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Corridor Construction Program Artist Pool Artist Information Meetings: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 & February 8, 2020 Question & Answer Summary

Note: This document will be updated with questions from any future Artist Information Meetings.

LOCATION

Q: Does the orange color on the map (see below or slide # 2 of the presentation) designate where the art will be going?

A: Yes, the art will be going somewhere on the areas that are marked in orange. The areas marked in green have not been designated for art. The areas for art were determined based on the corridor construction timeline, geographic equity, and the presence of any other placekeeping projects in the area so as to spread funding across the corridors. The City would like to equitably spread artwork across corridors. Once a specific artist is chosen for a corridor section, that artist will determine the precise area for the artwork—essentially narrowing down the orange area to a specific location or set of locations.



1. North Lamar Boulevard (US Hwy. 183 to Howard Ln.) AustinTexas.gov/NorthLamar

2. Burnet Road (Koenig Ln. to MoPac Expy.) AustinTexas.gov/Burnet

3. Guadalupe Street (MLK Jr. Blvd. to W. 29th St.) AustinTexas.gov/GuadalupeStreet 4. Airport Boulevard (North Lamar Blvd. to US Hwy.183) AustinTexas.gov/AirportCorridor

5. East MLK Jr. Boulevard/FM 969 (US Hwy. 183 to Decker Ln.) AustinTexas.gov/EMLK

6. South Lamar Boulevard (Riverside Dr. to Ben White Blvd/ US Hwy. 290 West) AustinTexas.gov/NorthLamar 7. East Riverside Drive

(I-35 to SH 71) AustinTexas.gov/Riverside

8. William Cannon Drive

(Southwest Pkwy. to McKinney Falls Pkwy.) AustinTexas.gov/WilliamCannon

9. Slaughter Lane

(FM 1826 to Vertex Blvd.) AustinTexas.gov/SlaughterLane

*Q: Will only one artist been selected per (orange) corridor section?*A: Yes, one artist or artist team per orange corridor section will be selected.

Q: Are there some corridors that have multiple artwork project sections? A: Yes, that decision was based on the amount of funding available and geographic equity (i.e. placement of art around the City/corridor)

Q: Which of the corridors will have multiple projects?

A: There are currently three (3) corridors with two (2) project spaces. You can see them on the map (above). They are: Airport Boulevard (#4 on the map), East Riverside Drive (#7), and Slaughter Lane (#9).

Q: *Is the artist responsible for figuring out the location of their artwork?*

A: Yes. The artist is responsible for determining the artwork's location AND their decision should be informed by their conversations with the community and City staff. All artwork locations will be finalized pending approval from the City of Austin.

Q: Do you select a corridor area on your application?

A: No. At this point you are just applying to the pool of artist who will then be considered for the individual corridor projects based on the unique goals and needs for each project. You can note any areas that you are drawn to in your required Letter of Interest. You should absolutely note if you have a connection to a corridor area (Do you live or have you lived there?, Do you have family there?, Do you spend time there through work or hobbies?, etc.) in your Letter or Interest but this doesn't ultimately tie you to that corridor.

Q: Is only City property available for the siting of these projects?

A: Yes. Public art projects funded by AIPP must be placed on City property.

Q: Can you tell me more about each project area? Is there any specific information about the where the artworks could go (flat surfaces, etc.) in each of the corridors?

A: Once the artist is selected, the location and form of the final artwork will be determined. AIPP is not prescribing where the artwork will be or what form the artwork will take. For each area, there will be multiple space options for the selected artist to consider and get creative with. Once the artist is chosen, they will start doing a deeper dive with the surrounding community.

Q: Can I see the designs or plans for the corridor improvement?

A: We don't have those plans available at this time. The corridor improvements are still in the design process. We also don't want you to start designing anything at this point. We don't want any proposals or sketched out ideas in your application. We just want to see what kind of work you have done in the past and how your skill will apply to this opportunity.

Q: Do you have to choose only one (1) area for your art to go into per corridor area or can the work be scattered through the length of the space?

A: The work can be in a single location or more scattered throughout the area, like an installation.

Q: Are certain mediums going to be matched to each area before an artist is selected? A: No.

BUDGET

Q: What does CIP mean?

A: CIP stands for Capital Improvement Project or Program. A Capital Improvement Project is any major improvement to City facilities and infrastructure. Projects may include construction and renovation of recreation centers and libraries, acquisition of parkland, repaving of streets, replacement of water and wastewater lines, provision of power for residents and the purchase of new fleet vehicles and IT networks. Collectively, these projects are referred to as the Capital Improvements Program. Capital improvement projects are varied, so some may require years of planning and construction while others may be completed in a shorter timeframe. Projects are funded by bonds. The City of Austin has a percent for art ordinance that sets aside money for permanent public artwork from certain Capital Improvement Projects. AIPP then facilitates the creation of new artworks for the City's collection with these funds.

