

DEVELOP AN INTEGRATED PUBLIC ARTWORK FOR THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE DOWNTOWN PARK IN BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON.



LOCATION: Bellevue, Washington

BUDGET: \$275,000 Budgets are inclusive of artist’s fees for design, engineering if needed, fabrication, installation, shipping, travel and 10% Washington State sales/use tax. This work will be done over two contracts - \$50,000 for design development and \$225,000 for fabrication, installation, and shipping.

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 3, 2017 Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. (PST).

ARTIST SELECTION SCHEDULE *(Schedules are subject to change)*

- Deadline for Entry – Friday, November 3, 2017
- Selection Panel – Week of November 17, 2017
- Finalist Notification – Friday, November 17, 2017
- Finalist Interviews – Week of November 27, 2017
- Artist Contracts – Week of December 11, 2017

ELIGIBILITY: This call is open to all professional artists or artist teams residing in the U.S. and British Columbia. Because the artist is expected to work with the Design Team, the artist selection panel will consider the proximity of the artist’s studio to the project site and the availability of the artist to be present at Design Team meetings.

CONTACT INFORMATION: For more information about this Request For Qualifications, please contact City of Bellevue staff member Joshua Heim, Arts Program Manager, at 425.452.4105 or jheim@bellevuewa.gov. For more information about the Downtown Park project, please contact City of Bellevue staff member Ken Kroeger, Park Project Manager, at 425-452-4624 or kkroeger@bellevuewa.gov.



PUBLIC ART PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Bellevue is seeking an artist or artist team to join the Bellevue Downtown Park design team to integrate a signature public art feature into a new park entrance.

In 2017, a Grand Connection Art and Cultural Plan was created that includes a recommendation for a significant artwork proposed for the Downtown Park NE Corner Entrance. The recommendation is for a permanent art installation to create a significant entrance that responds to the existing park design and neighborhood dynamic. The gateway should serve as a welcoming beacon to the park as well as a recognizable landmark. The notion of “gateway” is wide, providing the artist latitude to work closely with the design team to potentially leverage other park features and/or integrate into park infrastructure as the art opportunity. For more information please visit the project website: <http://www.bellevuegrandconnection.com/art-on-the-grand-connection>

BELLEVUE DOWNTOWN PARK

Bellevue Downtown Park has become one of the most recognizable and well-loved places in Bellevue, and plays a pivotal role in making Downtown Bellevue an appealing place to live, work and play. In 1984 the City Council approved a Downtown Park master plan, which incorporated the Beckley-Meyers design and laid out several phases of construction for developing the park. Key features include a circular promenade for walking, central lawn, allee of trees, and extensive water features. Parts of the plan have been phased in over the decades; the most recent being the completion of the circular promenade and children's play area in 2017. Unfinished portions of park include a major entrance at the North East corner of the park at the corner of NE 4th Street and Bellevue Way. For more information please visit the project website: <https://parks.bellevuewa.gov/planning-and-development/downtown-park/>

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Downtown Park's North East (NE) corner entrance is an important physical and aesthetic connection to Bellevue's Downtown area, while providing access to the Downtown pedestrian corridor and functioning as a focal point for the City's Grand Connection from Meydenbauer Bay Park to the Wilburton Special Opportunity District. The corner will be developed as a portal -to and from the Downtown Park and serve as an urban plaza for informal gatherings and respite for Downtown residents, workers, and visitors. The NE corner will encompass this plaza, from which one can enter either the area of the canal/promenade to the west, the formal garden to the south, and provide access to Bellevue Way. In addition, the NE corner will incorporate a water feature different from others in the park and provide opportunities for integration of public art.

