



AFD/EMS Station #47 Onion Creek

Q&A from the Second Artist Information Meeting held on January 17, 2017

Q: Who is the landscape architect?

A: The landscape architect is Aan Garrett-Coleman, Coleman & Associates, Austin TX.

Q: Does the artwork have to be a fence?

A: The artwork opportunity may attach to the fence or replace the fence. It is the artist's responsibility to meet the needs of the project goals.

Q: Can the artwork be on the inside of the fence?

A: Obviously, the best exposure for this public art commission is facing outwards, but artwork also facing inside can be included. The landscape plan can be modified.

Q: Do the 10 images required for the application need to be images of public art?

A: No. The images need to be representative of the artist/artist team's body of work.

Q: What is the timeline from contract award to fabrication and installation?

A: Please see the schedule on page 25 of tonight's presentation. Please note that all AIPP schedules are subject to change—and, in fact, we were just notified this evening by our Public Works project team member of an additional schedule push-out (the schedule on page 25 does not reflect this change). AIPP Project Managers continually update project schedules as new information is received.

Q: Within a total AIPP project budget, what is the ratio of design to fabrication allotment?

A: The majority of AIPP projects require two contracts: design and commission. The standard allotment in the public art field is approximately 15%-20% for design and the balance for execution. Each project is evaluated on its scope, needs and timeline, and percentages adjusted slightly accordingly.

Q: Does the artwork have to be fabricated on site?

A: The artwork may be fabricated either on-site or off-site.

Q: Can a non-US citizen apply for this commission?

A: The City of Austin does not contract with international artists, only US citizens. The lead artist of an artist team must be a US citizen.

Q: Does the RFQ application require letters of reference?

A: No. Please provide contact information (names, email, telephone) for three professional references.

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Additional Q&A, 12/15/16

Q: Can an artist team based in Travis County have a team member who resides outside the State of Texas?

A: Yes, a Travis County artist team may have a team member who resides outside of Texas, as long as the primary artist lives or works in the Austin metropolitan area (which includes Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties).

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Q&A from the Artist Information Meeting held on December 14, 2016

Q: Where is the parking lot in relation to the building?

A: Facing the front of the building, to the left. At this time, there are no renderings of the building that include the parking lot; AIPP will post those renderings as soon as they become available from Public Works.

Q: What is the fence material?

A: The fence will be steel, either galvanized or painted.

Q: What are the building materials?

A: Combination of stone, metals (steel and/or aluminum); metal panels; glass; wood; metal roof.

Q: What is the linear footage of the artwork opportunity fence?

A: 72 feet facing FM 1626; 60 feet facing Old San Antonio Road.

Q: How tall is the fence?

A: The fence will be between six and eight feet tall.

Q: How was that height determined?

A: The intent is to keep unattended vehicles safe within the parking lot. Security is a necessity.

Q: Are there limitations to the depth of the fence?

A: No constraints, within reason.

Q: What does the fence look like?

A: Public Works has sent the project out to bid. The AIPP artwork can replace existing elements of the contractor's bid, or the AIPP artwork can be added to the existing structure. Public Works is open to fence specification modification and will work with AIPP and the commissioned artist to implement the approved artwork within the Public Works contractor's scope.

Q: Is the fence there now?

A: No. The fence is part of the construction process, and will be one of the last elements to be built. The only thing at the site right now are trees and a few slabs.

Q: Will the fence have a foundation?

A: Yes, for the structural elements; the pickets will be floating.

Q: Will the public be able to see the installation from the street?

A: Yes; there will be great vehicular and pedestrian visibility from both Old San Antonio Road and FM 1626. FM 1626 is always busy. Old San Antonio Road, which leads north towards Southpark

Meadows Shopping Center, can be very busy and, at times, still a sleepy country road. There are plans to widen the roads in this area, so the area will become even busier.

The intersection currently has unimproved roads—no sidewalks or curbs. There are plans for seven-foot wide sidewalks to encourage pedestrian traffic and create a neighborhood-friendly environment.

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Questions? Contact Barbara J Horowitz at 512-974-9312 or barbara.horowitz@austintexas.gov

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Native Xeriscape plans have been developed by a landscape architect; the landscape around the fence can be modified to work with the proposed artwork.

Q: Are there similar stations in the city that resemble what this might look like?

