

Art in Public Places Program  
City of Austin Cultural Arts Division  
201 East 2nd Street  
Austin, Texas 78701  
512.974.7852 / www.austincreates.com



## Request for Proposals

**Project:** Art Bollard Sleeves  
2nd Street Bridge and Roadway Extension (Shoal Creek to West Avenue)

**Budget:** \$ 65,000

**Artist Information Meeting:** May 30, 2012; 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

**Deadline to Apply:** June 14, 2012 at 5 p.m.

### Project Summary

The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services Office (EGRSO) seeks proposals from professional artists, designers or artist teams to create art bollard sleeves for traffic bollards planned for 2nd Street Bridge and Roadway Extension (Shoal Creek to West Avenue) Art in Public Places project. A traffic bollard is a solid object intended to separate the pedestrian way from the vehicular way; in this case the bollards will likely be 42" high and 6"-8" in diameter.

The City of Austin requests proposals from professional visual artists and designers who live and work within a 50 mile radius of Austin, Texas. The bollard sleeves may be of one design, or the artist may propose more than one design, up to a suite of four designs intended to be placed as a grouping, as the artist chooses. One artist/artist team and one alternate will be selected to design and fabricate the bollard sleeves; installation will be performed by others.

An Art In Public Places project associated with the 2nd Street Bridge and Roadway Extension project is already underway; that commission is for a work of exterior art which is to be engaging for families and children. This call is for a second AIPP project associated with the 2nd Street Bridge and Extension project.

**Submission deadline is 5 PM on Thursday, June 14, 2012.**

**The budget for design and fabrication of the artwork is \$65,000.**

### Project Background

The City of Austin is constructing a new road and bridge in the Seaholm District, specifically a new portion of 2nd Street, which will extend from the east side of Shoal Creek to proposed West Avenue (at the decommissioned Seaholm Power Plant). Construction will include approximately 550 linear feet of new road and sidewalks, including an approximately 250' bridge over Shoal Creek.

The design of 2nd Street between the new bridge and new West Avenue will follow a *woonerf* (or festival street) design concept so that the area between the New Central Library and the Seaholm Substation Wall Art In Public Places project reads as a plaza, with pedestrians and vehicles kept separate by bollards lining the street. The artist will engage a limited number of the bollards with their art sleeves.

A key adjacent project, the New Central Library, will be a state-of-the-art library that will be a major downtown destination. The Seaholm District currently has four Art in Public Places projects underway,

and as a whole, will be a focal area in west downtown Austin which will attract residents, visitors, library customers, bicyclists and pedestrians, families and children, shoppers, diners, and those seeking entertainment and culture. A map of the location is available at [www.austintexas.gov/department/seaholm-district](http://www.austintexas.gov/department/seaholm-district)

The art bollard sleeves will be used strategically, potentially being grouped at intersections to draw pedestrians to cross the street at the safest areas. The art bollard sleeves will be interspersed with standard bollards to be installed by Public Works. Some of the standard bollards may contain lighting directed at the pavement; some may be removable or retractable to provide access to the adjacent substation as needed.

## Public Art Intent & Goals

The Art in Public Places program seeks to commission works of art of redeeming quality which advance public understanding of visual art and enhance the aesthetic quality of public places.

For this specific public art project, it is important that the selection panel choose an artist who will create a work that will:

- **be a unique work of contemporary art for the public;**
- **be responsive to site opportunities, conditions and constraints;**
- **enhance the experience of being a pedestrian, cyclist or driver on 2nd Street;**
- **be easily maintained and safe.**

## Budget

A maximum amount of \$65,000 is available for this public art project. The selected artist(s) will be responsible for all aspects of design, fabrication and construction including design and fees, transportation, and insurance.

- City of Austin Public Works will provide engineering support for fabrication and installation of the art bollard sleeves.
- Installation costs, including foundation and city fees, will be by City of Austin.

## Site

The artwork will be located along 2nd Street between Shoal Creek and the Seaholm Power Plant. The exact placement of the art bollard sleeves will be based upon safety requirements along 2nd Street, and discussions between the artist and the 2nd Street Bridge and Roadway Extension design team. Due to the challenges for maintenance of the artwork, only artwork of substantial durability and low maintenance needs will be considered.

## Artwork Opportunity

This public art opportunity is open to a wide range of ideas to be proposed by the artist. The artwork is to be located along the vehicular way, defining the separation of vehicles from pedestrians along 2nd Street between Shoal Creek and the new extension of West Avenue. Due to the design of the festival street, there will be no curbs along 2nd Street Extension between Shoal Creek and the new extension of West Avenue.

### **The art bollard sleeves are required to meet these minimum criteria:**

- Art bollard sleeves will be a minimum of 42" tall. Sleeves will be a minimum diameter of 6-8" and a maximum diameter of 18".
- Art bollard sleeves will be securable, to prevent theft.
- Art bollard sleeves will be reproducible, so the City is able to install any number of bollard sleeves in the Seaholm District or throughout the City. At this juncture, it is expected that this budget will provide between 12 to 20 bollard sleeves for 2nd Street.

- For the purpose of this Request for Proposals, the art bollard sleeves should be able to withstand a crash of 5 mph by a 5000 lb vehicle without requiring repair; the selected artist will work with the Engineering Services Division of the City of Austin during design to address required durability.
- Art bollard sleeves are required to fit snugly, without wiggling or moving, over a standard 6" or 8" wide diameter steel concrete filled pipe provided by the City.
- Art bollard sleeves must be produced with durable material(s), able to withstand the elements and urban environment without degrading, for a minimum of 15 years.
- Art bollard sleeves may incorporate light, as long as it will not interfere with drivers' or cyclists' ability to see.

