



Art Bollards 2nd Street Bridge and Extension AIPP Project

Question and Answers from the Artist Information Meeting held on 5/30/2012. Presenters included Sue Lambe, AIPP Coordinator for this project; Cynthia Jordan, Public Works Project Manager for the 2nd Street Bridge and Extension (West Avenue to Shoal Creek); and Kevin Sweat, City of Austin Engineering Services Division.

1. How many art bollard sleeves will be commissioned?

The RFP states *"At this juncture, it is expected that this budget will provide between 12 to 20 bollard sleeves for 2nd Street. "*

Once an artist is selected, the final number of art bollard sleeves to be produced will be determined by the selected artist's design, and through collaboration between the artist, the project design team, and the City of Austin Engineering Services Division.

2. How much space will be between each bollard?

The current plan is to space the bollards approximately 7 feet, 4 inches apart.

3. What will the exact diameter of the bollards be?

The RFP states *"Sleeves will be a minimum diameter of 6" - 8" and a maximum diameter of 18"."*

Once an artist is selected, the final dimension will be determined by the selected artist's design, and through collaboration between the artist, the project design team, and the City of Austin Engineering Services Division.

4. How wide can the art bollard sleeve be?

The total diameter of the art bollard sleeve should not exceed 18 inches, including the bollard.

5. Is light required?

No, but if light is proposed to be included in the sleeve, please note that the RFP states *"Art bollard sleeves may incorporate light, as long as it will not interfere with drivers' or cyclists' ability to see."* If the artist proposes light, the City of Austin will provide electrical service to the bollard, and the artist will be responsible for electrical engineering, design, fixtures and associated components.

6. How many art bollard sleeves will be grouped together?

At this point, it is expected that between 2 and 4 art bollard sleeves will be placed in a group. The actual grouping of art bollard sleeves will be determined by the selected artist's design, and through collaboration between the artist, the project design team, and the City of Austin Engineering Services Division.

7. Will the selected artist or artist team be included in the decision process to determine the placement of the bollards?

Yes, however, the selected artist or artist team will collaborate with the Engineering Services Division and the project design team to solidify these decisions, taking safety, ADA accessibility and other issues into consideration.

8. Is there a maximum height to consider while designing the art bollard sleeves? Can you suggest a height limit for the art bollard sleeves?

No, that has not been restricted at this point. Practical considerations, such as public safety, maintenance, climbing deterrent, visibility, etc., should be considered in design.

9. What kind of pedestrian activity can be expected in the area?

A full spectrum of pedestrian activity can be expected in the area including families, children, college students, elderly, and young professionals. There will be thousands of people living in close proximity to this area, New Central Library patrons, retail shoppers, restaurant patrons, bicycle commuters, trail users, families, children, festival goers, and more, attracting a full spectrum of populations to the area at all hours of the day and/or night.

10. Are there any limits to what the artist may propose for color?

No.

11. Will the art bollard sleeves need to be able to be changed or removed?

No, this is not expected. For the purposes of this proposal, the artist should assume that the only time the sleeves will be removed is to repair damage or for maintenance.

12. How much technical information needs to be included in the proposal?

Technical drawings are not necessary inclusions for the proposal. The selection panel will be evaluating the aesthetics of the proposal, artist qualifications, and response to the project goals. Artists should understand that some flexibility in design will be necessary to address practical constraints. The selected artist will have time for further design exploration and technical review with the project design team, and the City of Austin Engineering Services Division.

13. Where should applicants look in terms of aesthetic influence or standard when considering an aesthetic that would be conducive to the Seaholm District area?

Although the Seaholm District is still in the planning stages, applicants can look at the City of Austin Art in Public Places collection to see what has been installed in the downtown 2nd street area as well as the Seaholm District plans.

14. Approximately how fast will vehicular traffic be in the area?

Twenty miles per hour is expected to be the posted speed limit.

15. Is a flexible material permissible to use for the art bollard sleeves?

While AIPP Program will not define what specific materials may be proposed for this project, the RFP states: *“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.”*

16. Can we submit multiple ideas or designs?

Yes, the RFP states: *“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.”* Each artist is limited to submitting 20 images with their application. These 20 images must include portfolio images and the proposed design image(s).

17. Can a team of artists and/or fabricators be put together after the independent artist has been selected?

Yes, there is flexibility in terms of adding fabricators and additional expertise.

18. Do you require that the art bollards be removable or secured in place permanently?

The art bollards must be able to be secured to prevent theft, but also allow access for maintenance. These are intended to be permanent once installed.

19. Are the art bollard sleeves expected to survive a 5mph impact or can they be repaired?

It is our expectation that the art bollard sleeve(s) will be designed so that they will not need to be repaired after a 5mph impact from a vehicle.

20. Are there any safety regulations to be considered, for example, surface sharpness, climbing, etc.?

Safety will be addressed through collaboration between the artist, the project design team, and the City of Austin Engineering Services Division during the design phase.

