



Prospectus

Project: Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation

Artwork Budget: \$104,000

Deadline to Submit Request for Qualifications: July 30, 2020, 5:00 pm (CST)

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 public artwork that honors the importance of Barton Springs, including the historic Barton Springs Bathhouse, and fosters stewardship of Barton Springs and the Edwards Aquifer.

Budget

The AIPP 2% for this project is generated from the 2012 Bond; Proposition 14; Parks and Recreation (Facility Renovations and Improvements). The total award for an artist contract is **\$104,000**, 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 Barton Springs Pool and the bathhouse have historic designation and so are subject to constraints for type and location of the artwork. In addition, it is important that the AIPP artwork be accessible to citizens without paying the fee to enter the pool area. After discussions with the Barton Springs Conservancy, the Austin Parks Department, and the project design team, it was determined that the site could benefit from artwork that enhances the experience of the exhibit areas or the lobby of the Rotunda; or it could be an exterior artwork within or near the site work included in the sponsor project. See Appendices A, B and C for more information.

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 goals of the project were developed through discussions with community members by PARD and AIPP staff.

Draft goals for the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation AIPP Project are to select an artist/artist team who will design artwork that:

- honors the importance of Barton Springs, including the historic Barton Springs Bathhouse;
- fosters stewardship of Barton Springs and the Edwards Aquifer;
- is consistent with the historic context of the site, possibly illuminating the history experienced by African Americans at the site;
- conceptualizes a strong overall artwork design approach that integrates with the work of the bathhouse rehabilitation project;
- is easily maintained and vandal resistant; and
- contributes to the depth/breadth of the City of Austin's public art collection.

Artwork Opportunity

The selected artist will create a durable, permanent public artwork for the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation project. There are limited locations where an artwork can be sited at, in or near this historically designated and beloved building.

- A range of materials and conceptual approaches are welcome for this commission as long as the parameters of the project are met.
- The selected artist will be required to work with City staff and the project design team to determine the final artwork location. Possible locations for the artwork include a variety of exterior locations near the building, but this will be determined during the artist's collaborative design phase.
- The AIPP artwork should not impede City of Austin staff from creating temporary exhibits related to the Springs. Learn more about the existing Exhibit here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/splash>

Community Engagement Phase

The artist will be required to create and execute a Community Engagement Plan, with AIPP staff support. The goal of this plan is to engage deeply with residents, City staff, the project design team and pool users in order to create a permanent artwork that resonates with the community receiving it.

- The community engagement plan could include a short installation of temporary art that encourages community interaction and feedback.
 - The temporary artwork would bring research/information regarding the goals of the project, to support the artist in connecting the permanent artwork more strongly to the community.

Eligibility

Applicants should meet the following requirements:

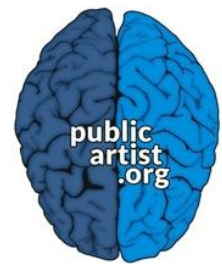
- Professional visual artist, or artist team
- At least 18 years of age; and
- Live in the 7-county Austin metropolitan area (Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet, and Blanco counties).

Full-time, permanent City of Austin employees are ineligible to apply. Employees of the project consultants and sub-consultants are also ineligible to apply. Artists who are under an active contract with the Art in Public Places program at the time of application are ineligible to apply.

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

Submission Requirements

Applications must be received online via www.PublicArtist.org no later than 5:00 pm (CST) on Thursday, July 30, 2020. For technical assistance with your application, please contact info@publicartist.org or 210-701-0775 (9:00 am – 5:00 pm).



Applications include: a Letter of Interest stating what makes you a good fit 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 artist qualifications that best meet the requirements contained in this Project Prospectus. The Jury will review and consider the following evaluation criteria:

- » Artistic merit and technical expertise;
- » Ability to engage the community in which the artwork is being proposed; and
- » Demonstrated success completing works of art

For more information on AIPP project selection criteria, see:

http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/aipp_selection_criteria.pdf

Selection Process: Request for Qualifications

1. Submit Request for Qualifications

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will be distributed and applications must be submitted through PublicArtist.org by the deadline. AIPP will hold at least one artist information meeting online to review the project with interested artists.

2. First Round of Selection

The City of Austin Art in Public Places Panel will convene a jury to evaluate the submissions. The jury and project advisors will review qualifications and select three to five finalists for interviews, unless there is consensus on the selection of recommending one applicant and one alternate.

