

# Public Art Plan

## Survey Summary

Welcome To...

# LONG JETTY

Central Coast Council

Credit: 'Welcome to Long Jetty' mural by Biffy Brentano

Between 26 February and 18 March 2024 we sought community input to develop a public art plan for the Central Coast.

## 331 people completed the survey



**One third** of respondents work in the creative industries.

We asked for the **top three most important reasons** for public art:

- 67%** Enhances local and natural spaces
- 62%** Tells local stories and engage with local community
- 45%** Creates welcoming and safe social spaces
- 43%** Thought provoking and exchange of ideas
- 42%** Bring tourism and encourages travellers to visit and explore the coast
- 33%** Encourages art as a tool for acceptance and awareness in our community
- 4%** I'm not sure

## Age of survey participants

- Under 18 - 1%
- 18-24 - 1%
- 25-34 - 8%
- 35-49 - 28%
- 50-59 - 26%
- 60-69 - 25%
- 70-84 - 11%
- 85+ - n/a



Credit: Artwork by Pete Rush  
Image by James Horan

## Public artwork participants enjoyed:

"The laneway mural off Mann street in Gosford"

"Eden has the most amazing stories about Aboriginal history and art works about Humpback Whales and Orcas"

"Seattle, the famous musicians / influential people portraits, in an area where the homeless need inspiration. A lot of the works were completed by the homeless"

"Vivid Sydney, Sculptures by the Sea Bondi"

"The sculptures by Peter Rush are a great example of public art that brings tourists to the area."

"The Dockworker, Amsterdam – Inspirational. Diprotodon sculpture, Naracoorte Caves, South Australia – Educational. Folly for Mrs Macquarie, Sydney – Beautiful."

"Bird cages installed angel place, Sydney."

"Public art is used around the world to bring together communities and attract tourism Large sculptures that are 'Instagramable' are key."

"Place/Location/Flora/Aboriginal murals on large water tanks that exist around the coast, for example President's Hill, Terrigal, Mt Ettalong"

"Louise Bourgeois 'Maman' sculpture currently outside AGNSW"

"The 'Imagine' sign that was on the waterfront along Brisbane water drive; the sculptures up at Mt Penang; the large sculptures done by Pete Rush; in many places in Europe, both fun and historic sculptures throughout malls/precincts; Lake Tekapo sculpture walk in NZ"

"Art by Minka Gillian for Central Coast Domestic Violence Committee at Kibble Park. It was powerful to see a representation of women who died from DV."

"The Viglund Sculpture Park in Oslo. In Australia, the country music singer statues in Tamworth's main street."

"The Geelong Art Trail. Hervey Bay, 'Nala' whale sculpture, This is just an idea: Rod Radford 'Amphicar' (sculpture that kids can climb in), Rain Man By Jean-michel Folon, Italy (but make the character a cheery female historical figure) Hippo Sculptures, Taipei, Taiwan (but make them dolphins that kids can climb on)

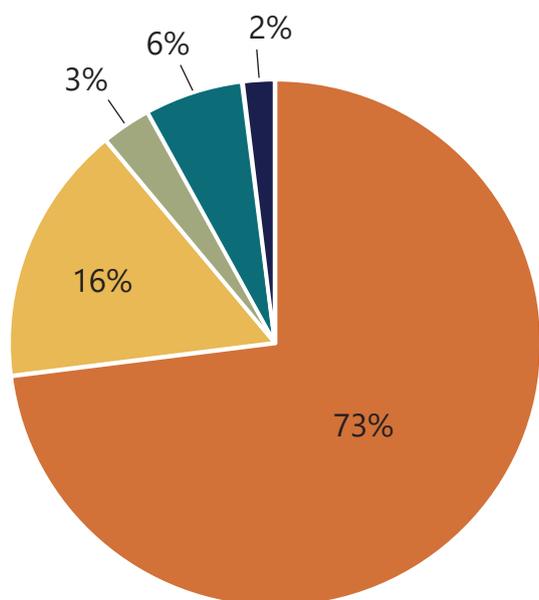


Credit: Gudjagang Ngara li-dhi Aboriginal Corporation mural by Grant Malony

# What participants enjoyed about these works:

- **Scale** of the work **63%**
- I liked the **way it looked** **59%**
- **Location** of the work **57%**
- The **story and ideas** behind the work **53%**
- The **emotions** it made me feel **50%**
- I could easily understand **who** made the artwork and **what** it was about **21%**
- Other **29%**

We asked if there should be **more public art** on the Central Coast:



- Strongly agreed
- Somewhat agreed
- Niether agreed or disagreed
- Somewhat disagreed
- Strongly disagreed

We asked participants the **top three types of art** they would like to see:

- 67%** Mural
- 58%** Integrated art i.e into buildings and footpaths
- 55%** Sculpture
- 48%** Land art, artwork integrated into the landscape
- 36%** Interactive artworks that encourage play
- 25%** Sensory artwork that can be expienced through sound or touch
- 25%** Light-based artwork
- 18%** Performance e.g dance or music
- 14%** Digital / screen / projection artwork
- 16%** Other

# Participants said thriving and innovative public art on the Central Coast would be:

- engagement with local Aboriginal stories, song lines or knowledge as unifying elements across the region
- work delivered by local artists
- work that responds to or lives in convergence with waterways, wildlife and nature
- work responding or representing Central Coast people and places
- work that engages within or alongside bodies of water
- large-scale murals
- embedded inclusivity and accessibility.

"A place for different people to meet in a warmer inclusive place that is free of judgement. A place for adults and children alike"

"Something that appeals across generations and cultures"

"Space to bring people together, talking points within the community, bringing in tourism"

"Unobtrusive and tasteful"

"Art that is created for the space and time it is in by local artists. First nation artists telling local Dreamtime stories would be cool, through performance or artwork."

"Incorporates storeys, history, connection to Aboriginal people, revitalises places, draws people to them."

"Exciting art precincts, residency programs, art that enhances the landscape and provokes ideas."

"All levels of the community being involved not just local artists. Art that tells a story and is connected throughout the Coast."

"People being genuinely able to engage with and be proud of the spaces they live in. Art is a great start, but what I've found is most residents don't seem to know it happens."

"Use of vacant buildings to display the work of local artists and creatives"

"To make a fresh statement to include nature, sea, and hinterland, lakes and foreshore scenes of flora and fauna."

"Art in unexpected places, accessible art. Art that is beautiful or confronting. Large scale projects and small projects that you just stumble cross."

"In accordance with best practice and moral rights especially for older legacy works being relocated."

"Art work that is indestructible so vandals cannot destroy and children can play on."

"It reaches out to the community. It's thought-provoking and lively. It brings a wide range of the public (young, older, elderly, able and disabled, people from diverse backgrounds etc) into contact with each other AND professional artists and their skills. It leaves positive things behind. It makes people feel good. It respects that this is, and always will be Aboriginal land. It makes the Central Coast thrive."

## What's next?

The survey results will inform the development of the Public Art Plan, which will be exhibited publicly in mid to late 2024.

Find out more and stay up to date at [yourvoiceourcoast.com](https://yourvoiceourcoast.com)

MAY 2024