

SECTION 9: ARTIST SELECTION

9.1 Objectives

- 9.1.1 Foster a competitive application environment that results in strong proposals from artists and high quality works of art for the City.
- 9.1.2 Conduct artist selection early in the project to maximize the artist's impact on the project.
- 9.1.3 Create opportunities for a wide range of artists including emerging and established.
- 9.1.4 Foster the development of design teams who support artists and select artists who are compatible with the other team members.
- 9.1.5 Select artists who are sensitive to the communities in which they will be working.
- 9.1.6 Keep application and design costs low and reasonable.
- 9.1.7 Support an efficient workload for staff, artists and design teams.

9.2 Application Process

- 9.2.1 **Application Format:** A *process* request for proposals (RFP) is recommended. Unlike a standard RFQ or RFP, a process RFP asks for an artist or team's qualifications, a description of their process for working and very preliminary ideas. This format is respectful of artists and ensures that the selection panel has the best information. The overall format and content for public art RFPs shall be approved by the Public Art Advisory Panel. RFPs over \$50,000 shall also be approved by the Permanent Review Committee and the City Council.
- 9.2.2 **Selection Method:** In most cases, an open call for artists is recommended. This call may be distributed locally, nationally or internationally, depending on the project needs. In cases where there is a specific artistic vision or a more renowned artist is desired, an invitational call may be used. Artist registries may be considered for large multi-year, multi-site projects.
- 9.2.3 **Selection Timeframe:** When working with a design team, the artist may be brought on before, with, or after the team. It is essential that the artist be hired no later than the very early stages of the design phase; it is preferred, though, that hiring occur before the design phase begins.

9.3 Artist Selection Criteria

The criteria listed below shall be used for evaluating artist and team qualifications, proposed processes and project ideas.

- 9.3.1 **Stimulate Excellence in Urban Design and Public Arts:**

- Is the artist's submission, previous work and/or proposed idea engaging and high quality in concept and construction?
- Is the quality of the artist's previous work comparable to other artwork commissioned by the City?
- Is proposed idea unique, one-of-a-kind or part of a limited edition?
- Is the artist not over represented in the City's collection?
- Does the proposed project comply with the City's on premise and off premise sign regulations (use of logos or other trademarked materials is prohibited)?
- Does the artist have a significant or engaging body of work?
- Does the artist have experience collaborating with architects and other professionals?
- Does the artist have experience with architectural and engineering drawings and methods?
- Does the artist have experience in comparable projects and artistic disciplines?

9.3.2 Enhance Community Identity and Place:

- Is the artist familiar with the community or setting and its characteristics, including history, identity, geography and cultures?
- Does the artist's previous work demonstrate awareness of the respective community or setting and the above characteristics?
- Do the proposed ideas demonstrate awareness of the community or setting and the above characteristics?
- Are the proposed ideas suited to integration into the site design?
- Does the artist have experience integrating artwork into infrastructure and building function?

9.3.3 Contribute to Community Vitality:

- Do the artist's previous projects or proposed ideas have the potential to attract visitors and residents?
- Does the artist's previous work or proposed process build capacity and cooperation between the private and public sectors, artists, arts organizations and community members?
- Does the artist's previous work or proposed process encourage civic dialogue about City issues?
- Are the artist's previous projects or proposed ideas safe?

9.3.4 Involve a Broad Range of People and Communities:

- Does the proposed process involve community members in the design or creation of the artwork?
- Does the artist have experience working with communities and with diverse groups?
- Does the artist have a demonstrated ability to address ADA regulations as they apply to public art?

- Does the artist's previous or proposed process celebrate one or more of the City's cultural communities?
- Does the artist have experience in projects that bring people together or create gathering places?

9.3.5 Value Artists and Artistic Processes:

- Does the artist have a unique or appropriate cultural, geographic or artistic perspective?
- Is the proposed project or process an opportunity to nurture an emerging artist?
- Does the proposed project or process appropriately support the integrity of the artwork and the moral rights of the artist?
- Does the proposed project or design process include the artist and the artistic process as a central element?
- Does the budget demonstrate appropriate support for the artist and the artistic process?

9.3.6 Use Resources Wisely:

- Is the artist's previous work or proposed project sustainable, secure and technically feasible?
- Has the artist created an artwork that can be maintained within standard City maintenance procedures and cycles?
- Has the artist's previous work been within the timeline and budget and is the artist able to work within the City's timeline and budget?