THE GRAND CONNECTION

In 2016, the City embarked on a process to envision a pedestrian oriented, non-motorized corridor that begins at Meydenbauer Bay Park on Lake Washington, traveling through Downtown, and connecting to the regional multi-use Eastside Rail Corridor. It will connect important civic places, neighborhoods and urban amenities including the Lake Washington waterfront, Old Bellevue, the Downtown Park, the grand shopping street of Bellevue Way, NE 6th Street Pedestrian Corridor, Transit Center, Meydenbauer Convention Center, Civic Center, and the Eastside Rail Corridor. It is envisioned as a unique and defining urban design experience that creates memorability and an opportunity for national recognition as a "must visit" urban experience. It is also envisioned as a cultural corridor. The urban vitality of the Grand Connection is intended to achieve the kind of placemaking and identity seen in features such as the High Line (New York City), River Walk (San Antonio), and 11th Street Bridge Park Proposal (Washington, DC). For more information please visit the project website: <http://www.bellevuegrandconnection.com/>

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM'S MISSION

The City of Bellevue seeks to be a vital platform for cultural exchange and creative inspiration. The City turns to living artists to enrich the collective experience of Bellevue's public places through permanent commissions and a growing collection of moveable artworks funded through the Public Art Program. A segment of the collection is devoted to artworks that raise the discourse on the defining aspects of Bellevue's civic life, exploring the diverse identities of our residents, converging cultures, international connections, technological currents and interplay between nature and the urban experience that make Bellevue's environment unique. Bellevue's art collection helps document the dynamic moments and complexities of Bellevue's cultural life and is an important resource for future generations.

DESIGN TEAM: MACLEOD RECKORD PLLC

MacLeod Reckord PLLC is a Northwest design firm. Based in Seattle since 1968, they have successfully completed several hundred projects in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Alaska, and British Columbia. For more information please visit their website: <http://www.macleodreckord.com/>

SCOPE OF WORK

The selected artist(s) will be considered an independent consultant to the City and provide artistic and design services to them and the design team. The artist's scope of work will be to serve as a full member of the design team and create a site-specific artwork that responds to the Downtown Park master plan, Grand Connection Framework, and Grand Connection Art and Cultural Plan. Specific work and deliverables will include the following:

- Design Team Participation: Attend project design team meetings, presentations, and community meetings necessary to develop all phases of the park design.
- Site investigation: Gather and synthesize relevant information about the physical, social and cultural context of the project from City staff, design team consultants and community members.
- Concept and proposal development: Generate art concepts and cost estimates, including visual representation of ideas, sketches, photography, or other visual ephemera along with written descriptions.
- Prepare verbal, written and visual presentations to show ideas and proposals to the City, Consultant team, Arts Commission, and project stakeholders.
- Artwork fabrication and installation: Upon approval from the City, fabricate and install the agreed upon project design proposal.

ESTIMATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

- 1) Design alternatives (Now – December 2017)
- 2) Park Concept Design Development (January – March 2018)
- 3) Construction Documents (April – June 2018)
- 4) Permitting (June – September 2018)

- 5) Park Construction & Art Installation (Oct. 2018 – Fall 2019)
- 6) Park Opening (TBD)

SELECTION PROCESS

PART I

City of Bellevue staff will screen applications submitted under this RFQ to establish a pool of qualified artists. The list of qualified artists will be presented to the Downtown Park Artist Selection Panel, which consists of: one member of the Bellevue Arts Commission; two community stakeholders; and two arts professionals. The panel will identify three finalists who will be invited to participate in an orientation session with the project team and key stakeholders and an interview with the panel.

PART II

At the orientation, the artists will have access to project documents and draft design alternatives, and can tour the site and connect with stakeholders to learn more about the neighborhood and initiatives. At the interview, the artists will be asked to present a selection of past works with a focus on their creative process, respond to a design and curatorial framework that will be provided to them in advance, and discuss with the panel their initial thoughts on how they will approach this project. The panel will select one artist and an alternate for review and comment by the Bellevue Arts Commission. Finalists will be paid an honorarium of \$1,000 plus travel reimbursement for their participation.

APPLICATION

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 5:00 P.M. PST ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2017. Materials must be sent to the attention of JOSH HEIM, either:

- Via Dropbox or other file sharing service to Josh Heim (jheim@bellevuewa.gov); or
- By hand at Bellevue City Hall Service First Desk (450 110th Avenue NE, Bellevue, WA 98004). Only thumb drives will be accepted. If you would like your drive returned, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

DO NOT SUBMIT A PROPOSAL AS PART OF THE APPLICATION. PROPOSALS, FOR THIS PROJECT OR OTHERS, WILL NOT BE SHOWN TO THE SELECTION PANEL.