Q: Who determines the art budgets?

A: The art budgets are calculated based on 2% of the estimated construction budget.

Q: What are the budgets for each of the AIPP corridor area projects?

A: Please see below. These budgets are approximate and subject to change at this point in time.

Corridor	AIPP \$
EMLK	\$30,000
SOLA	\$127,000
WCDR	\$115,000
SLGT	\$63,000
SLGT	\$63,000
ARPT	\$100,000
ARPT GUAD	\$100,000 \$63,000
GUAD	202,000

ERSD	\$50,000
ERSD	\$50,000
NOLA	\$85,000
NOLA	\$85,000
BURN	\$150,000

Q: Will you know your budget if you are selected for an individual project?

A: Yes. Once you are in the pool, there will be additional selections for each corridor project. Each project will have its own budget (some bigger than others based on the overall estimated construction budget of the improvements to the corridor) and the selected artist will be contracted to design and install artwork to that specific budget. The budgets will be between \$40,000 and \$200,000 per project.

Q: Will the individual project budgets be broken down into payments?

A: Yes. Payment are made on certain millstones rather than as one lump sum. Your AIPP project manager will work with you during the contracting phase to determine what milestones and payments will work for you and your project.

Q: If we are contracted for a corridor project, how do we pay for supplies, etc.?

A: The City can't pay for services before they are rendered. However, our contracts have very welldefined budgets and payment schedules. You figure out when you will need money in your timeline, and we will work with you on creating a payment schedule that will facilitate your work.

Q: Is a project assigned to a specific site or to an artist first?

A: A project is tied to a site first. The site is assigned a budget. Then an artist is selected to design and execute an artwork for that site and budget.

Q: Is the selected artist responsible for carrying out all labor for the project?

A: Yes. You will be contracted to accomplish all aspects of the artwork-creation process, including community engagement, design, fabrication, and installation. You can hire subcontractors to facilitate some of these processes, but you are responsible for all outcomes.

Q: What if you want to get into a public-private relationship in your project?

A: That's a good question for the Corridor Program staff. Please contact Kathleen Rubin at <u>Kathleen.Rubin@austintexas.gov</u> for information on additional placekeeping opportunities and information for developers interested in funding artwork opportunities as public-private partnerships.

Q: If you are doing social practice, your fabrication costs are going to be smaller than if you were fabricating a more physical work of art. Is that okay?

A: Yes. We would anticipate that. Since social practice work is mostly engagement with the community, we might also expect for your community engagement expense to be higher than normal.

2D VS. 3D WORK

Q: There are a lot of pictures of 3D work in the presentation. Will you also consider 2D work? A: Yes, absolutely. Your ability to engage the community, regardless of the ultimate medium you are working in, is also very important.

Q: Are there any walls that are being produced during the corridor construction that could be designated for art?

A: No, there aren't any specific walls or surfaces that could be pre-designated for art. However, a lot of different improvements are being made to the corridor spaces including ADA sidewalk repairs, median adjustments and removals, widening of sidewalks for more pedestrian space, turning lane additions, etc. The space that houses the final artwork will be determine by you as the selected artist and by the community. You will need to be in a conversation with them to determine where artwork might best serve the community.

Q: Without any designated walls or surfaces, how can muralists and other 2D artists be involved in this project?

A: We challenge you to get creative! How can you translate your 2D work into a durable, expressive artwork in a 3D space? It can be done! AIPP has hired 2D artists to execute successful projects in similar situations in the past. Please see Erin Curtis's Pedestrian Geometries: https://locate.publicartarchive.org/art/Pedestrian-Geometries?ib=ext

Q: If you are a primarily a 2D artist, should you share about 3D surfaces that you have created to put your work on in your application?

A: Yes, that would be great. Upload images to your application or discuss the thoughts in your letter of interest.

APPLYING: GENERAL QUESTIONS

Q: Can you update your application after the application deadline?

A: No, I don't believe so. You can always update your profile on PublicArtist.org, but you can't update the application after the deadline. If you submit your application and then want to make a change to it BEFORE the deadline, reach out to PublicArtist.org. If you have projects that you are working on but aren't complete and you want to note them in your application, you can do that. Just label the work example as "in progress."

Q: It seems like there might be a significant amount of time between being selected for the pool and being considered for an individual project. Can I update my application once I am in the pool? If so, will I be required to keep my application up to date?

A: If you want to update your application after being selected for the pool, reach out to AIPP staff and PublicArtist.org. However, you will not be required to keep your application up-to-date if you are in the pool.

Q: Should I submit only past work in the application, or should I include my corridor proposal ideas as well?

