



Request For Qualifications

Project: Rosewood Neighborhood Park Improvement Project

Artwork Budget: \$44,000

Artist Information Meeting: Monday, January 14th, 2019

Deadline to Apply: 5:00 PM CST, Thursday, February 7th, 2019

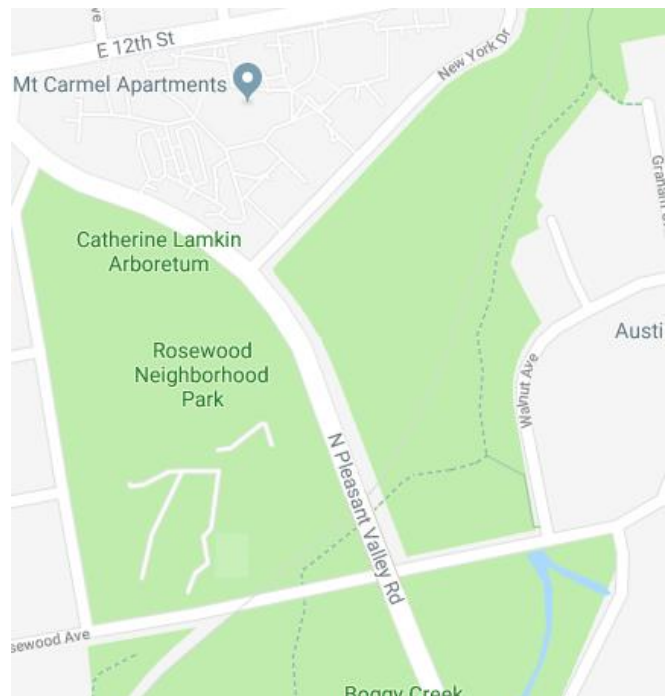
Project Summary

The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department seeks to commission a durable, permanent exterior public artwork that reflects the character of the Rosewood neighborhood and thoughtfully considers the history and everyday use of the Rosewood Neighborhood Park.

Project Background

Located at the intersection of Rosewood Avenue and North Pleasant Valley Road, Rosewood Neighborhood Park is a 17-acre public park that includes a swimming pool, tennis courts, baseball fields, picnic areas, a splash pad, the Delores Duffie Recreation Center and the Doris “Dorie” Miller Auditorium. The park offers year-round classes, workshops, special events, tournaments, performances, and demonstrations.

Historically, the site of the park served as the home and property of local store owner Rudolph Bertram. In 1875, Bertram built the 14-room limestone block house that serves as the Recreation Center today. In 1928, the City of Austin purchased the house and land for the purpose of creating a segregated park for the African American community. In 1929, a playground and after-school program, were established at the site. The swimming pool, tennis courts, and other amenities were added in the 1930’s. In 1973, the historic Henry Green Madison cabin was re-assembled on the park property. In 1974, the cabin was named a State Historical Site by the Texas Historical Commission.



New Bathhouse Facility

A popular feature of Rosewood Neighborhood Park is its aquatics facilities. Improvements to the pool area, such as the addition of a splash pad, have been ongoing since 2009. The next phase of these improvements is the creation of a new bathhouse facility. The City has hired METHODarchitecture to design the structure. The new structure will include restrooms, showers, exterior water fountains, and an entrance gate. Currently, the construction project is on schedule to be installed by late 2019.

