



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Govalle Neighborhood Park Pool Improvement

Budget: \$45,800

Artist Information Meeting: 5:30 pm (CST), Tuesday September 27, 2016

Deadline to Apply: 5:00 pm, (CST), Thursday, October 27, 2016

Project Summary

The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department seeks to commission a permanent exterior public artwork that reflects the history of the neighborhood and creates an iconic location marker to the entrance of the pool.

The City of Austin requests qualifications from professional visual artists, or artist teams, who live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties. Artists currently under contract for permanent installation with the City of Austin Art in Public Places Program are *ineligible* to apply. **The total budget available for this project is \$45,800. Submission deadline is 5:00 pm on Thursday, October 27, 2016.**

Project Background

Located at Bolm Road and Shady Lane in east Austin, Govalle Neighborhood Park is comprised of 26 acres surrounding the pool and includes baseball fields, a volleyball court, play structures, a park pavilion. The park is connected to the Boggy Creek Greenbelt. Govalle Park was purchased in 1946 and Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) records indicate that the pool was built in 1954 and underwent renovations in 1986. The facility is not considered of historical significance. It is important to note that Govalle Park marks the beginning of the greater Southern Walnut Creek Trail. The trail is approximately 7.3 miles in length and currently terminates near Johnny Morris Road and Daffan Lane.

The Govalle Neighborhood Pool is located at 5200 Bolm Road and is composed of a single rectangular pool feature within the larger park. There are no significant features, but the facility enjoys shading from nearby mature pecan trees and there is an adjacent parking lot for use by pool patrons. Although the majority of the pool features and components were found to be in satisfactory functioning condition, there is a large crack running the length of the pool. The parking lot is in poor condition and is highly utilized. There are existing restroom facilities not within the pool's fenced-in area and not considered in fair condition. There are a majority of park amenities such as picnic tables, play structures and the park pavilion structure within close proximity to the pool entry.



Govalle Pool Park Improvement Project

The findings of the completed Aquatic Assessment identified Govalle Pool as a 'critical pool', which refers to an aquatic facility that has the potential to functionally fail within the next five swim seasons. The classification was determined per the condition of the sixty year-old facility. In September of 2014, City of Austin City Council awarded a one-time allocation to PARD's Aquatic Division for refurbishment of Govalle Pool in the amount of \$3.1 million dollars.

Expected improvements for a neighborhood pool such as Govalle Pool are gender-specific restroom facilities, lap pool, activity pool (tot pool), expansive deck space, shade structures and a public art component. Asakura Robinson is the landscape architecture firm for the Govalle Pool Park Improvement Project.

Building Plan



IM

Public Art Intent & Goals

The Art in Public Places program seeks to commission works of art of redeeming quality that advance public understanding of visual art and enhance the aesthetic quality of public places through the selection of a qualified artist or artist team who can innovatively and thoughtfully design within the context of this project. The goal of the Govalle Neighborhood Park Pool Improvement AIPP Project is to select an artist/artist team who will design artwork that:

- » establishes a visible pool entrance that could include a waiting or seating area;
- » extends the lineage of the site as a neighborhood and family gathering area;
- » is easily maintained and vandal resistant in an exterior environment; and
- » contributes to the depth/breadth of the City of Austin’s public art collection.

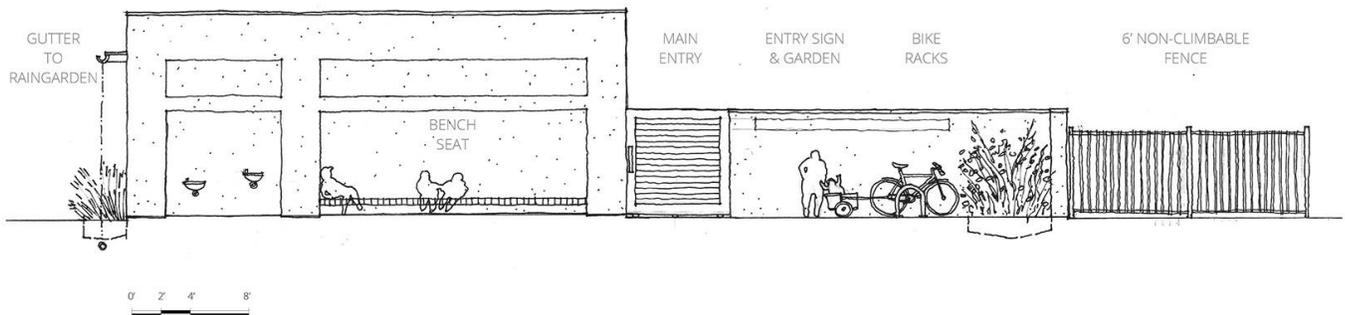
Budget

The AIPP 2% for this project is generated from a one-time allocation approved by Austin City Council in 2014. The total award for an artist contract is **\$45,800**, inclusive of design, fabrication and installation, including engineering and permitting fees, travel and shipping expenses, insurance and other project-related costs.

