



## Request for Qualifications

Project: Spirit of Austin Lane Cell Phone Waiting Area  
(Austin-Bergstrom International Airport)

Budget: \$355,000

Deadline: Thursday, June 20, 2013, 5:00 pm (CST)

### Project Summary

The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services Office (EGRSO) seeks to commission a professional visual artists or art team to design and create exterior artwork for the Austin Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA) Spirit of Austin Cell Phone Waiting Area. The City of Austin requests qualifications from professional visual artists who live and work in the state of Texas.

**The total design, fabrication and installation budget available for artwork is \$355,000.**

**Deadline for RFQ submission is Thursday, June 20, 2013, 5:00 pm (CST)**

### Project Background

Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA) has served the Austin air traveler since 1999 and now serves over nine million air travelers annually. ABIA is committed to providing a sustainable air transportation portal that provides a friendly, green, Austin-style environment that reflects the nature and character of the City.

The project consists of constructing a new roadway named Spirit of Austin Lane. This roadway runs between two existing roads at ABIA. It shall have sidewalks, street lights and native landscaping which includes rain gardens within the median of the roadway. As part of the project, a new cell phone use parking lot and landscaped parkway with path is also being built immediately adjacent to the new roadway.

The project goal is to make it simpler and more enjoyable for people waiting in their cars to pick up arriving travelers at the airport. Using the new cell phone lot area as a place to "wait for the call" from the arriving travelers will help reduce car idling time in front of the airport terminal. Spirit of Austin Lane is being built adjacent to the parkway and cell phone lot area to facilitate quicker and safer access to and from the main road to the terminal. Future development around the area may include a 5K exercise trail, commercial developments and retail food concessions with shops.

### Public Art Goal and Intent

The AIPP 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 who can creatively and thoughtfully design with the context of this project. For the ABIA Spirit of Austin Lane Cell Phone Waiting Area project, the AIPP program seeks to commission a contemporary works of art that exemplify the objectives of the Aviation Department and the City of Austin and the following goals:

- » Emphasize the uniqueness of the development;
- » Embrace technological and socially progressive aspects of the site;
- » Engage visitors through artwork viewed most often through moving vehicles;
- » Create a vibrant and contemporary artwork that is distinct from the pastoral setting.

## Budget

The funds for this project are derived from the 2% for public art portion of the estimated construction budgets of projects involving the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. The total award for an artist contract is \$355,000, inclusive of design, fabrication and installation, including permitting fees, travel and shipping expenses, insurance and other project related costs.

## Artwork Opportunity

The artist is invited to engage Spirit of Austin Lane from the point where a round-about with a heritage oak tree exists to Spirit of Texas Drive, a distance of about 450 ft. In addition, the adjacent pedestrian path parkway measuring a distance approximately 280 ft. long by 60 ft. wide and bordering Spirit of Texas Drive to the Cell Phone Lot area is available as an artwork opportunity area. Other areas in the project may be available, as determined by the Aviation Department. The area is highly visible to airport users, the general public and ground transportation users. Due to existing ground lighting, vehicular traffic and other aviation restrictions, the use of lighting elements in the artwork may be limited. Due to existing underground utilities and easements, some locations may not be available along Spirit of Austin Lane. In some locations the artwork may be limited to shallow footings only, which may result in height and size restrictions.

## Artist Eligibility

Professional visual artists at least 18 years of age residing in the state of Texas are eligible to apply. Full-time, permanent City of Austin employees including employees of the Public Works Department and the Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services Office and project consultants and their employees and sub-consultants are ineligible to apply.

## Evaluation Criteria

The selection of an artist shall be based on whose qualifications best meet the requirements contained in this Project Outline. 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/aipp/selectioncriteria.htm>), the Selection Panel will review and consider the following evaluation criteria:

- » Artistic merit and technical expertise;
- » Demonstrated successful, innovative and effective approach to public art projects of a similar scope;
- » Ability to successfully execute a public art project; and
- » A willingness, interest and ability to design a work of art in the context of ABIA.

## Selection Process

A Request for Qualifications will be solicited from professional visual artists living in the state of Texas. The City of Austin Art in Public Places Panel will convene a Selection Panel to evaluate the submissions. Artists may be selected directly from the submitted applications or through an interview process. The selection panel shall review qualifications (images of work, resume, letter of interest, references) by artists to select one artist and one alternate for the project. This recommendation will be presented to the Art in Public Places Panel and Arts Commission for approval. The contract will require authorization from City Council prior to negotiation and execution.

## Selection Panel

A three member selection panel shall be selected that includes at least one visual artist. Possible selection panel members include:

Jennifer Dunnam – Interaction Designer II at frog design  
 Cameron Campbell – Project Designer at Ten Eyck Landscape Architects Inc.

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

Matt Coldwell, Exhibit Coordinator, City of Austin, Aviation Department  
 Carolyn Kelley, ASLA, Landscape Architect  
 Robert Hengst, Planning and Engineering Project Manager, City of Austin, Aviation Department  
 Rose Marie Klee, Member, Austin Airport Advisory Commission  
 Jaime Castillo, AIPP Panel liaison

## Submission Requirements

Applicants must submit the following materials through [www.publicartist.org](http://www.publicartist.org)

## Questions Contact

Anna Bradley  
 Art in Public Places Coordinator  
[anna.bradley@austintexas.gov](mailto:anna.bradley@austintexas.gov)  
 512-974-7841

## Schedule

***April 15, 2013***

*Request for Qualifications (RFQ) released*

***May 16, 2013***

*Artist Information Meeting*

***June 20, 2013***

*Deadline for RFQ submission*

***July 9, 2013***

*Selection Panel review of submissions and selection of finalist*

***July 26, 2013***

*Artist interviews*

***August 5, 2013***

*Approval of Artist and Alternate by AIPP Panel*

***August 19, 2013***

*Approval of Artist and Alternate by Arts Commission*

***September 2013***

*Approval of Artist and Alternate by City Council*

***October 2013***

*Artist under contract*

***Winter 2013***

*Mid-Design review*

***Spring 2013***

*Final-Design*

***Summer 2014***

*Artwork installation*

