



Culture For All.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

ASC PUBLIC ART PROGRAM



Stewart Creek Greenway at State Street Trailhead

Stewart Creek Greenway at State Street Trailhead Charlotte, NC

An Arts & Science Council Project
for Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation

Submission Deadline

October 1, 2019 by 11:59 p.m. E.S.T. Applications must be received via (<https://asc.slideroom.com>), an online application system. There is no fee to submit qualifications.

Project Background

The Mecklenburg County greenway system is quickly becoming one of the finest in the nation. Greenways are linear parks that connect people and places. Greenways are vegetated natural buffers that promote water quality, help reduce the impacts of flooding, and provide wildlife habitat. Greenway trails provide recreation, transportation, fitness, and economic benefits for all to enjoy. There are currently 52 miles of developed greenway trails in Mecklenburg County, with more being built every year. The Mecklenburg County greenway system is in partnership with the Carolina Thread Trail, a regional network of over 1,500 miles of greenways and trails that will reach 15 counties and 2.3 million citizens. It links people, places, cities, towns and attractions.

The Stewart Creek Greenway weaves through the Historic West End providing residents and visitors with greater connectivity to uptown Charlotte. The Stewart Creek Greenway also connects with the Irwin Creek Greenway and the Wesley Heights Greenway. This network of greenways, inclusive of park facilities, currently provides 2.7 miles of space to walk, run and bike for recreation, as well as commuting to uptown areas.

Mecklenburg County is currently working on a trail extension which will connect an additional 1.5 miles at the State Street Trailhead, extending into Martin Luther King Park and the Lakewood community. This will provide safer alternatives for walkers and bikers, and promote healthy lifestyles.

Project Overview

The Arts & Science Council is accepting qualifications from artists/artist teams for a public art opportunity at Stewart Creek Greenway at the State Street Trailhead, Charlotte, NC.

The selected artist will work with the ASC, Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation, and the local community to create an iconic, free-standing artwork that responds to the parameters of the site and the themes identified by the project team. The artwork should highlight the use of greenways in urban spaces and encourage a sense of community pride. The selected artist will be expected to engage with both Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation staff and area residents to develop the concept for their work.

The artwork should be sited at the State Street Trailhead and function as a prominent gateway marker for entering and exiting the greenway, and may also include sculptural seating elements. The artwork should engage audiences of all ages and backgrounds. The proposed artwork will be highly visible to pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and should encourage the use of the Stewart Creek Greenway by those who live, work and play and in area.

Please review the attached images at the end of this RFQ for a better understanding of the project location and scope before applying.

Artwork Goals and Criteria

This opportunity should achieve a cohesive and unique aesthetic experience that is distinguished from, yet sensitive to the site and the surrounding area.

Artwork should be sited within the areas designated for the opportunity:

- Artwork should create excitement and interest for the community, pedestrian and vehicular traffic
- Artwork should create a sense of place through appropriate scale and design
- Artwork should help provide continuity between the current greenway and its extension

- Artwork should conform to NCDOT guidelines and requirements
- Artwork must be permanent and durable with a 20-year lifespan and minimum maintenance.
- Final design will be subject to approval by the Public Art Commission, owner, and project team.

Project Budget

\$36,055.00 USD– to cover all artist fees, design, engineering, testing, fabrication, permitting and installation. As well as; travel, public meeting presentations, administration, taxes, and insurance relating to the project.

Artist Eligibility

This call is open to North Carolina and South Carolina professional artists. Artists who have received a commission or purchase for over \$25,000 from the Arts & Science Council cannot be considered for another commission or purchase for 3 years after the date of a signed contract or letter of agreement. ASC staff, County or City staff, Public Art Commission members and their immediate families, are not eligible to apply for this project.

- Professional artists who have experience managing, designing and completing public art project commissions over **\$10,000** within the past ten (10) years are eligible. Architects interested in applying must have successfully completed at least three (3) public art projects within the last five (5) years to be considered eligible to participate in this opportunity. Eligibility must be demonstrated in the application materials submitted.