Artwork Opportunity

The artwork must be accessible to the public without entering the pool area, enhances the identity and visibility of the pool, and may create a seating opportunity near the entrance of the pool. A range of materials and conceptual approaches are welcome for this commission as long as the parameters of the project are met.

South Elevation *(view from Bolm Road)*





Artist Information Meeting

An artist information meeting will be held on **September 27, 2016 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Cultural Arts Division Offices at 201 E. 2nd Street** during the open application period to explain the parameters of the project and outline the application procedures. AIPP staff and project representatives will be available to answer questions.

Artist Eligibility

Professional visual artists, or artist teams, at least 18 years of age who live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties are eligible to apply. Open to all artists/teams who have successfully completed previous commissions informed by input from the commissioning body.

A professional visual artist is defined as “A practitioner in the visual arts with an original self-conceptualized body of work, generally recognized by critics and peers as a professional possessing serious intent and ability.”

Full-time, permanent City of Austin employees including employees of the Economic Development and the Parks and Recreation Department are ineligible to apply. Employees of the project consultants and sub-consultants are also ineligible to apply.

Artists who are under an active, permanent design or commission contract with the Art in Public Places program at the time of application or who have three or more commissioned, permanent projects in the AIPP Collection are ineligible to apply.

Applications not meeting all eligibility criteria will be withdrawn from consideration.

Selection Process

Applications must be received online via www.PublicArtist.org no later than 5:00 pm (CST) Thursday, October 27, 2016. For technical assistance with your application, please contact info@publicartist.org or 210-701-0775 (9am - 5pm CST). After the application deadline, Art in Public Places will convene a selection panel to evaluate artist qualifications.



The selection panel and advisors will work together to review the applications, including letter of interest, images of recent and relevant work, resume(s), and other information submitted by applicants. The selection panel will recommend up to three finalists to interview *unless there is consensus on the selection of recommending one applicant and one alternate.*

The selection panel and advisors shall convene for interviews and select one artist or artist team and one alternate. This recommendation will be presented to the Art in Public Places Panel and Arts Commission for approval. The approved artist(s) will be put under contract to coordinate with the City and project team to develop a final design, which is subject to approval by the AIPP Panel and the Austin Arts Commission prior to fabrication and installation.

Submission Requirements

Applications include: a Letter of Interest stating why they are interested, what makes them a good match for the project; 10 images of completed relevant artwork with the required descriptions; resume; and 3 professional references.

Selection Criteria

The selection of an artist, or artist team, shall be based on whose qualifications best meet the requirements contained in this Project Outline. In addition to the standard AIPP project selection criteria found on the City of Austin's Art in Public Places website (www.austintexas.gov/aipp/selectioncriteria.htm), the Selection Panel will review and consider the following evaluation criteria:

- » artistic merit and technical expertise;
- » demonstrated successful, innovative and effective approach to public art projects of a similar scope;
- » ability to successfully execute a public art project; and
- » expressed interest in creating artwork within this community setting.

Selection Committee (Selection Panel & Project Advisors)

A 3-member selection panel shall be selected that includes at least 1 visual artist. Possible selection panel members may include:

- » Chris Campbell, visual artist/ceramicist; Partner, Vault Art Services; regular Govalle Pool user
- » Jana Swec, visual artist; regular Govalle Pool user
- » Michael Anthony Garcia, visual artist
- » Brendan Wittsturck, Assistant Project Manager, Asakura Robinson Landscape Architecture
- » Uchenna Itam, art curator; doctoral candidate, Fine Art, UT at Austin

No gallery owner, dealer, or art agent may serve as a juror due to the potential for conflict of interest. No juror may serve more than once in any two-year period in an attempt to bring a diversity of interests to the selection process and to more precisely match the expertise of the jury members to each project. Project advisors will be invited to participate in the process to provide assistance and expertise to the selection panel. The project advisors to the panel may include:

- » Rey Hernandez – Project Manager, Parks Department, City of Austin
- » Pedro Patlan – Aquatics Supervisor, Parks Department, City of Austin
- » Robin Camp – Project Manager Public Works Department, City of Austin
- » Peter Cortez Rivera – Chairman, Springdale Airport Neighborhood Association
- » Allison Orr, artist/choreographer; produced *Trees of Govalle* at the site.
- » Jade Walker – AIPP Panel Liaison

Schedule

August 2016

Approval of Prospectus by AIPP Panel and Austin Arts Commission

September 7, 2016

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) released

September 27, 2016

Artist Information Meeting

October 27, 2016

Request for Qualifications close

November 8, 2016

Selection Panel meeting

November 15, 2016

Artist Interview meeting

December 5 and 19, 2016

Approval of Selection Process AIPP Panel and Arts Commission

January 2017

Artist(s) under contract and kick off meeting

March 6, 2017

Mid-Design review to the AIPP Panel

July 3 and 17, 2017

Final Design approval to the AIPP Panel and Arts Commission

August 2017

Artist commission contract begins

August 2017

Pool closes and CIP construction begins

March 2018

Artwork installed

April 2018

Construction Ends

May 2018

Pool Grand Opening