



MONUMENT POLICY

This policy is designed to allow for the managed placement of monuments in Traverse City parks and public spaces. The intent of this policy is to provide a structured procedure for the review of the proposal and the subsequent placement of items in parks and other City property (excluding road rights-of-way and alleys). Monuments will be limited to events and groups of historic or local significance and will be limited in total size, including base, to four feet wide, three feet tall and one foot deep.

Monument-free areas on specific monument zones may be designated by the City Commission to protect natural features or the character of a park or public area.

Requests for proposed items will first be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission followed by the City Commission with opportunity at both levels for public input.

I. Monument Review Process.

A. Review Criteria:

The Parks and Recreation Commission will consider several factors before making a recommendation. These will include but not be limited to:

1. Location, develop list of possible locations.
2. Character of area.
3. Safety factors to pedestrians, park users, motorists.
4. Size of item versus area of proposed installation.
5. Proximity and density of other monuments.
6. Blocking of view corridors to bay or other significant natural features.
7. Appropriateness of item for public display.
8. Impact on park and public land usage.

The types of proposed installations to be sent to the Commission would be monuments of historic or local significance recommended by individuals, groups or organizations, and public art pieces. Items to be reviewed only by City Staff would be trees and landscape features, benches, tables, play equipment, drinking fountains, or other simple public improvements.

B. Recommendation Process:

At the conclusion of a favorable review process by the Parks and Recreation Commission, a recommendation to approve the proposed installation would be made to the City Commission. If there were no support from the Parks and Recreation Commission, at the request of the applicant, the request would be forwarded to the City Commission.

C. Upkeep of Monuments:

As part of the approval process, the individual or group proposing the installation shall enter into an agreement with the City to provide the necessary financial and/or physical resources to keep the monument or art piece in good condition.

If the monument is damaged due to vandalism, storm, vehicular accidents, or various acts of God, the party responsible for installation of the piece will be responsible to repair or replace it in such a manner and time period deemed acceptable by the City. If the group is unable or unwilling to make the needed repair or replacement, the City may remove the item with no responsibility to repair or replace the item.

D. Public Recognition of the Item Installed:

A small plaque or other identification method may be placed on or near the item as space allows. The size, type and location of such recognition is subject to review by the Parks and Recreation Commission and the City Commission. The recognition could indicate by whom the item is being donated, or in whose honor or memory the item is being donated.

I certify that this Policy was adopted by the Traverse City City Commission at its regular meeting held on January 3, 2023, in the Training Room, Second Floor, Governmental Center, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan.



Benjamin Marentette, City Clerk