



Sketch of Plaza area entry to Civic Park from 6th Avenue.

Edmonds Civic Park Call-to-Artists City of Edmonds, WA Request for Qualifications [RFQ]

The City of Edmonds Arts Commission is seeking an artist or artist-led team to create a commission for a prominent location at Civic Park, a newly designed downtown park and civic destination for all ages which will be under development this year.

Project Budget: \$90,000

Eligibility: Open to professional artists residing in the Pacific NW region: WA, OR, CA or BC.

Deadline: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 (*final dates TBD*)

Application: On-line application through Submittable is required.
<https://cityofedmondsartscommission.submittable.com/submit>

OPPORTUNITY

The City of Edmonds Arts Commission is seeking an artist or artist-led team to design, fabricate and install artwork for the 6th Avenue entry plaza to the new Edmonds Civic Park. Two possible locations have been identified. The selected artist will not be expected to create art for both locations, but rather to prioritize one location for a welcoming, signature artwork.

SITE LOCATIONS

Two sites adjacent to the entry plaza off of 6th Avenue have been recommended for the artwork. This mid-block entry plaza provides access to adjacent petanque grove and Boys and Girls Club. The entry also welcomes park users and visitors to the walking/jogging trails, nearby skatepark, scramble wall, athletic fields, and wild flower meadow.

The artwork locations and possibilities include:

- 1) sculptural feature that visually separates the entry plaza from the Boys and Girls Club building;
- 2) suspended sculpture for the shade structure.

Site #1 is approximately 133 feet long on north side of plaza. There is a low level planting bed planned for this area. Site #2 is located within the shade structure, which is 23-feet wide by 57-feet long and 14' 3" – 18' high. The artwork at either location will serve as a welcoming feature to this primary entry point to the park. Since the park is used year-round for events and activities, the Arts Commission is particularly interested in artwork that incorporates lighting and/or kinetic elements. Power will be provided to both locations by the City.

CIVIC PARK

The site is a former school district track and field that has been used for community recreation for over 50 years. Recently acquired by the City, an extensive public master planning process was implemented to design an aesthetic and more inclusive downtown park.

The planned development of Civic Park embraces this downtown park's potential to contribute to a sense of community identity and civic pride while promoting active, healthy lifestyles, energizing the local economy, and bolstering the city's growing reputation as a destination on Puget Sound.

Civic Park is an eight-acre park in the heart of downtown Edmonds that straddles the boundary between residences, civic amenities and the downtown commercial district. Well-loved and used by residents of all ages, it is home to the Boys and Girls Club, the Petanque Club, and several of Edmonds largest annual festivals, such as Taste Edmonds and the 4th of July Fireworks.

Featuring an inclusive playground, walking track, skatepark, petanque grove, tennis court, scramble wall, multi-sport court, lighted athletic field, wildflower meadows, water feature and more, this legacy park will serve as an iconic place for gathering, celebration, and enhanced daily life serving Edmonds for generations to come.

Designated as the State’s first Certified Creative District in late 2018, downtown Edmonds is a hub for cultural activities and creative businesses. Civic Park lies within the Creative District and is located two blocks from the Edmonds Center for the Arts which hosts world-class touring performances as well as performances by the regional ballet, symphony orchestra, and chorale.

BUDGET

The budget of \$90,000 is available for the design, fabrication and installation of the artwork. The budget must include artist’s fees, design costs including engineering review, materials, fabrication, delivery, installation costs including foundation design and construction, required insurance, travel and sales tax. Some basic site preparation, power supply, and landscaping will be provided by the City. The Arts Commission will provide a total of up to \$2,500 in approved reimbursable travel expenses for artists residing beyond 50 miles from Edmonds. The selected artist will be encouraged to work closely with the City, community, and park design team consultants and contractor to determine final design and landscaping concepts, particularly for Site #1. The shade structure, Site #2, is designed and constructed as part of the park renovation adjacent to restrooms. The selected artist will be expected to work with the City, community, and park design team consultants to integrate the suspended artwork.

TIMELINE

Selection Process: *(final dates TBD)*

Call for Artists Released	Wednesday, February 19, 2020
Deadline for Entry	Tuesday, March 17, 2020
Selection Panel Meeting #1	Friday, March 27, 2020 [selection of finalists]
Finalist Orientation	Wednesday April 15, 2020 *
Selection Panel Meeting #2	Thursday, April 16, 2020 [finalists’ interviews] at a Public Meeting*

*Applicants should be available in this timeframe to participate in an in-person site orientation and interview if selected as a finalist.

Artwork Development:

May 2020	Finalist recommended to City Council with Public Hearing – Approval of Finalist and Contract Issued
June – July 2020	Research and Conceptual Development
August, 2020	Presentation of Conceptual Proposal to Panel and Arts Commission at a Public Meeting
September, 2020	Presentation of Final Design Proposal with Public Hearing and Approval by City Council
Sept - Dec 2020	Detailed design Development and Final Design schedule dependent on approved concept and contractor milestones
Spring/Summer 2021	On-site Implementation

SELECTION CRITERIA

Finalists will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- Quality and strength of past work as demonstrated in the submitted application materials;
- Command of dynamic spatial relationships and demonstrated understanding of sites with multiple viewing points;
- Perceived ability to create an engaging, welcoming experience;
- Perceived ability and interest in creating site-specific artwork;
- Availability to begin proposal development work immediately.

SELECTION PROCESS

A five to seven person selection panel will review the applications and select up to five finalists for interviews. Prior to the interview, all finalists are asked to attend an orientation so that they can fully understand the site context and scope of the Civic Park project, as well as adjacent connections. The panel will reconvene to interview the finalists and select one artist or artist team for the commission. The orientation and interview will be held in Edmonds, Washington. The panel will reconvene for presentation of the selected artist's proposed design concept at a Public Meeting prior to recommendation to City Council for final approval.

The panel reserves the right to make no selection from the submitted applications or finalists' interviews. The panel's recommendations are subject to approval by the Edmonds Arts Commission and Edmonds City Council.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

- **Cover Letter** —Write a letter (500 words or less) explaining why you are interested in this opportunity, your abilities relative to the commission goals, and how you would approach this commission considering your past work. Consider the selection criteria as it relates to your experience and interests. Applicants are NOT asked to submit a proposal as part of the application.
- **Résumé** —Two-page (maximum) current professional résumé. Keep the formatting as simple as possible. PDF is preferred; text (.txt) files will also be accepted. Teams should upload one document with two-page résumés for each team member. References should be included.
- **Work Samples** — 10 visual images or a combination of digital still images and video.
 - **Digital Images:** Submit up to 10 digital images of past work. If applying as a team, a maximum of 10 images may be submitted, inclusive of all team members. Upload JPG files only; images must be under 2 MB in size, 1920 pixels on the longest side, and at least 72 dpi.

- **Audio/Video:** Submit up to five (5) video samples if applicable (i.e., to show kinetic artwork, gradations of light or sound-based art). Video samples must be submitted via [Vimeo](#) or [YouTube](#), with the specific URL (e.g., vimeo.com/2992575) noted on the Work Sample Upload page. All submissions must be publicly accessible (password protected files will not be accepted). Audio samples must be submitted via [SoundCloud](#) with the specific URL (e.g., soundcloud.com/29523) noted on the Work Sample Upload page. Timed excerpts are preferred, but longer samples may be submitted with notation in the description field of specific start and stop time for a cumulative run time of up to 5 minutes. Please include the start and stop times for excerpted audio/video samples at the beginning of the descriptive text.

Questions

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