A: Yes, EMS Station #14 has artwork: <http://www.publicartarchive.org/work/sky-gates>

Q: What about the gate?

A: The gate will be on the back side of the building, far less visible to the public than the fence sections facing Old San Antonio Road and FM 1626.

Q: Should the artwork obscure the parking lot?

A: Obscuring the parking lot is not a goal of this public art project. The artwork may be transparent or solid, confirmed by Public Works, AFD and EMS stakeholders.

Q: Can the artwork be a free-standing sculpture?

A: The artwork goals, developed with project stakeholders and refined by the AIPP Panel in conversation with AFD and EMS staff, determined the AIPP Panel's decision to focus on the parking lot enclosure as the opportunity for this public art project.

The artwork should be an enhancement of the fence, rather than a stand-alone sculpture.

However, the artwork can be a sculptural response to the project's needs: it may be two-dimensional or three-dimensional, but should address all of the fence, not just attachments.

The Selection Panel should see how your work fits the needs and goals of this call.

Q: Can the artwork be a mural?

A: The artist would have to solve the requirements of the call; the artist would have to consider substrates, materials, attachments, maintenance and durability for an exterior artwork.

All AIPP artworks are expected to have a minimum lifespan of 20 years with a low-touch maintenance plan; longer lifespans for public art are always preferred.

The Selection Panel should see how your work fits the needs and goals of this call.

Q: Can the artist incorporate lighting?

A: The artist can include a low-voltage run. There are no outlets, and there is only minimal irrigation planned for that area.

Any lighting should be as maintenance-free and sustainable as possible.

Q: Is the artist responsible for manufacturing?

A: Yes. The \$90,000 budget includes everything required to have your concept realized—either by the artist her/himself or through subcontracted services. AIPP can help by providing resource lists.

Please take a look at the AIPP Resource Guide for an end-to-end view of a public art project:

http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/EGRSO/aipp_resourceguide_20150629_sm.pdf

Q: What is required for a team application?

A: Include the name of each team member in your letter of interest.

A resume for each team member must be included in the team application.

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Make sure that each of your team member's work is represented in the 10 images.

Q: When can we see exactly what type of fence will be installed?

A: Public Works is still in the design phase.

Please remember that this application is a Request for Qualifications, not a Request for Proposal. Problem-solving will occur after an artist is selected.

Q: Will there be a Request for Proposal?

A: Not for this project.

These are the Selection Process steps:

AIPP staff will convene a three-member Selection Panel who, along with Project Advisors, will meet to review all applications, interview up to three finalists and recommend the artist to be commissioned, and an alternate.

This recommendation will be presented to the AIPP Panel and Arts Commission for approval.

This project's budget requires City Council to authorize negotiation of the contract with the selected artist.

The selected artist(s) will enter into separate design and commission contracts to coordinate with the City and project team to develop a Final Design, which is subject to approval by the AIPP Panel and Arts Commission prior to fabrication and installation.

Q: What role does collaboration play in the public art process?

A: It is essential that the selected artist embrace partnership and collaboration, be flexible and foster open dialogue. The selected artists will collaborate with Austin Fire Department, Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services, Public Works, architect and community stakeholders; solicit input via community outreach efforts; interact with AIPP Panel members during presentations; and work closely with AIPP staff.

Our Public Works, AFD and EMS stakeholders are deeply invested in the process and success of this AIPP project.

Q: Who is the specific target audience?

A: As stated in the Project Goals, this artwork must be physically and conceptually accessible to first responders, passers-by and station visitors—especially children.

Every fire station plays a major role in the community and is open to public visits, and especially so with this station's proximity to the shopping center and Akins High School.

Q: Can you apply for this opportunity if you have not completed a public art project; can other types of collaborative projects be a substitute?

A: Yes. While public art constraints are unique, don't let lack of public art commissions stop you from applying. Please be sure to include all applicable experience for the Selection Panel to consider.

As an example: a current AIPP artist is primarily an oil painter, but her partnership with an architect who did have public art experience yielded their current commission of a large series of mosaic installations on Second Street.

Please be on the lookout for the upcoming TEMPO call for artists, due to release at the end of January. The TEMPO program allows artists to explore a range of themes suitable for the outdoor environment and provides the opportunity for innovative, thought-provoking artwork that impacts the way people experience their environment. Participation in the TEMPO program can provide valuable public art experience.

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