

Public Art Program Enhances Arlington County

Arlington County recently unveiled a new art project at the County headquarters building and announced a second project to enhance the South Arlington Water Pollution Control Plant. These are two of eight major public art projects planned this year that demonstrate how public art can provide an attractive and economical civic design solution.

Recently, the county dedicated etched glass panels designed by local artist Linn Meyers at the County headquarters. The art installation has proven to be both artistic and an economical solution to providing privacy to the glass-walled conference rooms that line the main-floor lobby of Arlington's Courthouse Plaza.

The project leveraged the existing budget for renovations and artwork that was to be hung in the lobby of the County's busy municipal center. Initially, the funding was set aside to buy industrial film appliques for the exposed glass walls. Instead, the glass itself has become the artwork, providing both visual interest and the desired privacy. And since this blending of art and public space came in well under budget, the savings allowed for the installation of similar panels for the third floor conference rooms as well.

The second planned project is to create a compelling, innovative design concept for the fence at the Water Pollution Control



Plant. The County selected two acclaimed Dutch designers, Tejo Remy and Rene Veenhuizen, known for their reuse of existing resources, to develop a design which will enhance awareness about the Four Mile Run watershed, wildlife habitat and biodiversity, the function of the plant, and citizens' connection to both as consumers of resources and potential stewards of our environment.

Hoachlander Davis Photography. Photographer: Anice Hoachlander

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