3. Second Round of Selection

The jury and advisors will then convene for interviews and recommend one artist/artist team and one alternate for selection.

4. Approvals Process

From the interviewed finalists, the Project Team will recommend one artist, or artist team, and an alternate to the Art in Public Places Panel and Arts Commission for approval. The artist contract requires authorization from City Council prior to negotiation and execution.

Once approved, the selected artist(s) will be put under contract to coordinate with the City and project stakeholders to develop a comprehensive design for artwork. The final design is subject to approval by the Art in Public Places Panel and the Austin Arts Commission and may be subject to review by other stakeholder groups and relevant City Boards and Commissions.

Jury & Project Advisors

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.

A 3-member Jury shall be chosen to include at least 1 visual artist. Possible jury members might include:

- » Wenjie Zhao, Landscape Architect / Designer, Asakura Robinson
- » Brian "Bydeeman" Joseph, Artist
- » Wura-Natasha Ogunji, Artist
- » Arleen Polite, Artist
- » Miriam Connor, Artist + Community Engagement Specialist

Project advisors will be invited to participate in the process to provide assistance and expertise to the selection panel. Project advisors may include:

- » Jessica Gilzow, Culture and Arts Education Manager, PARD; visual arts professional
- » John McKennis, Project Manager, Parks Department, City of Austin
- » Riley Triggs, Project Manager, Public Works

- » Jodi Jay, Aquatics Supervisor, Parks Department, City of Austin
- » Alfred Godfrey, Architect, Limbacher + Godfrey
- » Mike Cannatti, Friends of Barton Springs
- » Rashida Wright, African American Resource Advisory Commission
- » TBD, Barton Springs stakeholder to represent the community who uses the bathhouse daily
- » Judith Sims, Barton Springs Conservancy member
- » Karen Kocher, *Living Springs* documentary filmmaker
- » Sarah Carr, AIPP Panel Liaison
- » TBD, Districts 5 Arts Commissioner
- » Maria Luisa “Lulu” Flores, District 9 Arts Commissioner

The Project Team will be advised by:

- » Sue Lambe, AIPP Program Manager, Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department, City of Austin
- » Laura Odegaard, AIPP Sr. Project Manager, Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department, City of Austin

Artist Information Meeting

To ensure information about the project is available to all interested artists, an artist information meeting will be held during the open application period. The purpose of the meeting is to further explain the parameters of the project and outline the application procedures. The presented materials, along with Q&A, will be posted to City’s website after the meeting: www.austintexas.gov/departments/aipp-opportunities.

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 with equitable access to public art opportunities. These communities may 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

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 juries 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)*

2020

May	Approval of Prospectus by AIPP Panel (5/4) and Austin Arts Commission (5/18) Request for Qualifications (RFQ) released (5/25)
June	Artist Information Meeting (6/10)
July	Artist applications due (7/30) <i>Construction Documents out to bid</i>
August	First Round of Selection of Finalists and Finalists notified (8/14) Finalist Information Meeting (8/21) Finalists Interviews and Selection of Artist + Alternate (Week of 8/24)
September	Approval of Selection Process by AIPP Panel (9/7) & Arts Commission (9/21) <i>Staff to submit AIPP project RCA by end-September</i>
October	<i>Staff Briefing to Parks Board</i>
November	Council approval to negotiate Artist contract Artist under contract
December	Artist Community Engagement Process begins

2021

April	Mid-Design review by AIPP Panel (4/5) --Historic Landmarks review begins --Registered Accessibility Specialist review begins --Art Conservation review begins
July	Final Design approval by AIPP Panel (7/5) & Arts Commission (7/19)
August	<i>CIP Construction Begins</i> Artwork installation aligns with construction

2022

July	Installation Complete/ Dedication
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Please review attached Appendices:

[Appendix A.](#) Project Background

[Appendix B.](#) History of the Bathhouse

[Appendix C.](#) Current Bathhouse Design Plans

[Appendix D.](#) AIPP Outreach to Develop Prospectus

[Appendix E.](#) AIPP RFQ Outreach Plan

Questions?

