

# CITY OF SAN ANTONIO DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE COMANCHE LOOKOUT PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITIES FEBRUARY 19, 2019

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## Participants:

51 Total participants

Clayton Perry, City Council District 10

Debbie Racca-Sittre, Director, Department of Arts and Culture

William Serrano-Franklin, Project Manager, Department of Arts and Culture (Public Art Division)

Tony Forshage, Assistant Manager, Parks and Recreation Department

Linda Ximenes, Facilitator, Ximenes & Associates, Inc.

Friends of Comanche Lookout Park

American Indians in Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions

City of San Antonio Residents

# Introduction

On February 19, 2019, the Department of Arts & Culture hosted a community engagement event at the Julia Yates Semmes Branch Library to obtain public feedback on a public art project at Comanche Lookout Park.

Staff presented an overview of the capital improvements planned for the park as well as an overview of the process by which a public art project would be planned and developed.

Participants at the event and in the 2-week online comment period were asked to respond to questions about the kinds of art they were interested in seeing, the locations within the park that are best for public artworks, and the most important factors to consider in developing a public artwork for Comanche Lookout Park.

Department of Arts & Culture staff compiled the responses and have presented them in this report.



# Practical Vision

*What do we want to see at Comanche Lookout Park*

<b>How would public art improve the park? What are you most interested in seeing?</b>	<b>Where would you like to see public art?</b>	<b>What are the most important factors in regards to this public art? What are the stories, values, or characteristics of your community or neighborhood?</b>
<p><b>Types of artwork</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sculpture (27)</li> <li>• Shade structure (8)</li> <li>• Benches/tables with artistic treatment and lighting (5)</li> <li>• Other (murals, interactive art, poetic) (14)</li> </ul> <p><b>Function of artwork</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Way finding (25)</li> <li>• Trail Markers (11)</li> <li>• Art embedded in pathways (10)</li> <li>• Something functional/ multi-functional (3)</li> <li>• Wooden signs like in state parks (1)</li> <li>• Land Art (1)</li> </ul> <p><b>Artwork Themes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Color and motifs that blend in with nature (8)</li> <li>• Historic ally/Archeologically focused (4)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interactive historic timeline (3)</li> <li>• Comanche/Native American inspired (3)</li> <li>• Art representing the space and history (3)</li> <li>• Artifacts from Park (1)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Site Specific (4)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locally relevant artwork (4)</li> <li>• Accessible (not too abstract) (1)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Other (7)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tribute to veterans (1)</li> <li>• Art involving scavenger hunts (1)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By trails/sidewalks (25)</li> <li>• Near major landmarks (10)</li> <li>• At/near playground (8)</li> <li>• Near the street/Frontage Rd. (7)</li> <li>• Park entrances (6)</li> <li>• Multiple locations (4)</li> <li>• Inside library (4)</li> <li>• Outside library (2)</li> <li>• Amphitheater</li> </ul>	<p><b>Narratives and values</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History of the park (26)</li> <li>• Native people of the area (11)</li> <li>• Original privately owned Indian Head statues (5)</li> <li>• Awareness/sensitivity/inclusion of Native Americans (3)</li> <li>• Lost cultural arts (1)</li> </ul> <p><b>Wayfinding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Artwork location and placement (21)</li> <li>• Value of the natural environment (10)</li> <li>• Educational opportunity (5)</li> <li>• Coppock Tower (3)</li> <li>• Part of El Camino Real de Los Tejas National Historic Trail (2)</li> </ul> <p><b>Functionality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance requirements/durability (7)</li> <li>• Artist Selection (7)</li> <li>• Local artists (3)</li> <li>• Something tasteful that beautifies the park (3)</li> <li>• Accessibility (2)</li> <li>• Knowledge of existing public art work (1)</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community involvement and participation (17)</li> <li>• Unity/diversity (3)</li> <li>• Build a sense of community and cohesion (1)</li> <li>• Balance of nature with neighborhoods and retail locations (1)</li> <li>• Family and culture (1)</li> <li>• Anything with good moral values (1)</li> </ul>

## Summary



Based on public feedback, the public artwork at Comanche Lookout Park should:

- Respectfully address the history and indigenous context of Comanche Lookout Park in a way that is thoughtful and accurate.
- Be located along the Park's trailways or near major landmarks within it.
- Provide wayfinding for Park visitors.
- Blend in with the natural surroundings of the park in terms of color and motif.