



CAPITOL AREA ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING BOARD

CAAPB

Application for Modification
of an Existing Artwork
on the Minnesota Capitol Grounds

UPDATED MARCH 2025

Commemorative Works on the Minnesota Capitol Grounds

Each commemorative artwork on the Capitol grounds is part of a collection that tells the story of Minnesota and its people. Principle I of the [2040 Comprehensive Plan for the Minnesota State Capitol Area](#), approved in 2021 by the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board, sets out the vision, roles and policy for the Capitol Area, as articulated in the excerpt below:

“[The Capitol area] is a place to honor individuals, groups and ideas that have shaped Minnesota and contributed to our place in the nation. This is a place to share our many stories and create new ones. The Capitol Mall is known as Minnesota’s Front Yard, where all are welcome.”

The intent of this Principle will guide the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board in all decisions about commemorative works on the Minnesota Capitol grounds.

Minnesota Administrative Rules on Commemorative Works

Commemorative artwork proposals are reviewed in accordance with administrative rules for commemorative artwork on the Capitol grounds. The full text of these rules is found in [Minnesota Rule Chapter 2400.2703](#).

The rules define a "**Commemorative artwork**" as a monument, memorial, or other type of original piece in any style, expression, genre, or media that is the unique creative expression of an artist designed to memorialize cultural, social, and political aspects of Minnesota's history. A commemorative artwork expresses or reflects the collective memory of an individual person, group, or event. Commemorative artwork serves four primary functions:

- A. to memorialize and remember;
- B. to inform and inspire the viewer;
- C. to have lasting historic and cultural significance; and
- D. to accentuate and enhance the urban landscape.

Commemorative artwork may be event-based, temporary, or long-term.

Completing the Application

This document details the required components of an application to the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board to request that it consider the modification of an existing commemorative artwork on the Minnesota Capitol grounds. All parts of this application are to be completed as fully as possible.

Before completing this application, please submit an "[Early Inquiry and Consultation Form](#)" to CAAPB staff and meet to discuss elements of the application, how to complete them, and any questions.

If you have additional questions while completing the application, please contact CAAPB staff at CAAPB.input@state.mn.us or 651.757.1500.

Once the application is complete with the information identified in Parts 1 to 5 on the following pages, submit it as a PDF or Word document by email to CAAPB.input@state.mn.us or send by postal mail to CAAPB, Freeman Building, 625 Robert St N, Saint Paul, MN 55155.

Part 2 – Subject of the Artwork

What artwork is proposed for modification? Please explain in detail including the historical background.
(5,000-character max)

Part 3 – Modification Concept

What type of modification is proposed? Please describe. (5,000-character max)

Part 4 – Conditions and Criteria

How does the proposal meet the Conditions and Criteria for the Modification of Existing Artwork? Please answer the following questions as fully as possible. Supporting materials for the answers, such as reports, data, or articles, may be included or cited with a URL link.

1. Has there has been sustained, broad-based, and documented public objection to the artwork?
Please describe and provide supporting documents where necessary. (5,000-character max)

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2. How does the proposed modification to an existing commemorative artwork maintain or enhance how the Capitol grounds reflect the state's diverse history and people? (5,000-character max)

3. The following criteria will be considered to determine whether the work should be modified. How does the proposed modification meet the following criteria? (5,000-character max)
- A. Makes the artwork more welcoming and engaging to nearby and statewide communities.
 - B. Embraces historical facts and fosters a productive range of responses, conversations, and interpretations.
 - C. Considers the social and cultural conditions at the time of the artwork's addition.
 - D. Prompts reflection, conversation, and awareness of the stories, perspectives, and experiences of historically marginalized or oppressed communities.
 - E. Incorporates the views of all interested groups and individuals and considers the relationship of these groups' collective history, heritage, and values to the artwork.
 - F. Creates an opportunity to increase public understanding of and dialogue about Minnesota's history.
 - G. Enhances the artwork's function as a source of collective identity and belonging for all Minnesotans.
 - H. Generates, contributes to, or enhances existing social activity in the surrounding public space.
 - I. Represents or commemorates a significant event, group, or individual in Minnesota's history.
 - J. Respects the contributions and perspectives of the artwork's creators and the group or individuals depicted in the artwork and the group's or individuals' communities.
 - K. Seeks to achieve peace, reconciliation, truth, or justice for individuals, groups, and communities that are not represented or who are misrepresented in the artwork.
 - L. Acknowledges evolving social values and accounts for the views and needs of the contemporary community.

Part 5 – Funding

Is funding available to pay for the proposed modification and any related restoration of the site around it? (Please describe the expected funding sources and fundraising strategy.)