

CALL TO ARTISTS - Expression of Interest (EOI) Riverwood Environmental Art Gateway

Submission deadline: Friday, April 1, 2016

The City of Mississauga wishes to commission a Canadian Artist or Canadian Artist Team to develop a permanent environmental public art feature for Riverwood in Mississauga. The City's Culture, Parks and Forestry, and Facilities and Property Management Divisions are collaboratively managing this project.

The intent of the proposed Environmental Art Gateway is to:

- Announce the entrance to Riverwood;
- Create a strong and recognizable identity as a gateway to the Credit River watershed; and;
- Interpret and elevate the genius loci of Riverwood through public art.

There will be two stages to the selection of an Artist or Artist team, as described further under *Section 6 - Selection Process and Criteria*.

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND & SITE CONSIDERATIONS

Riverwood is a 60 ha. property located in Ward 6 in central Mississauga. It is an environmentally and culturally significant natural area within the city, and is home to the Chappell Estate and the offices of The Riverwood Conservancy (TRC) and Visual Arts Mississauga (VAM). Other amenities include trails, gardens, woodlands and natural areas, wildlife habitats, and views of the Credit River which runs through the site.

This project will be granted funding under the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program, which is subject to a strict financial and installation schedule; timely project delivery is therefore essential.

The proposed Environmental Art Gateway at Riverwood is one component of a series of proposed works to take place on site under the Canada 150 CIP funding, in addition to building and landscape refurbishments that will be outside of the successful Artist or Artist Team's scope of work. The consulting team to be contracted by the City will manage the full extent of the proposed works at Riverwood and will require professionals from a variety of disciplines including construction management, architecture, and landscape architecture. The successful Artist or Artist Team will need to coordinate with the consulting team at each stage of design and implementation, in particular the landscape architect, to integrate the Environmental Art Gateway into the landscape.

Facilities and Property Management and Parks and Forestry staff are working toward a tender release in July 2016; hence the landscape design of the Environmental Art Gateway is to be complete by that time so that implications the design may have on landscape materials/quantities/requirements can be captured in the tender documents.

2. ARTIST OPPORTUNITY

The City wishes to commission a Canadian Artist or Canadian Artist Team to develop and integrate site-specific, permanent environmental public art for Riverwood. The Artist or Artist Team will collaborate with the project design team and engage with key stakeholders throughout the process.

The artwork is to be installed at the entrance to Riverwood. The areas on both sides of the roadway leading into the site shall be used to accentuate the prominence of Riverwood at Burnhamthorpe Road West. Short-listed artists will be asked to propose artwork which forms a gateway feature and becomes a landmark within Mississauga.

Proposed artwork may be comprised of manipulated landform and/or free-standing materials, and may be juxtaposed to, or seamlessly integrated with the landscape. Artists are encouraged to evoke a unique 'sense of place' and to interpret natural ecological processes and functions through the proposed artwork. It is imperative that the Environmental Art Gateway design balances the need for a strong visual impact with a site-appropriate approach to design.

The commissioned Artist or Artist Team will need to design, fabricate and install a public art feature that will:

- Identify Riverwood to visitors and be highly visible from the Burnhamthorpe Road West entry;
- Be constructed of durable materials that will be vandal-resistant and withstand four-season outdoor conditions with no regular maintenance, including temperature changes, moisture and precipitation, salt application, etc.;
- Speak to the unique character of the site;
- Be aligned with CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles;
- Use environmentally sound design, fabrication and installation methods and materials; ecologically beneficial design and/or design with natural materials are not strictly necessary, but are considered a value-added benefit.

The artwork should negotiate a harmonious relationship with the site and the surrounding environment. Artwork may draw on themes such as the local environment, natural heritage, cultural heritage (especially First Nations), wildlife corridors and habitats, ecology, 'Canadiana'. The artwork should speak to the rich natural and cultural heritage of Riverwood as a uniquely treasured destination in the heart of Mississauga.

The artwork may be sited on either side of Riverwood Park Lane, or both sides, within the available areas outlined in *Appendix I*. Both areas are highly visible from the Burnhamthorpe Road West entry. Each of the potential sites presents its own series of opportunities and constraints; it will be part of the Artist or Artist Team's scope of work to consider these opportunities and constraints in their design and propose a preferred artwork siting option based on their analysis.

