CALL TO ARTISTS
BARK YARD
DOG PARK ENHANCEMENTS
ALLEN, TEXAS

Project Summary
The City of Allen and the Allen Public Art Committee seek to commission site-specific artwork for The Bark Yard, its future dog park. Artists or artist teams are invited to submit qualifications and concept designs for the project scope to include design, fabrication and installation of artistic elements integrated with the dog park. The design and/or scope of services should be all-inclusive of any necessary professional design services needed for proper execution and completion of the art installation.

Project Background
Allen, Texas (population nearly 110,000) is located in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, 15 miles north of Dallas. Once a very small, agriculturally based community, Allen experienced double-digit growth during the late 1990s through the mid-2000s. Allen now boasts substantial retail developments, a regional convention center, multiple hotels, and a sports and entertainment venue. Allen is considered a highly desirable city in which to live due to its exemplary schools and outstanding community amenities.

With a strong interest in a dog park expressed by citizens, it was determined through focus groups, city staff, and professional opinion that a medium-sized, centrally located dog park would best meet the needs of the residents. The Bark Yard is a long-awaited and highly anticipated addition to the park system. This treasured amenity will begin construction in late Summer 2023 and will be located at the former Jupiter Park.

Current facility plans include:

- 1 large dog area
- 1 small dog area
- 1 flex space area
- Improved parking
- Regional trail connection
- Restrooms
- Enhanced plaza
- Signage
- Lighting
- 8’ fencing w/ containment base
- Site furnishings
- Waste receptacles
- Drinking fountains
- Individual shade structures / shared social opportunities

Project Scope
The selected artist will design and fabricate artwork(s) that will engage dog owners and all members of the public and represent the Allen community.

The City of Allen’s Public Art Committee is keenly interested in proposed works of art that are made with durable materials, subject to low or no maintenance, are suited for a dog park.
environment, and may address any or all of the following elements:

- Playful
- Spunky
- Energetic
- Unique
- Timeless

The artwork shall consider a park entry piece, may include a driveway entry piece, artwork to enhance the perimeter fencing as well as elements integrated throughout the park, such as but not limited to benches, signage, and other functional amenities. All artwork must be outside of the public right-of-away and must conform to all city standards. A coordinated theme/look for all the artwork is desired.

For more information on the dog park’s history and timeline please visit https://allenparks.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=4434

Eligibility
This competition is open to all artists or artist teams, 18 years of age or older, working in any medium. For the purpose of this document, an artist is defined as a professional practitioner in the arts, generally recognized by his or her peers as possessing serious intent and ability. This is a national call for submittals. While residency will not necessarily carry additional weight, Texas-based artists are especially encouraged to consider this opportunity. Anticipated installation is March 2024. Artists should consider their availability in the immediate future when responding to this call.

Project Budget
The budget for this project is $350,000. This includes all costs related to the design, administration, fabrication, and installation of artwork. The budget is also inclusive of all required insurance and artist travel costs associated with this project. The selected artist will be required to meet the city’s insurance requirements.

Deadline for Submitting Application and Materials
5 p.m. CST, Sunday, October 1, 2023. Applications and materials must be received by this date and time to be considered.

Selection Process

1) An initial submission of qualifications stage, from which up to six (6) semi-finalists may be selected based on the materials submitted. The selection of semi-finalists will be made by the Public Art Selection Panel.

2) An initial interview stage where semi-finalists will participate in a short video interview and will then be given the opportunity to ask questions specific to the project. No more than three (3) finalists will be selected by the Public Art Selection Panel to be moved on to the conceptual design stage.

3) A final interview stage, during which up to three (3) finalists will be paid a $1,000 honorarium to develop a conceptual design for the artwork to present to Public Art Selection Panel. This phase may also be conducted via video conference. Should on-site
interviews be necessary, the City of Allen will reimburse the artist for pre-defined, reasonable travel expenses related to travel to Allen, TX, for the interview. If an artist team is applying, travel expenses will be reimbursed for one member of the team to present the project.

Submission Guidelines
While the City of Allen may have previous information on file, current information is desired. Therefore, please submit all items listed below. Only electronic and complete submissions will be reviewed by the Allen Public Art Committee.

REQUIRED

1) A maximum two-page (8.5” x 11”) typed artist statement, consisting of the following:
   a. Your interest in this specific project and relevant experience, especially related to collaborative projects.
   b. Your approach to working collaboratively.
   c. How your body of work, including the materials you typically use, would relate to this project.

2) A maximum two-page (8.5” x 11”) typed statement related to successful collaborative projects in which you have participated. Please include references and contact information of those who can speak about your participation as a part of that team.

3) Up to six (6) photographs to be named and numbered corresponding to an annotated script. Photos of projects demonstrating artworks as part of overall theming, integrated and/or functional works are of particular interest. No videos, please.

4) An annotated script (one-page maximum), saved as a PDF document related to the submitted photographs to include the project name, medium, date of completion, project budget and a short statement describing the work.

5) A current resume (maximum 3 pages for each artist or each member of an artist team), including website address, social media links, and references. Please list any previous experience working directly with architects, landscape architects or other disciplines related to design and integration of artwork.

Direct all submissions to PublicArt@cityofallen.org. Please include the following in the subject line: “Bark Yard Public Art”. For general questions, please email Jennifer Robinson at jrobinson@cityofallen.org or call 214.509.4703.

Submissions must be received no later than 5 p.m. CST, Sunday, October 1, 2023.

Please note: The City of Allen will not be responsible for the receipt of materials beyond the deadline due to technological failures outside of the City’s control.
The Bark Yard Location
510 S. Jupiter Road
Driveway Entry Sign Location (highlighted in yellow)