

Six Forks Road | Public Art Artist Call | Request for Qualifications



Summary

- Create a gateway sculpture for Raleigh's major midtown corridor, or a series of episodic interventions along the corridor.
- Up to three semi-finalists will be selected for interviews. Artists will interview remotely via Zoom and be paid a **\$250** stipend.
- The project budget is **\$90,000**
- Qualifications must be submitted by **September 14 (10:00am)**. There is no fee to submit qualifications.
- **Apply Online:**
<https://raleigharts.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/55051>

Eligibility:

1. This opportunity is open to individual artists and other artist teams.
2. Applicants must be either a United States citizen or a permanent legal resident, and be at least 18 years of age.
3. Applicants must have at least a three-year history of professional art or design practice.
4. Applicants must have demonstrated experience in the arts through the creation of high-quality work.
5. Lead applicant cannot be enrolled in an undergraduate course of study in the visual arts as of June 1, 2020.

Budget

The public art budget for the project is **\$90,000** inclusive of all expenses including: design, fabrication, installation, travel, permits if applicable, taxes and fees.

Project Overview

Six Forks Road is the heart of Raleigh's evolving Midtown. It is home to many churches, schools, businesses and shopping centers, and provides



access to many established neighborhoods. Six Forks Road is also a major transportation corridor connecting I-440 and I-540 through central and north Raleigh, providing an important route for commuters.

Midtown Raleigh contains a vibrant and thriving business district of start ups, long established employers, financial and accounting powerhouses, hospitality venues, and an array of retail and dining. It is a destination, and the attractive shopping and mixed-use districts that are evolving along its length are bringing people from around the city to Six Forks Road to shop and to enjoy entertainment.

The Six Forks Road project stretches between Rowan Street and Lynn Road and involves:

- Widening road to accommodate three lanes of travel in each direction with a planted median;
- Separated bike lane and sidewalks on each side of the road;
- Signal improvements and protected intersections for cyclists and pedestrians;
- Transit stops;
- Green stormwater infrastructure;
- Landscaping and other amenities.

To learn more about the project visit:

<https://raleighnc.gov/projects/six-forks-road-improvements>

Public Art Goals and Opportunities

- The public art can be stand-alone or integrated into the site. The artist is being brought into the project early to allow for greater site integration and the possibility of including some infrastructure in the project construction (rather than public art) budget.
- Potential opportunities include stand alone sculptures, and/or artwork integrated into green stormwater features, transit stops, street lighting, benches/bike racks or other site elements.
- The streetscape project will enhance both vehicular, pedestrian and cycling connectivity, and the artwork should take into account interactions from both vehicular and pedestrian scale.
- A successful artwork and public art process will discover and reinforce a sense of place, neighborhood/district identity and community.
- The artist will work closely with the City or Raleigh Roadway and Design Services, the City of Raleigh Arts Office, RK&K Civil Engineering, project stakeholders, and the community.



Selection Criteria and Process

Selection Criteria and Process Applications submitted in response to this RFQ will be reviewed by the City of Raleigh Public Art Director, who will then forward all complete and eligible applications received by the deadline to the Artist Selection Panel, appointed by the Public Art and Design Board. The Panel may include: a member of the Public Art and Design Board, professional artists and arts professionals, stakeholders from community groups, and representatives from city departments.

The selection process will consist of two stages: During the first stage, the Artist Selection Panel will evaluate qualifications of artists based on three criteria: artistic merit; appropriateness for the project; and how the applicants work engages the site on a social, physical, and cultural level. The Artist Selection Panel will identify up to three finalists to invite to Raleigh for interviews.

Finalists selected for the Stage 2 interviews will receive a \$250 stipend to interview via video conference. In addition to reviewing qualifications, panelists will discuss with finalists their prospective approaches to the project. They will also respond to questions.

***A specific proposal is not expected at this interview.**

The Artist Selection Panel will choose the artist for the project and forward that recommendation to the Public Art and Design Board. Upon approval by the Public Art and Design Board, a scope of services and budget will be developed based on the artist's or artist team's approach to the project.

Project Timeline

RFQ Application Deadline:	Monday September 14, 10am
Semi-Finalists Selected and Notified:	October 1, 2020
Semi- Finalists Interviewed:	October 30, 2020
Project Awarded:	November 2020

How to Apply

Apply online using this link:

<https://raleigharts.slideroom.com/#/permalink/program/55051>

Artists wishing to be considered must submit the following materials:

1. **Statement of Interest**

A 1000 word (or less) statement outlining in general terms how your artwork might translate to this specific project, experience you have working on public art projects, and how you foresee engaging with the community.

2. **Professional Résumé**

A résumé of no more than two pages that includes information regarding public art commissions, exhibitions, and installations, awards,



special projects, community engagement, grants and education. If applying as a team, submit a single file containing separate résumés for each team member.

3. Three Professional References

Contact information for three references: including name, title and affiliation, phone number and email address. References should be able to speak to your ability to provide services for a public art project or artwork of a similar scope.

4. Previous Work, Digital Images

Ten digital images of recent previous work (created within the past ten years). Each image should include: title, year, media, location, project budget, dimensions, commissioning agency, and collaborators or design professionals (if applicable). *File titled Lastname Firstname__list*

Do not provide or submit any other materials with your application. They will not be reviewed by the panel and will not be returned.

Submission and Deadline

All RFQ materials must be received **no later than 10:00am. EST Monday, September 14.** Incomplete or late submittals will not be considered.

Non Discrimination Policy

The policy of the City of Raleigh is, and shall be, to oppose any discrimination based on actual or perceived age, mental or physical disability, sex, religion, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial or marital status, economic status, veteran status or national origin in any aspect of modern life. The City of Raleigh Arts Commission strives for a diverse representation of voices, life experiences, views, and interests to reflect the collaborative community we have and wish to serve.

Additional Information

For questions, contact Kelly McChesney, Public Art Director for the Office of Raleigh Arts, at 919.996.5657 or Kelly.McChesney@raleighnc.gov.

For relevant information regarding the project, visit the Office of Raleigh Arts website at: <https://raleighnc.gov/services/arts/artist-calls>