21. Who is on the selection panel?

That has not yet been determined. There are typically people with expertise in the type of condition in which the art will be placed, such as architects, engineers or landscape architects and there is always at least one visual artist on the selection panel.

22. If the artist wanted to incorporate light would there be access to electricity or solar power?

There will be power (electricity) on sight at each tree post. Solar power may be a possibility.

23. Will the City indemnify the artist against any legal issues if someone should crash into the art bollard sleeve and hurt themselves?

No, the City cannot legally indemnify a party against actions by third parties.

Additional questions received since the Artist Information Meeting:

24. Are the actual bollards pipes (ID 6" or 8") or tubes (OD 6" or 8")?

The diameter for the bollards defined in the RFP (6" – 8" in diameter) was provided so the artist would have a notion of scale for the purposes of making a proposal. The actual size is not specific at this point. Engineering Services Division will work with the artist to specify the pipe or tube sizing to meet the intent of the project and the artist's vision.

25. If the bollards are in fact pipes, can the artist recommend using steel tubes instead?

The artist is free to make any recommendations he/she wishes. The selected artist will collaborate with Engineering Services Division for the final solution.

26. Can the artist specify that the art bollard sleeves be grouped within reasonable limits, perhaps in groups of three?

Yes.

27. Is there a weight limit for the individual bollard sleeves?

No.

28. Can the artist control the look of other street furniture (manhole covers, light poles, etc.) in and around the bridge? Can the artist work with the team that designs the street lights?

No. Those items are either City of Austin standard details or they are determined by the Great Streets typology for a pedestrian dominant street. You may easily understand what site furniture, lighting, etc. will be like by walking along 2nd Street between Congress Avenue and San Antonio Street.

Additional questions received after 6/6/12

1. My question is about (how) the selection (is made) - what is the most important concept of their choosing the artist? Design, price, materials? Do they (the selection panel) strongly look at the lowest bid priced or do they look at the artwork?

The selection panel will make a selection based on the merits of each applicant's proposal, application, letter of interest, and portfolio work/images. Each Call to Artists is specific in terms of its goals and parameters. Please refer to (page...?) of the Request for Proposals.

There is also a Resource Guide online so you can get more information on both process and review criteria:

http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Redevelopment/aipp_resourceguide_512.pdf.

2. When registering on ASAPP, Is it recommended to include pieces that have been at the People's Gallery? Is it recommended to include a variety of media & sizes of artist's work?

City staff cannot make recommendations. Any of the AIPP coordinators (Sue Lambe, Carrie Brown and Jean Graham) can offer technical advice on registering on **ASAPP!**, but it is up to the

applicant to decide which pieces are most appropriate to show in support of his/her application for the project.

3. Can I upload to my registry on **ASAPP!** in several sessions instead of all at once?

You can upload to or change your **ASAPP!** registry information as many times as you want prior to submitting the official application. Once your application to a specific project is submitted, the information/images attached to that application are no longer available to you for changes.

4. If I'm submitting more than one idea, then the images for each should probably be in separate images and these are submitted to ASAPP, right?

That is up to you as the applicant.

5. Will I be able to remove images from **ASAPP!** after this project is passed?

Yes.

6. It seems that if I put my images for this project on the **ASAPP!** site, these designs will be available to the 'public' – what about copyright?

Images on the **ASAPP!** site are not public. Applications for projects are shared only with the selection panel, project advisors and AIPP staff. The artists on ASAPP! retain copyright for all uploaded images.

7. Is it recommended to submit images that include a variety of media, techniques & sizes regardless of the project proposal, or should the images I submit be closely related to my design ideas?

That is up to you - the selection panel will be reviewing your overall submittal to gauge your qualifications in terms of this specific project.

8. Do I need to submit the project stuff all at once or can I upload in several sessions?

ASAPP! Registry. You can work on your **ASAPP!** registry and upload/change your information + images in the registry whenever you like prior to the deadline.

ASAPP! Application. You should be prepared to upload your application in one session. This note is on the **ASAPP!** application webpage for this project:

TIME LIMIT: Prepare all of your information before beginning the application process. There is a **90-minute** time limit for uploading your Registry information. If you exceed this time, some or all of your information may not be saved as you progress through the system.

9. How tight is the 18" width requirement for the art bollard sleeves? Can we propose art bollard sleeves that will be wider than 18"?

For the purposes of the proposal, artists should consider the 18" limit to the width of the art bollard sleeves as absolute.

10. I'm concerned that I can't provide between 12 – 20 art bollard sleeves for this fee, given the range of material that can stand up to being hit at 5 mph by a 5000 lb. vehicle? Is it required that the proposal contain a budget for what is being proposed?

Please propose your highest and best solution(s) to the art bollard sleeve, with thought to artwork(s) that will complement the 2nd Street environment for years to come.

The proposal needs to reasonably accommodate the project's practical and budgetary confines, but be scalable and flexible to respond to more in-depth discussions with the project team once the artist has been selected and contracted. Consider the proposal to be a starting point for the design to be further refined.

The RFP states that your Letter of Interest will include the following:

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.