Contact Laura Odegaard, AIPP Senior Project Manager

Laura.odegaard@austintexas.gov - 512.974.6345

Appendix A. Project Background



The Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation is a major task identified in the Barton Springs Master Plan (completed in 2009) and further outlined in the Zilker Bathhouse Zone Feasibility Study (and completed in 2016). Major elements of work will include access improvements, replacement of the plumbing systems, structural repairs and restoration of critical parts of the entry rotunda and the changing rooms. Improvements to the Aquatic facilities and the Sheffield/Splash facilities are also under consideration. Find more documents about this project here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/bartonspringsbathhouse>

Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation Project Goals and Timeline

The goal of this effort is to rehabilitate the existing Bathhouse to provide a first-class facility for Barton Springs visitors for the next 70 years while maintaining the historic integrity of the facility and meeting program needs. The Austin Parks and Recreation Department with the assistance of the Public Works Department has engaged a professional design consultant team led by Limbacher-Godfrey Architects to complete design and construction bid documents. Design began in March 2018 with detailed investigations and will continue through to construction completion in summer 2022.

Barton Springs Bathhouse Values, based on input from the 8/14/18 Community Values Workshop:

CLARIFY THE MISSION—Simplify

- It's a bathhouse—focus on the visitors
- Open to the public as much as possible

IMPROVE USER EXPERIENCE

- Better, cleaner, possibly more restrooms
- Better privacy for families
- More solar showers
- Better arrival experience, better leaving experience

EDUCATION

- Education for all users
- Expand the mission to include education in the building and on the grounds
- Educate users to the fragility of the spring complex

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE

- Respect the original architecture
- Celebrate the Rotunda. Use it as the main entry
- Enjoy the two-story, naturally-ventilated volumes

GREEN

- Amplify the green/natural features in the dressing areas
- Consider efforts to reduce impervious cover and to improve stormwater quality

LIMIT IMPACT ON ONGOING FACILITY OPERATION

- One-phase project preferred
- Minimize disruption of bathhouse and pool operation
- Maintain ongoing use by swimmers

Additional information on the site, including its history can be found in the Barton Springs Pool Master Plan: Concepts for Preservation and Improvement at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/bspmasterplan.htm>.

Appendix B. History of the Bathhouse

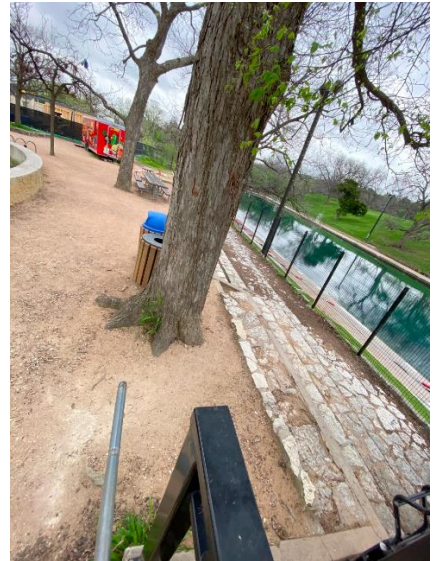


Barton Springs Pool is located within Austin's Zilker Park. Three acres in size, the pool is fed from underground springs and has an average temperature of 68 degrees year-round. Modern occupation of Barton Springs began almost 175 years ago, but was familiar to Native Americans for thousands of years, as well as early Spanish explorers. Over the years, Barton Springs Pool has drawn people from all walks of life and today still attracts a diverse crowd of people year-round. Its importance as a historical and cultural icon for the City of Austin is represented by its being designated as a City of Austin Historic Landmark in 1990, the listing of the Zilker Park Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997, as well as the citizen participation in all decision affecting the site.

The Barton Springs Bathhouse was constructed in 1947 after the previous structure was destroyed by flood. Its original service design included a mechanized basket system that was removed circa 1968 after another flood damaged the system. About this time the primary entrance was moved to the southeast corner of the building where it remains today. Several other minor additions have been made to enhance accessibility and service to the pool. In 1998 the Sheffield Educational Center and the SPLASH! Aquifer exhibit were added within the original basket area. The area is covered under Federal, State and City historic designations of which the Bathhouse is a primary architectural feature. After 70 years of service many of the internal features of the facility have deteriorated and are in need of major repairs.