A: Only include past work examples in your application, no proposal images. Creating a proposal can be a lot of work, and we prefer to pay artists for proposal work. If you would like to discuss your corridor

artwork ideas, you can do that in your Letter or Interest. However, it is not necessarily advantageous to tie yourself to any ideas at this stage in the process.

Q: Could I include a student mural workshop that I led in my application work examples? A: Yes, it would be highly relevant. Be sure to describe the role you played in that work example clearly.

Q: What are the qualifications you are looking at in the pool selection process? Are you only looking at past projects or are you looking at our certifications, etc. as well?

A: AIPP convenes an independent selection panel to review all the applications. The selection panelists will look at your entire application. They will not look at your website. They will evaluate the application on a stand-alone basis and use the standard AIPP selection criteria

(<u>http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/aipp_selection_criteria.pdf</u>) and this artist pool's goals to evaluate each application.

Q: Who is on the selection panels?

A: The selection panel will consist of artists, architects, landscape architects, and community advisors. Others, including the Austin Arts Commission, the Art in Public Places Panel, and more, will consult throughout the process.

Q: Has the application deadline been extended?

A: Yes, the deadline been extended to March 12, 2020 at 5 PM. This will give AIPP more time for artist outreach and give applicants more time to apply.

Q: Will we be notified if we aren't selected?

A: Yes, all applicants would be notified in May per the current (extended) timeline.

Q: Is there a place where I can view other artworks in the City of Austin art collection?

A: Yes. Go to PublicArtArchive.org. Here, you can search for and view the City of Austin's art collection.

Q: How are you defining "community"?

A: The people living in the general area around the artwork.

Q: Who is on the [construction] project team and can I reach out to them?

A: That information is available but speaking with the team wouldn't be to your advantage. They are not yet at a point where they are ready to talk to individual artists.

Q: What does each corridor want—a mural, an iconic sculpture, etc.? How can we factor this into our application?

A: The details that you are referring to will be determined in a later stage in the process through community outreach. Right now, we are only asking for your interest in the project, credentials, and past work. If you have a pre-existing connection to any of the particular corridor areas, please note that as well.

APPLYING: INDIVIDUALS VS. TEAMS

Q: Can you include projects that you worked on as part of a team in your work examples?

A Yes! AND be very clear about what you did on the project. Panels like to see that you can works as part of a team.

Q: If you are applying in an artist team, can you upload multiple artist resumes for that application requirement?

A: Yes, you can combine each person's information into one (1) document. The document can be a maximum of three (3) pages. You determine what information from each person you would like to share within those three (3) pages.

Q: Can you apply as an individual and as part of a team?

A: Yes, you can apply as an individual and as part of a team. How you designate your two bodies of work will be important. Team applications need to be thought out carefully. If you want to apply as part of a team—but the group you are proposing has never actually worked together—it can be hard for the selection panel to visualize how you will work together to complete the project. They are tasked with choosing an artist or team of artists who will produce a reliable result. If your team hasn't worked together before, it can be hard for the panel to envision and/or feel confident in the realistic results of your collaboration. Put yourself in the panelists' shoes. Think about what application format is going to benefit you most. If you are selected for the pool as an individual, there could still be an opportunity to bring on other artists (usually as subcontractors) for an idea after you've been selected.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Q: How do you see the artist doing the community engagement component? How is that part of the artist's job?

A: Because these corridor artworks will be so embedded in the community, we are asking you to be in dialogue with individuals who live in and use the corridor spaces. We want you to get inspiration from and with them. The community should see themselves reflected in the work. Some people call this type of process social practice. It's different than working in a gallery or studio setting. You'll also have to work with City staff to make sure the work is safe and durable. This whole process is A LOT of talking. It's also an iterative process. 3D works will, in general, need to be reviewed and signed off on by an engineer. Yes, it is possible for you to bring in someone to help you with the community engagement component, but you still need to be there, in person, for the community engagement. You need to take part in the process and conversations with the community one-on-one. Otherwise, you won't truly have a connection with the community. You won't personally have that 'ah ha' moment. You'll be playing telephone instead. Ultimately, the work should be inspired by the community and they should see themselves in it. Not everyone will love the work—that's not possible—but it should be a result of your dialogue with the community. It is PUBLIC art—art that is for, with, or by the public.

Sometimes community engagement is the best part of the art-making process. Success can happen in the final art product, but it can also happen in the process. It is possible that an artist could deliver the social engagement components AS THE ARTWORK for their corridor project. There would need to be some archival element of the final process that gets stored away (e.g. a video or photographs). Therefore, 'process' as public art could be acceptable for these projects too.

Q: Regarding community engagement—it seems like the City is doing some of the work before the artist is selected.

A: Yes, AIPP works with the community to establish goals for the project. These goals are a guide in selecting an artist for that project. The artist will also be asked to respond to these goals.