Selection Process

This solicitation process is being undertaken to enable the Public Art Commission to identify the most highly qualified artist(s) for this opportunity. An artist selection panel of local and national arts professionals and community stakeholders appointed by the Public Art Commission will review eligible artists’ applications, determine a shortlist of finalists, interview three finalists, and select one artist or team of artists. The selected artist or team of artists will be recommended to the Public Art Commission and the Board of the Arts & Science Council for final approval and to enter into contractual agreement for this project.

Selection Criteria

The artist will be selected based on the following criteria, as evidenced in application materials and conversations with listed references: artist meets all eligibility requirements, artistic merit in concept and fabrication, demonstrated ability to collaborate in the early phases of a project with design teams and community stakeholders, and demonstrated ability to complete projects on time and within budget.

Projected Timeline

September 3, 2019	Request for Qualifications open
October 1, 2019	Artist application submission deadline
October 2019	Artist selection panel reviews applications and selects 3 finalists
November 2019	Artist selection panel interviews finalists and selects one artist/team
December 2019	Begin artwork design development
Spring 2021	Project complete

To Apply

Applications must be received via SlideRoom (<https://asc.slideroom.com>) by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on **October 1, 2019**. There is no application fee to apply or use the SlideRoom online application system. The following materials will be required to be uploaded to SlideRoom:

- **Credentials:** a Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV) demonstrating professional history and skills or experience as a professional artist, and highlighting experience with site specific public art commissions (maximum two (2) pages). For artist teams, each team member must submit an individual resume (two (2) pages maximum each).
- **Statement of Interest:** a brief introductory narrative that also provides insight about your interest in the project; how the project relates to your past work, and how you might approach the project (one (1) page maximum).
- **Images:** up to eight (8) images or three (3) digital video or movie files limited to two minutes each – of recent work completed within the past ten (10) years.
- **Annotation:** titles, date, budget, client, media, and dimensions of artwork
- **References:** three (3) professional references who can speak to the artist's ability to meet deadlines, work with the community, and create innovative work as part of a design team. Include name, organization, phone number, and email.

Questions Regarding this RFQ

For further information regarding the RFQ, please contact:

Randella Foster, Project Manager, Public Art
(704) 335-3262 or email Randella.Foster@ArtsandScience.org.

About the Arts and Science Council

Since 1995, the Arts and Science Council has managed the public art programs for the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. The Public Art Commission is responsible for the community-based artist selection and design review process for each public artwork. The commission is an appointed board of volunteer citizens from the arts, education and business sectors. In 2003, Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners and the Charlotte City Council adopted ordinances that appropriate one percent of eligible capital improvement project funds for public art. The ordinance helps ensure that artworks enhance our public spaces and become an integral part of urban and economic development efforts. See more at: <http://www.artsandscience.org/>

The Arts & Science Council (ASC) is committed to serving a diverse range of individuals and organizations through its programs and services and does not discriminate based on race, color, sex, religion, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or any characteristic protected by law.

About Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation

The Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation Department is home to 210 parks and facilities located on more than 21,000+ acres of parkland throughout Mecklenburg County. Parks in Mecklenburg County come in all shapes and sizes ranging from small neighborhood parks to large district parks. Many parks have open space amidst shade trees and unique facilities. The aquatics division offers indoor and outdoor swimming, adult/youth programs, swim lessons, special events, fitness classes and water exercise for all ages. For more information, please visit: <https://www.mecknc.gov/ParkandRec/Pages/Home.aspx>

Map of Stewart Creek Tributary Greenway and Stream Enhancement provided by Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation

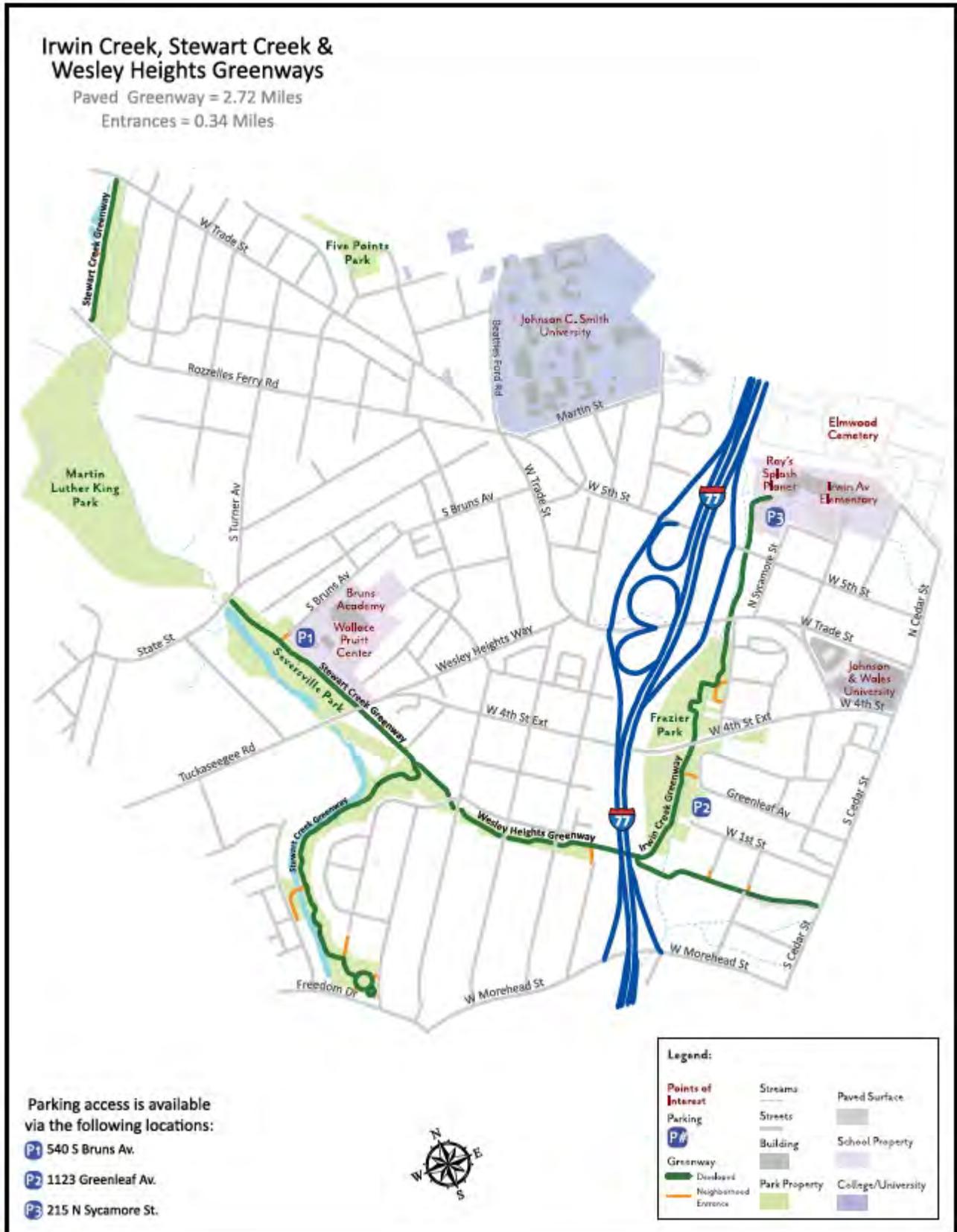


Artwork Location

Rendering of Greenway Crossing provided by the City of Charlotte



**Artwork
Location**



Stewart Creek Greenway Images (pre-construction)



Greenway Entrance at State Street (Actual Site)



Area Adjacent to the State Street Greenway Entrance



Pathway at State Street Entrance