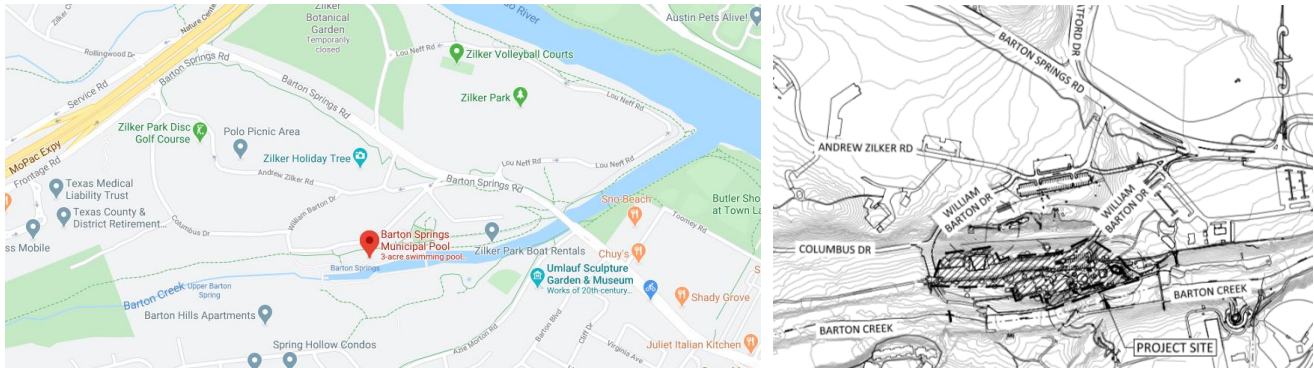


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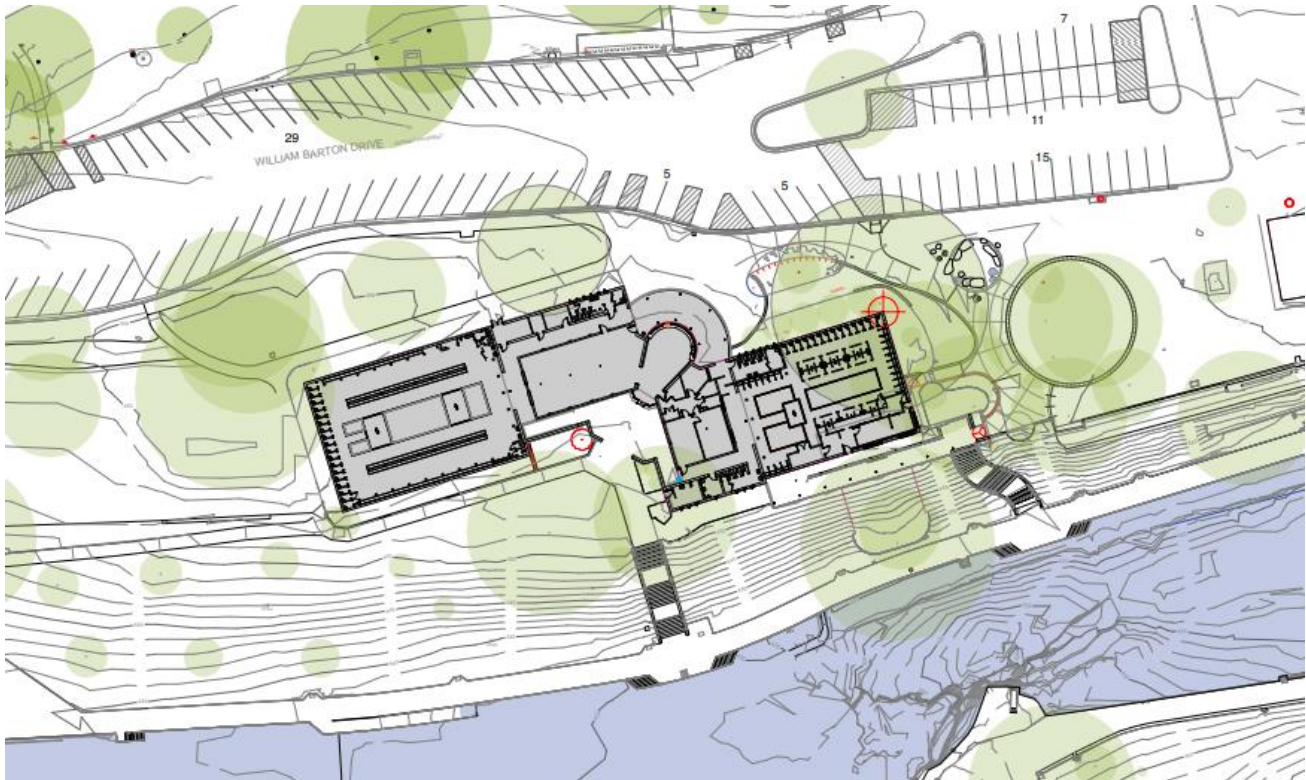