TIMELINE

Q: When is the earliest a corridor project could start? Will all the projects start in 2020? A: The **earliest** an artist could be under contract for a corridor art project would be June 2020. The AIPP projects will be rolled out depending on the corridor program's construction timeline. The first project will probably be on William Cannon Drive. East Riverside Drive will probably be the last.

Q: Is there a set amount of time that a corridor project should take?

A: No. We hope that artists for the first six (6) projects will be selected this year, but that is to be determined. It's an ongoing process. The money funding these projects is for 2020-2024, but the AIPP projects can extended beyond that. Hopefully, all the art projects will be done by 2025 or shortly thereafter.

Q: How long will the final artwork be expected to last? A: 20+ years.

ABOUT THE POOL

Q: What is AIPP's target number of artists for the pool?

A: We don't have a target number. We are shooting for as many qualified artists as possible.

Q: Are you looking for diversity in the artist pool?

A: Yes, our goal is to incorporate diversity in all aspects of the process, including who has access to the art, who is making the art, and who is making the decisions for the artist selection.

Q: Is the corridor artist pool a separate pool than any other AIPP pool I have applied for in the past? A: Yes. AIPP does have a couple of other artist pools. The corridor artist pool is separate from those.

Q: Is the corridor program pool the only AIPP artist pool that is open right now? A: Yes, AIPP only has the corridor artist pool call open right now. We will probably be reopening our general prequalified artist pool applications this year. However, that timeline has yet to be determined.

Q: If you are accepted into the pool but then move out of Austin, are you removed from the the pool? A: Yes, you become ineligible for projects.

Q: Once you're in the pool, how long do you stay in it?

A: Once you are in the pool, you remain in it unless you become ineligible. For example, if you moved out of Austin or were contracted by AIPP for another art project. If you moved back to Austin or finished your other AIPP contract, you would go back into the pool.

Q: Once the pool is assembled, will we know who the other artists in the pool are? That way we can determine if we want to collaborate with anyone in the pool.

A: When you apply as an individual artist, say in your letter of interest that you are open to collaborating with another artist from the pool—if desired. It's also possible that we could have some sort of corridor artist pool meet-and-greet after the pool is selected.

Q: If you finish one corridor project, can you be selected for another?

A: Yes, conceivably but in keeping with the City's commitment to diversity I think it would be doubtful.

Q: Will there be a second cut for the pool?

A: No. There will be a separate artist selection processes for each of the corridors, but the pool will remain intact throughout these processes.

Q: If I am selected for the pool, will I still be able to apply to other AIPP open calls?

A: Yes. If you are in the pool, you can still apply to other AIPP projects. However, you can't have more than one AIPP contract at a time. If you were selected and contracted for one of the corridor projects, you wouldn't be able to apply to other AIPP projects while you were under contract. That is standard practice for the AIPP program.

ELIGIBILITY

Q: Do you have to live in Austin to be eligible?

A: Yes, you must live in the Austin metropolitan area i.e. within one of the seven (7) counties— Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco—to apply. You can have an out-of-town partner apply with you if desired.

Q: If I haven't done a public art project before, could I still be selected?

A: Yes, you can be selected. AIPP is currently working on at least two contracts for between \$30,000 and \$40,000 with artists who haven't completed public art projects before.

AFTER THE POOL IS SELECTED

Q: Who approves a contracted artist's design?

A: Many entities—the community, the Austin Arts Commission, stakeholders, and more. The design is ultimately the artist's, but there are many conversations that need to be had along the way. Public art is not studio art. You need to want to engage in a dialogue with the community throughout the process.

Q: How viable is it that the artist can work with the architect to be more integrated into the construction project?

A: It depends on during which stage of the construction project the artist is brought on board.

Q: Would it be possible to work with CapMetro or to tap into the electrical grid for these projects? A: You might be able to work with CapMetro. You would be able to tap into the electrical grid. We would work out all these details during the design phase. *Q*: Is there a way that artists in the corridor pool can receive updates on what is happening with the individual selection processes and projects?

A: You can always reach out to the AIPP staff. The corridor pool artists could also establish a Facebook group (or something similar) to share updates and information. AIPP's TEMPO program artists have done that in the past and reported that it was helpful.

Q: Could an artist from the pool attend the meetings that AIPP has with the community? A: Attending one of these meetings would probably not assist a pool artist in being selected for a particular project. AIPP works with the community to craft goals for the project. This conversation does not typically prescribe the form or content of the final work. The conversations are more about understanding how the community sees itself and how the artwork can best serve and reflect that community. The process is set up for the artist to be in dialogue with the community—rather than the artist telling the community what they should want.

Q: Can one artist or collective be contracted for multiple projects? A: No, you can only have one active contract at a time.

Contact/Questions

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