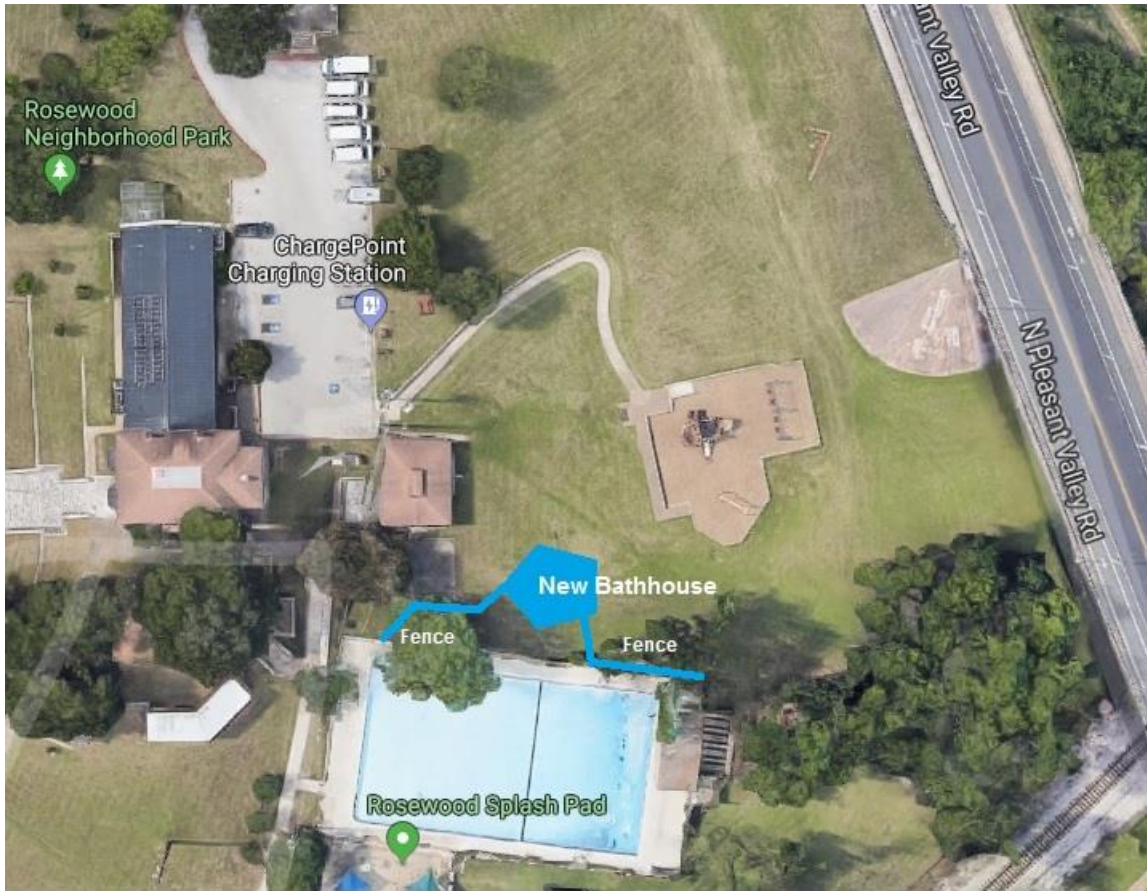


Artwork Opportunity

The selected artist or team will be charged with integrating artwork into or adjacent to the design of the new bathhouse structure. The medium and location of the artwork will be determined through discussions between the artist, community stakeholders, the design team and the AIPP Panel. The artist(s) is/are expected to gather community input in the development of their design. Potential locations for artwork include, but are not limited to, the north-facing wall of the bathhouse, the fence around the pool area, and adjacent landscape areas. Due to the challenges for maintenance of the artwork, only artwork of substantial durability and low maintenance needs will be considered.

Budget

The AIPP 2% funding for this project comes from the 2012 Bond. The total award for an artist contract is **\$44,000**, inclusive of design, fabrication and installation, including engineering and permitting fees, travel and shipping expenses, insurance and other project-related costs.



Public Art Goals & Priorities

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 Rosewood Neighborhood Park AIPP Project is to select an artist/artist team who will design artwork that:

- reflects the nature and character of the Rosewood Neighborhood Park and Pool;
- conceptualizes a strong overall artwork design approach that Integrates with the site and the required signage for the project;
- is consistent with and mindful of the historic values of the Rosewood community and Rosewood Neighborhood Park site;
- 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.

Artist Scope of Work

Community Engagement Phase

Once selected, the artist will engage with the Rosewood neighborhood community and the design team and consider their response in preparing the final design. The artist will work with AIPP staff in planning and executing community engagement, meeting(s), outreach and community participation.

Design Phase

After the artist has engaged the community, they will submit the following material for the final design proposal:

- **Written Narrative** describing the proposed artwork, including relationship of the artwork to the location, compatibility with the community/neighbors in proximity to the site, and installation plan. The narrative should describe how the artist engaged with the community. The selected artist or artist team will define the process of installation, including if he or she intends to contract a third-party for, or engage the community for assistance with, installation.
- **In-Context Images** of proposed artwork, such as sketches or renderings showing what the artwork will look like in place at the proposed site. The artist will determine the artistic expression, scope, design, color, size, material and texture of the artwork in conversation with the community surrounding the project location, subject to approval by the City.
- **Preliminary Itemized Budget** including a materials list which conveys the installation method to be used. The artists will be responsible for development of a final budget to include all costs to create the mural including but not limited to installation, de-installation, site restoration, permitting, and insurance. A sample budget sheet can be found online at: <http://austintexas.gov/departments/aipp-resources>. Tools or equipment for fabrication or installation are considered capital assets and are not eligible expenses. Rental of tools or equipment are acceptable expenses. No fund matching or crowd sourcing may be applied.