Appendix C. Current Bathhouse Design Plans

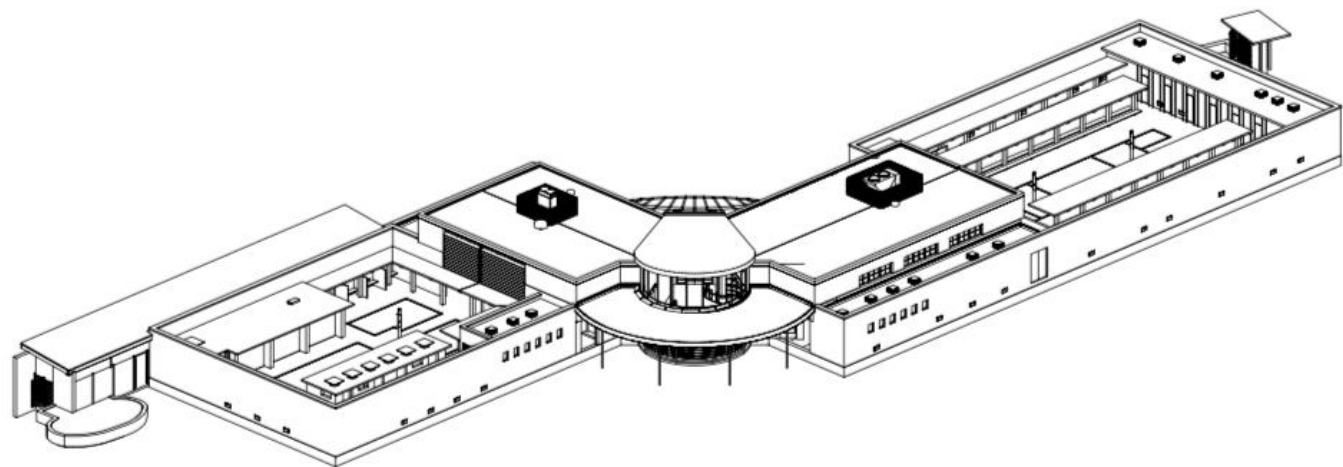
Location:



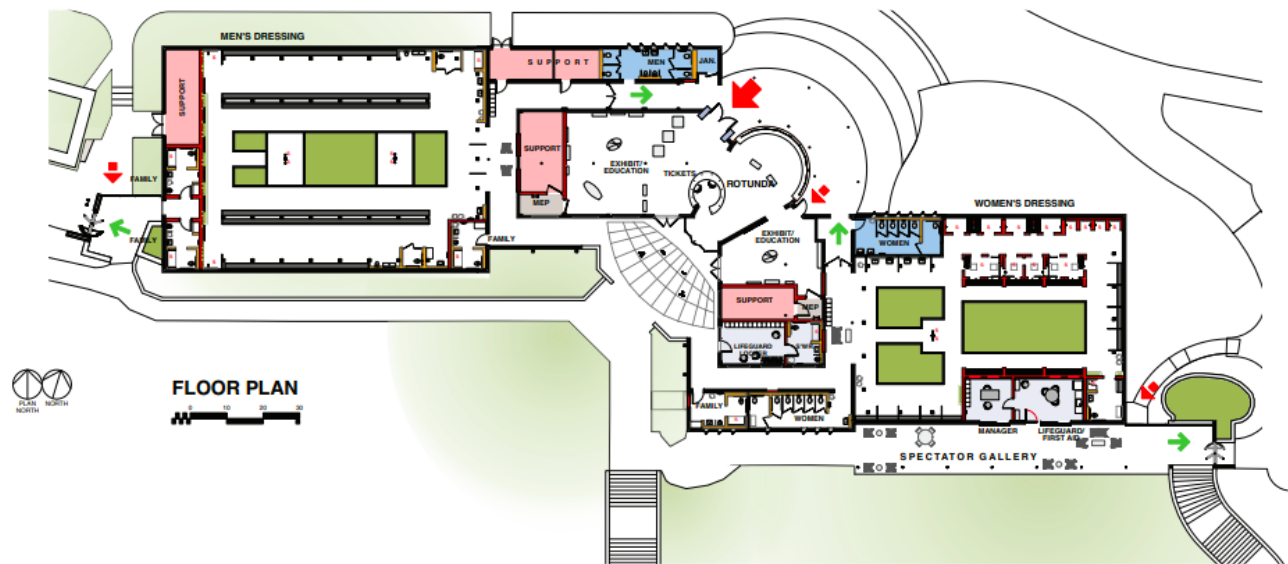
Site Plan:



View from North-East:



Bathhouse Floorplan:



Appendix D. PARD and AIPP Outreach to develop Prospectus

The Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation Community Engagement began on April 2, 2018 and continues with ongoing comments received by the project team. Summaries of each engagement along with comments connected to the engagement can be found: <http://austintexas.gov/department/barton-springs-bathhouse-rehabilitation>

Attendees represented a variety of community members and the following organizations: Barton Springs Conservancy, Barton Hills Neighborhood Association, Friends of Barton Springs Pool, HCC, Save Barton Creek Alliance, Zilker Neighborhood Association, Save Our Springs (SOS), Asakura Robinson, Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District

- Community Meeting #1: Kick-off Meeting; April 3, 2018
- Community Survey April 20 to May 31, 2018
- Key Stakeholder Small Group Meeting; July 24, 2018, 5:30 p.m.
- Community Meeting #2: Values Workshop; August 14, 2018
- Key Stakeholder Meeting: Design Concepts; October 18, 2018
- Community Meeting #3: Design Concepts; October 30, 2018
- Community Meeting #4: Update; October 30, 2019
 - **AIPP staff involved:** collected community input around Goals for the Art in Public Places project
- Community Meeting #1: Reflection and Vision of the Beverly Sheffield Education Center and Splash! Exhibit; December 5, 2019
 - **AIPP staff involved:** collected community input around Goals for the Art in Public Places project
- **AIPP Barton Springs Bathhouse Online Survey** (November 22, 2019 – Present)
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_iGhbn5RTv6ESBGdaYfVvKtGz0o6U9LFdSQvS1eZ0v0SZA/viewform
- Analogue **AIPP** Suggestion Box at the Springs (November 22, 2019 – Present)



Appendix E. AIPP RFQ Community Outreach Plan

AIPP Call to Artists (est. release date: 05/19/20)

- Printed flyer
- Press release
- Email to AIPP Artist Calls List (2K+ recipients)
- CAD Facebook
- AIPP Facebook
- AACHF Facebook
- Tweets
- Instagram
- CAD and AIPP newsletters
- Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation email list (via PARD)
- Imagine Austin newsletter
- Banner on COA website
- Email to Primary Barton Springs Community Groups & Associations
 - Barton Springs Conservancy
 - Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
 - Barton Hills Neighborhood Association
 - Friends of Barton Springs Pool
 - Hill Country Conservancy
 - Save Barton Creek Alliance
 - Save Our Springs (SOS)
 - Zilker Neighborhood Association
- Additional Community Groups & Associations as needed

Paid Advertising:

- Facebook boost
- Glasstire website
- KAZI + KAZI interview
- KOOP interview

Flyers/Posters: English and Spanish

- Barton Springs Bathhouse
- Austin Science and Nature Center
- Libraries (22)
- City Cultural Centers – Dougherty Arts Center, Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC), Asian American Resource Center (AARC), George Washington Carver Museum
- Austin Creative Reuse
- Jerry's Artarama
- Asel Art Supply
- Canopy

- Big Medium
- Six Square Office

Email and/or postings:

- 1.AACHF - African-American Cultural & Heritage Facility
- 2.AIA, Austin Chapter
- 3.ALLGO - a statewide queer people of color-organization
- 4.American Society of Landscape Architects-Texas Chapter
- 5.Art Alliance newsletter
- 6.Art Center of Williamson County
- 7.Art Connections Gallery
- 8.Art for the People Gallery
- 9.Art Institute of Austin
- 10.Art on the Colorado
- 11.Arte Texas
- 12.Artisans Connect
- 13.Asian American Community Partnership
- 14.Asian American Cultural Center
- 15.Asian American Resource Center
- 16.Austin Modern Quilters Guild
- 17.Austin Museum Partners
- 18.Austin Visual Arts Association
- 19.Austin's Art Opportunities page
- 20.Bastrop Association for the Arts
- 21.Bastrop Chamber of Commerce
- 22.Bastrop Clay Arts
- 23.Bastrop County Fired Arts
- 24.Bastrop Daily Enterprise
- 25.Bastrop Fine Arts Guild
- 26.Bee Cave Chamber of Commerce
- 27.Bee Caves Arts Foundation
- 28.Big Medium
- 29.Blanco Chamber of Commerce
- 30.Blanco News
- 31.Boss Babes
- 32.Burnet ArtHaus - Arts & Crafts Gallery and-School
- 33.Burnet Bulletin
- 34.Caldwell Arts Council
- 35.Capitol View Arts
- 36.Carver Cultural Center
- 37.Carver Museum Curator
- 38.City Shaping News (Imagine Austin)
- 39.CitySource
- 40.Civic Arts
- 41.Conflict of Interest
- 42.Cordovan Art School (Round Rock/Georgetown)
- 43.Creative Action
- 44.Creative Arts Society
- 45.DANA newsletter
- 46.Director, Mexic-Arte Museum
- 47.Dougherty Arts Center
- 48.Downtown Austin Alliance
- 49.Elgin Art Association
- 50.Elgin Chamber of Commerce
- 51.Elgin Courier
- 52.ESB Mexican American Cultural Center
- 53.Forklift Danceworks
- 54.Forklift/Public City
- 55.Former Director of Six Square
- 56.Georgetown Arts Center
- 57.Georgetown Chamber of Commerce
- 58.Glasstire
- 59.Harvest Art Fest
- 60.Hays Art Council
- 61.Hays Free Press
- 62.Hays County Art Committee
- 63.Highland Arts Guild
- 64.Highlander News - Marble Falls
- 65.Hill Country Art Alliance
- 66.Hill Country Council for the Arts
- 67.Hill Country Current
- 68.Hill Country Magazine
- 69.Hill Country News
- 70.Hill Country Sun
- 71.Hill County Arts Foundation
- 72.HOPE Campaign
- 73.Hutto Chamber of Commerce
- 74.Hutto News
- 75.Johnson City Press

- 76.KUT - Public Service Announcement
- 77.Kyle Chamber of Commerce
- 78.La Pena
- 79.La Raza Roundtable
- 80.Lakeway Bee
- 81.Lakeway Chamber of Commerce
- 82.Latinitas Magazine
- 83.Llano Fine Arts Guild
- 84.Llano News
- 85.Lockhart Chamber of Commerce
- 86.Lockhart Post-Register
- 87.Lost Pines Artisans Alliance Lost Pines Artisans Alliance
- 88.Luling Chamber of Commerce
- 89.Marble Falls Economic Development
- 90.Marble Falls/Lake LBJ Chamber of Commerce
- 91.MECA Chambers
- 92.Mexic-Arte Museum
- 93.Museum and Visitor Center of Bastrop County Historical Society
- 94.National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures (NALAC)
- 95.Pflugerville Independent School District
- 96.PODER
- 98.Public City
- 99.Raaisin in the Sun - Six Square/Mural Org
- 100.Red Salmon Arts
- 101.Round Rock Arts Council
- 102.Round Rock Chamber of Commerce
- 103.San Marcos Arts
- 104.San Marcos Arts Council
- 105.San Marcos Chamber
- 106.San Marcos Daily Record
- 107.San Marcos Mercury
- 108.Six Square
- 109.Smithville Chamber of Commerce
- 110.SprATX
- 111.Statesman/Jeanne-Claire Van Ryzin
- 112.Taylor Artist Guild
- 113.Texans for the Arts
- 114.Texas Art League
- 115.Texas Public Art Administrators Facebook Group
- 116.Texas State Art Department
- 117.The Bee Cave Bee
- 118.The Caldwell County News
- 119.The Contemporary
- 120.The Williams County Sun
- 121.TX Society of Sculptors
- 122.UNESCO Steering Committee
- 123.University Galleries at Texas State
- 124.UT Alumni Newsletter
- 125.UT Art Alumni
- 126.UT Department of Art/Art History
- 127.UT Landmarks
- 128.UT Visual Arts Center
- 129.VSA Arts of Texas
- 130.Warfield Center, UT Austin
- 131.Wesley Gallery – Dripping Springs
- 132.Westlake Picayune
- 133.Williamson County Art Guild