CALL FOR ARTISTS
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

ASC PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

Torrence Creek Tributary, image provided by Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation

Torrence Creek Tributary #2 Greenway/
Charlotte Area Transportation System (CATS) Park and Ride
to Rosewood Meadow Ln.
Huntersville, NC

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

Submission Deadline
January 20, 2020 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
Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation is completing an under-the-interstate greenway passage as part of the NCDOT I-77 express lanes project. The concrete tunnel will provide passage for pedestrians and bicyclists from one side of the interstate to the other, linking greenway segments on both sides of I-77. The interstate has previously been a barrier to connectivity, however this greenway project will align with 3 continuous miles of existing trail, creating a 4-mile trail that runs through woods and behind neighborhoods off Gilead Road in Huntersville. The western section of the greenway runs through a meadow where neighbors often see deer, and the eastern section passes by a series of large rock formations. Short sections of the greenway are boardwalks that meander through wetlands. It’s a great place to hike or ride a bike, especially with children.

The 300-foot-long, 12-foot-tall, 16 foot-wide subterranean passageway is finished. The tunnel is sited 30-feet below the interstate, and the lower east-end of the tunnel is located in the 100-year flood plain. It is near the Charlotte Area Transit System’s park-and-ride lot in the Gateway commercial development that includes, among other businesses, a Hampton Inn & Suites, Bojangles’ and Cook Out. The western end of the tunnel will end near a utility line easement and low-lying area behind the Bexley Commons apartment complex in the Rosedale development near Exit 23.

Project Overview
The Arts & Science Council is accepting qualifications from artists/artist teams for a public art opportunity at Torrence Creek Tributary #2, Huntersville, NC.

The selected artist will work with the ASC, Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation, Dewberry Design- Builders, Inc., and the local community to create an impactful artwork that responds to the parameters of the site and the themes identified by the project team. The programmable, permanent light installation should increase visibility and improve pedestrian security throughout the 300-foot tunnel. The minimum light level requirement is 200 lumens. The design should transform the underpass into a dramatic and lively suburban experience through the use of interactive and animated colors or patterns of varying intensity throughout the tunnel. The artwork should encourage the use of the Torrence Creek Greenway by those who live, work and play 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 be sited above waist-level, utilizing outdoor, submersible, UL listed fixtures.
- Minimum light level requirement is 200 lumens.
- Colored lights and/or blinking lights must not be visible from the highway.
- Lighting near the tunnel entrances must be positioned downward toward the ground.
- 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
$255,000.00 USD— to cover all artist fees, design, engineering, testing, fabrication, permitting, lighting fixtures, and installation. As well as; travel, public meeting presentations, administration, taxes, and insurance relating to the project.

Artist Eligibility
This call is open to all U.S. 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 with experience in lighting design or collaborating with lighting designers are eligible for this project.
- Professional artists who have experience managing, designing and completing public art project commissions over $75,000 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, experience incorporating artwork into the architectural elements of a construction project, demonstrated ability to collaborate in the early phases of a project with design teams and community stakeholders, demonstrated ability to complete projects on time and within budget.

Projected Timeline
December 6, 2019 Request for Qualifications open
January 20, 2020 Artist application submission deadline
January/February 2020 Artist selection panel reviews applications and selects 3 finalists
February/March 2020 Artist selection panel interviews finalists and selects one artist/team
April 2020 Begin artwork design development
Winter 2021 Project complete

To Apply
Applications must be received via SlideRoom (https://asc.slideroom.com) by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on January 20, 2020. There is no application fee to apply or use the SlideRoom online application system.
SlideRoom technical support is available Monday – Saturday by email until 8 p.m. (CDT) at support@slideroom.com. 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 and lighting projects (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. For programmable lighting installations, we recommend submitting videos.

- **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](https://www.mecknc.gov/ParkandRec/Pages/Home.aspx)
ASC Call to Artists – Mecklenburg County – Torrence Creek Tributary #2 Greenway
Deadline to Apply: January 20, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.

Torrence Creek Tributary Map (Rosewood Meadow Ln to Compass St)
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Torrence Creek Greenway Tunnel Images
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