Installation Phase

In addition, the selected artist or team will provide the following services:

- **Site Preparation.** The artist is responsible for preparing the site to receive art. For artwork on the bathhouse itself, this includes cleaning the surface of the wall and removing loose debris and, in the instance of a painted mural, priming the mural area in advance of painting.
- **Safety.** The artist is responsible for working safely within the public space, redirecting any pedestrian traffic so that there is no conflict with artist work space.

- **Installation.** The artist is responsible for fabricating and installing the artwork or overseeing its fabrication and installation.

Artist Information Meeting

An artist information meeting will be held 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. The Artist Information Meeting will be held:

Monday, January 14th, 2019
6:00 PM until 7:30 PM CST
Carver Branch Public Library
1161 Angelina Street, Austin TX 78702

Artists may also attend **AIPP Open Office Hours** at the Cultural Arts Division Office to ask questions.

Artist Eligibility

Visual artists at least 18 years of age living and working in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnett, and Blanco counties are eligible to apply. Only one application per artist or artist team will be accepted (an artist may not apply as an individual and as a team member separately). Incomplete or late applications will be disqualified.

Full-time, permanent City of Austin employees including employees of the Economic Development Department are ineligible to apply. Artists currently under contract and employees of the project consultants and sub-consultants are also ineligible to apply.

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

Selection Process

Applications must be submitted through PublicArtist.org by the February 7th, 2019 deadline. The City of Austin Art in Public Places Panel will convene a selection panel to evaluate the submissions. The selection panel and advisors shall review qualifications and select three finalists for interviews *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/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 a design + commission 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, and how they might approach it; 10 images of completed relevant artwork with the required descriptions; a 3-page resume; and 3 professional references.

Evaluation Criteria

The selection of an artist, or artist team, shall be based on whose qualifications best meet the requirements contained in the Request for Qualifications. 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
- » ability to successfully engage the Rosewood neighbourhood community
- » Stakeholder and User Department approval.

Special consideration will be given to artists with a lived experience in the Rosewood neighborhood.

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 include:

- » Miriam Conner, Community Engagement Coordinator, ForkLife Danceworks
- » Carre Adams – Culture and Arts Education Coordinator, George Washington Carver Museum
- » Clifford Gillard – Executive Director, Capitol View Arts
- » Betelhem Makonnen, Visual Artist, Curator for Fusebox Festival; B.A., History and Literature of African Diaspora from the University of Texas in Austin
- » Veronica Ceci – Artist and Project Manager, Flash Collective
- » Deborah Roberts, Visual Artist, Syracuse University Research Fellow, Syracuse, NY; MFA
- » Lise Ragbir, Director of the Warfield Center Gallery | Associate Director of the Warfield Center at The University of Texas at Austin

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:

- » Scott Sinn – Project Manager, Parks Department, City of Austin
- » Jodi Jay – Aquatics Supervisor, Parks Department, City of Austin
- » Victor Davis--Rosewood Neighborhood Park Site Manager, Parks Department, City of Austin
- » Abel Sedillo—Project Manager, METHODArchitecture
- » Nefertitti Jackmon – Executive Director, Six Square
- » At least one representative from the Rosewood neighborhood community
- » TBD, AIPP Panel Liaison

No gallery owner, dealer, or art agent may serve as a juror due to the potential for conflict of interest.

Commitment to Equity

Art in Public Places embraces cultural equity. It is the goal of the program to ensure as many people as possible have meaningful engagements with public art and access to viewing, experiencing, and creating artwork. AIPP actively seeks to provide members of historically underrepresented communities, which can include identities such as Black or African-American, Arab-American, Asian-American, Hispanic or LatinX, Pacific Islander, Indigenous Nations, LGBTQIA, or a person with a disability, with equitable access to public art opportunities. In support of this commitment, the program will make every effort to expand access to the collection and programmatic decision-making. For each project, every effort will be made to comprise project selection panels and finalist pools for AIPP commissions with representatives from a variety of historically underrepresented communities to better reflect the diversity of Austin.

Tentative Schedule (Subject to Change)

December 2018

Approval of Prospectus by AIPP Panel and Austin Arts Commission
Request for Qualifications (RFQ) released

January 2019

Project Information Meeting (Monday, January 14th 6PM CST – Carver Branch Library)

February 2019

Selection of Finalists
Interviews and Selection of Artist + Alternate

March 2019

Approval of Artist and Alternate by AIPP Panel and Arts Commission
Artist(s) under contract

April 2019

Artist Meet with Design Team
Community Engagement

May or June 2019

Mid-Design review

September 2019

Final Design review

October 2019

Fabrication/Ordering of materials

November/December 2019

Completion of Bath House Construction (tentative)

December 2019/January 2020

Installation of Artwork