## Artist Information Session

AIPP and Public Works staff will provide an information session for this call on Wednesday, May 30, 2012 at 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., located in Austin at the Grayduck Gallery; 608 Monroe Street Austin, TX 78704 (just west of South First).

- ⇒ Come and learn more about the Seaholm District, the plans for 2nd Street Bridge and Extension project and this available opportunity for artwork. Also hear about how to navigate the AIPP online artist registry and submission system (*ASAPP!*).

## Artist Eligibility

Professional visual artists at least 18 years of age legally residing within 50 miles of Austin are eligible to apply. Full-time, permanent City of Austin employees, all employees of the sponsor department (Public Works), members of the Art In Public Places Panel and of the Austin Arts Commission, employees of EGRSO, including project consultants and sub-consultants are ineligible to apply.

## Evaluation Criteria

The selection of an artist or artists shall be based on which proposal best meets the requirements contained in this Request for Proposals.

In addition to the standard AIPP project selection criteria found on the City of Austin's Art in Public Places website ([http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/aipp\\_selection\\_criteria.pdf](http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/aipp_selection_criteria.pdf)), the Selection Panel will review and consider the following in the selection of the proposals:

- » artistic merit and technical expertise;
- » demonstrated successful, innovative and effective approaches to creative expression, or public art projects of a similar scope;
- » ability to effectively engage with community stakeholders and user groups, and;
- » ability to successfully execute the proposal.

## Selection Process

Proposals and other required documentation must be received online via the *ASAPP!* system no later than 5 pm on Thursday, June 14, 2012.

The City of Austin AIPP Panel will convene a selection panel to evaluate the proposals. The selection panel and project advisors shall review proposals including drawing(s)/rendering(s), project narrative, images of recent and relevant work, resume(s), and list of references by applicants.

The Selection Panel will recommend one artist/artist team and an alternate to the Art in Public Places Panel and Arts Commission for approval. The selected artist will be put under a design/commission contract to coordinate with the City and engage stakeholders to develop a final design for the project. The final design is subject to approval by the AIPP Panel and the Austin Arts Commission and may be subject to review by other relevant City Boards and Commissions.

## Submission Requirements

Applicants must submit the following materials through the *ASAPP!* online application system. The system may be accessed by visiting the *ASAPP!* webpage:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/aipp/apply/default.cfm>

### **FIRST: Register with ASAPP!**

Please be prepared to submit the following:

*Professional resume* – (artist registry step 1 of 3)

Please outline your experience as a visual artist/design professional. If applying as a team please enter information as a team and include resumes for each team member in the *ASAPP!* registry system.

*Three references* - (artist registry step 2 of 3)

Please include the names and contact information for 3 individuals with whom you have worked, collaborated or who have commissioned your work in the past. Actual letters of reference are not required and will not be accepted.

*Digital images* - (artist registry step 3 of 3)

Upload a minimum of 10 images (maximum of 20) demonstrating your past work. Installation or 3-dimensional work may be illustrated by multiple images. Formatting requirements:

- ⇒ Images must be uploaded in .jpg format.
- ⇒ Images must be uploaded as RGB color, rather than CMYK or anything else.
- ⇒ Image size must not exceed 800 pixels wide x 600 pixels high, and 72 dpi. Note: dimensions are not interchangeable, images cannot be 800(h).
- ⇒ File size cannot exceed 400KB.

*Note: AIPP is not responsible for distortion/alteration of images as they appear on monitors or projected.*

### **NEXT: Apply for Call to Artists**

Please be prepared to submit:

#### **Digital images - (10 - 20 images)**

Select a minimum of 10 images (maximum of 20) from your registry profile to apply for the call. Artist teams must have each team member's work represented in the 10 - 20 images selected for review.

At least one image must be a sketch, drawing or rendering of your conceptual proposal. Your conceptual proposal must be submitted as a digital image through the *ASAPP!* registry.

#### **Letter of Interest/Conceptual Proposal Narrative (2000 character limit)**

- ⇒ What interests you about this project?
- ⇒ Briefly describe in a narrative format how you propose to approach the art bollard sleeves.
- ⇒ Describe how your piece responds to the minimum criteria and the goals and intents for the artwork.
- ⇒ Describe the materials and methodology for your approach, including your anticipated costs.
- ⇒ Artists should describe how their proposal demonstrates the ability to transfer their artistic vision into a form and materials appropriate for this call for public art.

See AIPP Artist Resource Guide 2012 for assistance in developing submission materials and project budgets: [http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/aipp\\_resourceguide\\_212.pdf](http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/aipp_resourceguide_212.pdf)

## Important Instructions

- » All artists/design professionals must submit via the *ASAPP!* online application system. Email, hard copies or CDs WILL NOT be accepted.
- » Applications received after 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 14, 2012 will not be considered.
- » If your work is best represented by other media types (video or audio), please contact the AIPP staff for further instructions.

## Tentative Schedule – subject to change

May 17, 2012	RFP released
May 30, 2012	Artist Information Meeting
June 14, 2012	Deadline for submission of proposals
July 2, 2012	Approval of Selected Artist and Alternate by Art in Public Places Panel and by Austin Arts Commission
July, 2012	Artist Placed under Contract
Fall 2012	Approval of final design by AIPP Panel and Austin Arts Commission.
August 2013	Construction of Bridge and Roadway Extension begins
December 2015	Estimated project opening and dedication.

## Resources

The Austin Art in Public Places Resource Guide 2012 is available online at:  
[http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/aipp\\_resourceguide\\_212.pdf](http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/aipp_resourceguide_212.pdf)

## Contact/Questions

Susan Lambe  
Art in Public Places Coordinator  
(512) 974-7852  
[Susan.Lambe@austintexas.gov](mailto:Susan.Lambe@austintexas.gov)