3. ANTICIPATED BUDGET

If approved as expected, this project will receive funding under the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program. The anticipated all-inclusive budget to design, engineer, supply, fabricate, insure, deliver to site, install and refine the landscape setting of the artwork within this zone is \$325,000. This budget must cover the full cost of the artwork from design to installation, as well as landscaping (including grading) for both east and west sides of Riverwood Park Lane. Please note the budget is subject to change.

4. ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

All works proposed under the Canada 150 CIP funding must be completed and fully installed by June 2017. This hard deadline drives an aggressive, accelerated project schedule. A more detailed schedule will be provided to the short-listed artists as part of Stage 2 of the procurement process.

5. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Prospective Artists or Artist Teams must ensure that all information provided is correct.

Submissions must contain the following on one (1) document, in PDF format to a maximum file size of 20MB. Please note submissions which are not formatted as one document will not be considered.

1. *Current Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV)*: with current contact info.
2. *Artist Statement*: no longer than one page in length, outlining your artistic practice and why this commission is of interest to you.
3. *Maximum of 10 images of past work* relevant to this project, clearly indicating the title of the work, date the work was realized as well as the associated budget.

Artist submissions due via e-mail by: Friday, April 1, 2016 by 4:00 p.m. EST.

E-mail: public.art@mississauga.ca

Subject title: EOI - Riverwood Environmental Art Gateway

6. SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

This is a two-stage art selection process.

Stage One: Artist Short-list Based on Expression of Interest (EOI) Submissions

Prospective Artists or Artist Teams with demonstrated experience in designing, building and installing large scale environmental works of art in public spaces are invited to submit an Expression of Interest by signing the Declaration in *Section 9*, along with submitting the Submission Requirements requested in *Section 5*. Submissions will be reviewed by the City's multi-disciplinary project team. The project team will then short-list and invite up to 10 finalists to the next stage of the Artist/Artist Team selection process.

The project team will evaluate each submission to determine a short-list of artists to be considered for Stage Two (RFP) based on selection criteria that include, but are not limited to the following:

- Approach and interest in the EOI as expressed in the Artist Statement
- Qualifications and professional experience of the artist as expressed in the CV(s)
- Artistic excellence, skill and innovation as evidenced in samples of previous work
- Demonstrated ability to successfully execute a project of this scale under the criteria developed and with the budget and timeline set as evidenced in samples of previous work.

Stage Two: Final Artist Selection

The City will only notify those artists who have been short-listed. Only short-listed artists will be invited to compete in Stage 2 of the selection process. The criteria in Stage 1 above will be considered for the final artist selection, along with a review of the submitted proposals based on the following:

- Artistic merit of the proposal;
- Technical feasibility of the proposed concept including, but not limited to: safety, structure, ability to meet budget and schedule;
- Stakeholder input;
- How well the proposal meets the Selection Criteria; and
- How well the proposal meets the Technical Requirements.

The short-listed artists will be provided with a detailed Request for Proposals (RFP) package and will be paid a stipend to develop proposals: art concept with detailed budget and schedule. City of Mississauga endorses the practice of remuneration for artists and arts professionals according to the most recent Canadian Artists' Representation/Le Front des artistes canadien (CARFAC) Minimum Fee Schedule. The proposals will undergo a thorough review by an arms-length Art Selection Committee composed of art professionals and industry experts, as well as members of the project team. Public input on the proposals may

be solicited. The Art Selection Committee will make a final selection and reserves the right to interview one or more of the short-listed artists if necessary or ask for further information or clarification. The City of Mississauga reserves the right not to select an artist or artist team from the short-listed artists.

The finalist will be asked to sign an Art Services Agreement to be provided by the City of Mississauga, and will need to obtain insurance prior to starting on the work.

7. RESERVED RIGHTS OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

The City, at its sole discretion, reserves the following rights to:

- Request clarification or additional information, as it deems necessary to evaluate submissions;
- Determine the suitability of the submission and capability of the prospective artist(s);
- Select the artist(s) that it deems most appropriate for the project;
- Make no selection or to cancel this process at any time, and;
- Issue public announcements regarding the competition.

This document and any submission in response to it by prospective Artists or Artist Team does not create any binding obligations on the City of Mississauga, or any other party.

8. PUBLICATION OF COMPETITION INFORMATION

The City shall have the exclusive right to issue all public announcements regarding the competition.

9. DECLARATION

The following Declaration is to be signed by the Artist or Artist Team and submitted as part of their expression of interest package.

I/We hereby declare that the information provided herein is true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge.

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

END OF DOCUMENT

APPENDIX "I"



----- Available Area for Environmental Art