggests linking sculptural elements to the street condition on Rosemary and West Franklin Streets.

Lot 5 Plaza: The final decision on Lot 5 Plaza has been awarded and will focus on Concept A in creating a sculptural stormwater retention and flow area with potential integration between Art Area I and II may occur within the corridor in Lot 5 and along Church Street.
Crain Avenue Property Map
Structures to be Acquired and Removed

(1) 819 Mantua St., Single Family Dwelling
(2) 815 N. Mantua St., Auto Garage
(3) 713 Mantua St., Skullz Salon/Unique Boutique and Apartment
(4) 707 N. Mantua St., Restaurant (vacant)
(5) 100 Crain Ave., Commercial (vacant)
(6) 607-609 N. Mantua St., McKay Bricker Art Gallery and Apartment
(7) 511 Gougler Ave., Single Family Dwelling (vacant)
(8) 501 Gougler Ave., Commercial Garage (vacant)
(9) 626 N. Water St., Club Chameleon
(10) 534 N. Water St., Commercial/Garage