PART I APPLICATION MATERIALS

Please submit the following items to apply to this Request for Qualifications (PART II is for selected finalists):

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

This should be a summary of your interest in the project and artistic focus and professional career, especially as your background relates to this project. Please discuss your availability and capacity during the project timeframe. If you are a team, please include a brief statement that identifies the team lead, member responsibilities, and provide the official name

under which the team will be conducting business. One (1) page limit (PDF preferred).

RESUME

Not to exceed three (3) pages of relevant professional experience for an individual application. If you are applying as a team, please include your team/studio resume. If that is not available, please combine the individual resumes (one right after the other) of each team member into one document not to exceed four (4) pages (PDF preferred).

DIGITAL WORK SAMPLES

Submit up to ten images of built past work samples (**no proposals or composites**) per application (teams submit ten images total) that best illustrate your qualifications for this project. Images will be projected one at a time in a PowerPoint presentation for the selection panel to review. JPEG files only; images must be 1920 pixels on the longest side, at least 72 dpi, and less than 2MB in size. Submitted images are very important and should accurately represent the quality and character of your work. If submitting video in the place of a digital image, the video clip should not be more than one minute long.

WORK SAMPLE DESCRIPTIONS

For each digital work sample submitted, provide a description with the title of the artwork or project, completion date, medium, dimensions, project location, commissioning agency, and budget. Also include a brief description (75 words or less) of each sample work. **If a work sample is from a civic project, please briefly describe how you worked with the design team and how the artwork responds to the broader project's goals** (PDF preferred).

PART I SELECTION CRITERIA

- Complete application submitted prior to the application deadline.
- Quality and strength of past artwork that reflects artistic excellence, original vision, creativity, and innovation as demonstrated by professional quality craftsmanship and mastery of artistic concepts, skills, and techniques.
- The artist's professional experience is adequate to meet the demands of the project. Qualifying activities would include some combination of the following: education and training as an artist, an exhibition record in museums, commercial art galleries, and/or non-profit art spaces, previous public or private commissions; or other related activities indicative of a professional art practice.
- Demonstrated success delivering public art within budget in a timely, professional manner.
- Immediate availability and capacity to participate in the design, approval, and implementation of the project as required.

See the following page for Part II required materials.

PART II FINALIST ORIENTATION + PRESENTATION

The finalist orientation and interviews will take place the week of November 27th. Up to three (3) finalists will be notified no later than Friday, November 17th. At that time, artists who wish to be considered will be invited to an interview. Artists must deliver items required materials by their respective deadlines. Applicants who do not submit all the required items will not be considered.

If selected as a finalist, please submit and prepare for the following items to apply to this Request for Qualifications:

REFERENCES

Submit three professional references. Include the names of three project managers. Each reference should be from a different past built project. Please include the following information: Contact name, title, organization, phone, and email, and project or projects they can speak about. **This will be due no later than November 17th** (PDF preferred).

PRESENTATION

Finalists will be instructed on the parameters of the interview no later than November 17th. The interviews will tentatively occur the week of November 27th.

PART II SELECTION CRITERIA

- The artist's approach is judged to be appropriate to the goals of the project and responsive to a Design and Curatorial Framework. This framework will be provided to the selected Finalists.
- Demonstrated ability to work within a design team and community setting and with stakeholders, particularly within the context of diverse communities and/or stakeholders.
- Excellent verbal, written, and visual communication skills including the ability to give public presentations.
- Results of reference checks for project finalists that demonstrate the ability to coordinate and collaborate with project managers, design team and/or community stakeholders.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

The City of Bellevue in accordance with the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) and the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), commits to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all of its programs and activities. This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing Tom Carroll at tcarroll@bellevuewa.gov or by calling collect (425) 452-6981.

TITLE VI

The City of Bellevue in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 USC 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all Consultants that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises as defined at 49 CFR Part 26 will be afforded full opportunity to submit submittals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex in consideration for an award.