City of Cleveland
Public Art Program

Public Artwork for Buckeye Road Streetscape Project

CALL FOR ARTISTS
Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

AUGUST 2022

The City of Cleveland, Ohio, through its Public Art Program, is requesting qualifications from artists, designers, or teams thereof who may be interested in producing a set of artist-designed free-standing "entry features" to accompany streetscape improvements along Buckeye Road, between Woodhill Road and South Moreland Boulevard. The artworks will be installed at four corner locations in the project area at Buckeye Road’s intersections with one (1) artwork at Woodhill Road, two (2) at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, and one (1) at South Moreland Boulevard.

Rather than submit pre-conceived proposals, artists will be chosen for further consideration based on their qualifications. The selected artist(s) will work with city staff, neighborhood residents, and other stakeholders to develop innovative, original art that will be relevant to the neighborhood.

The Public Art Program
The City of Cleveland’s Public Art Program requires that certain major capital projects undertaken by the city set aside 1.5% of their budgets (in this case, the streetscape portion of the overall project budget) for use toward a public art component.

The program requires the artwork to be in proximity to the improvements that generated the funding for the artwork.

Eligibility
This competition is open to qualified artists, designers, or teams thereof, aged 18 or over. Artists with connections to Buckeye or adjacent neighborhoods are especially encouraged to apply.

Proposed artwork location
The maps below show, at various scales, the proposed artwork locations along Buckeye Road.

Map 1. Location in the City of Cleveland
Map 2. Closer-in view of the project area and artwork locations. The extent of the streetscape project is shown in black.

Map 3. Aerial view of project area shown above

Project information
Planned street reconstruction and streetscape improvements along Buckeye Road are underway and will be completed in the 2022 construction season. Four artist-designed “entry features” will be a part of the project. It is assumed that one artist or artist collaborative will design all four.
Project budget
The budget for this project is $40,000 ($10,000 for each artwork). The budget is required to cover all public art-related expenses.

Submission requirements
Artists or teams are required to electronically submit a one-page narrative describing their qualifications, explaining why they would be interested in working on this project, and stating any ties they may have to the neighborhood or Greater Cleveland. Artists should indicate what general vision they have and approaches they would take on this project and make note of how they usually go about involving neighborhood residents and others in developing their designs.

Additionally, artists are required to submit, in electronic format (we cannot accept zip files):

- An up-to-date CV or résumé,
- Up to 10 images depicting completed relevant work in JPEG or PNG format (none of the images may contain identifying information, and please note that multiple images of the same artwork will count as individual images toward the 10 requested), suitable for inclusion in a PPT or PDF presentation, and
- An annotated slide list for the depicted artworks, including location, commissioning agency, materials, and total project budget. Submitters should note what their role was in producing the works depicted.

Incomplete submissions based on the requirements stated above will not be considered for review.

Up to four artists, designers, or teams thereof will be invited to interview with the City of Cleveland’s Public Art Committee.

Please note that artists are not being asked to submit developed proposals at this time.

Submission deadline
Submissions must be received by 5 p.m. EST, on Monday, September 12, 2022. Entries must be submitted electronically to both Tarra Petras, the city’s public art project coordinator, at tpetras@clevelandohio.gov, and Vince Reddy of LAND studio, at vreddy@land-studio.org. Again, we cannot accept zip files.

Direct questions to Tarra or Vince at the e-mail addresses above.

Photographs of the artwork sites and surroundings, along with supplementary information, can be found on the following pages.
The photo above shows the northwest corner of Buckeye and MLK, looking north, which will host one of the artworks. In the view below, the northwest corner is shown in relation to downtown Cleveland.
Shown above is the southeast corner of Buckeye and MLK, looking east. There will be an artwork on this corner as well as on the northwest corner of Buckeye and South Moreland, which is shown below, looking west. Moreland marks the eastern end of the project area.
Photos and supplementary information

The southeast corner of Buckeye and Woodhill is an art site. This is at the western end of the project area. The site plan below shows how this corner will be configured.

The lower plan shows where the artworks will be located on the northwest and southeast corners of Buckeye and MLK.
Photos and supplementary information

The artwork location at Buckeye and South Moreland is shown above. The diagram below gives an example of how the artwork sites will be landscaped.