

City of Albany

Call for Artists

Ohlone Greenway Public Art



Release Date: June 23, 2016

Submission Due: September 22, 2016

Projects

Two (2) projects are available in this Call for Artists as part of the Ohlone Greenway Improvement Project. Artists may choose to submit proposals for one or both projects. If an artist submits proposals for both projects, one application for each project must be submitted along with all items required in the application to be considered.

Eligibility

The projects are open to all artists in Northern California with demonstrated ability to carry out a public art project of this nature and who are available to complete the project during the anticipated timeline.

Location/Background

The Ohlone Greenway is a bicycle and pedestrian path that runs directly beneath elevated BART tracks beginning at Ohlone Park in Berkeley and continuing through Albany, El Cerrito and Richmond. The path is not only a highly used commuting corridor it is a recreation destination and urban trail that weaves together a number of parks and green spaces. BART recently completed a seismic upgrade to the tracks. The work that was performed to upgrade the tracks caused heavy damage to the landscaping and hardscape along the Ohlone Greenway. BART worked with Cities to repair and improve the damaged areas. As a result of this work, Albany's section of the Greenway now has a bicycle and pedestrian path, new lighting system, street tree demonstration areas and improved landscaping.

At the time of the BART project and through the planning process for improvements, the Community requested additional elements to be included on the Ohlone Greenway. Items requested by the Community included a modern fitness trail, fruit and nut trees, bocce courts, improved seating areas, public posting spots, **public art**, landscape improvements and interpretive signage.

Project Description

The public art installations are part of the Ohlone Greenway Improvement project funded primarily with Measure WW which passed in 2008 allocating funding to cities based on population. Funding from the City's Art in Public Places fund will also be used for this project. In November 2015, the City selected a Landscape Architectural firm to develop concept plans for the Ohlone Greenway Improvement Project. Concept plan for the project were approved by the City February 1, 2016 and include two (2) public art projects.

Project 1 - Play Sculpture at San Gabriel

The art installation at San Gabriel and Portland Avenues will be an interactive play sculpture that will be appreciated by all ages, fusing the imagination of public art with the usability of a modern playground. The installation is intended to create a work of art that is related to, and in response to the local environment, including the possibility of interactivity for all Ohlone Greenway users to enjoy. The San Gabriel art play sculpture will invite children to play and interact with the art while providing an aesthetically pleasing environment to the Ohlone Greenway and encourage positive interaction for children and adults.

Scale and Materials: The scale of the installation shall provide for a measure of physical separation between the bicycle/walking paths and sidewalks that border the area and should be significant enough in stature to add visibility and attractiveness to the area without interfering with the elevated BART tracks. The sculpture could be figurative or abstract. Materials shall be selected for appropriateness to site and interactive use by park users, both adults and children. Reinforced concrete (poured in place or cast separately), recycled materials, stainless steel, organic materials (such as: wood, adobe, clay, soil or stone) and other appropriate, durable materials may be considered for use, however, glass, plastics, hazardous chemicals and petroleum products will not be permitted. Moving or rotating elements shall not be acceptable as part of the installation artwork. The installation must be resistant to vandalism and graffiti.

Budget: The maximum budget for this project is \$40,000.00. This budget must cover all costs associated with design, fabrication, transportation, engineering approval, installation, and documentation of the artwork. The artwork shall include within its overall budget, a durable plaque of cast bronze, incised stone, or other similar permanent material, to acknowledge the funding source, date of installation, name of artist, and relevant information, to be installed at the completion of the work and for the public opening event.

Project 2 - Creek Art

There are three (3) creeks in Albany that run underground through the Ohlone Greenway. The northern border between Albany and El Cerrito is bordered by Cerrito Creek and the southern border between Albany and Berkeley is bordered by Codornices Creek. This project calls for a flatwork project in the paving of the bicycle/pedestrian path that would demarcate the two (2) bordering creeks hidden away beneath the asphalt. Another creek runs underground on the between Dartmouth and Marin Avenues. There is a unique opportunity to build demarcating artwork depicting Marin creek. This could be a combination of sculptural works and flatwork within the bicycle/pedestrian path and grass area. Please note that only flat work can be included on the bicycle/pedestrian path, but sculptural work could be planned for the grass area.

Scale and Materials: The scale of the installation shall provide a safe transition for people using the bicycle/pedestrian path and grass area and should be significant enough in stature to add visibility and attractiveness to the area. The flatwork and/or sculpture could be figurative or abstract. Materials shall be selected for appropriateness to site. Paint, tiles, organic materials (such as: wood, adobe, clay, soil or stone) and other appropriate, durable materials may be considered for use, however, glass, plastics, hazardous chemicals and petroleum products will not be permitted. Moving or rotating elements shall not be acceptable as part of the installation artwork. The installation must be resistant to vandalism and graffiti.

Budget: There is up to \$15,000.00 available for the depiction of the three (3) creeks. This budget must cover all costs associated with design, fabrication, transportation, engineering approval, installation, and documentation of the artwork. The artwork shall include within its overall

budget, a durable plaque of cast bronze, incised stone, or other similar permanent material, to acknowledge the funding source, date of installation, name of artist, and relevant information, to be installed at the completion of the work and for the public opening event.

Site Walk

There are two dates noted in the Project Timeline for a pre-proposal site visit and walkthrough to be conducted by City staff. While this Site Walk is not mandatory, it is highly recommended that all prospective applicants attend at least one such date for clarification of any questions prior to completing a proposal for submission.

Public Presentation of the Completed installation

Upon completion of the artwork installation the selected artist, or artist team shall prepare and provide a public presentation of the work, including a demonstration or description of the methodology and construction techniques used in the development of the work. This presentation shall be organized with the assistance of City staff to address a diverse audience, and will be scheduled on a day and time to be attended by as many park users and members of the public as possible.

Required Submission Materials

Completed application (form attached; can also be downloaded from:

<http://www.albanyca.org/index.aspx?page=565>

Deadline to apply - Proposals must be received no later than 4:00 PM, on September 22, 2016, at the following address:

City of Albany
Att: Isabelle Leduc
Recreation and Community Services
1249 Marin Avenue
Albany, CA 94706

Proposals not received by the deadline will not be accepted. Late proposals and mailed parcels not received by the deadline will not be accepted. No faxed applications will be accepted.

Selection Process and Criteria

A Selection Panel made up of artists, Arts Committee members, and community representatives will review all applications and select, from those that meet the specifications described in this Call for Artists, 3 finalists to prepare designs and models for final consideration. An honorarium will be paid to the finalists. The Selection Panel's decisions are subject to final approval by the Albany Arts Committee. Selection Panel participants are to be announced. The criteria to be used in selecting the finalists are as follows:

1. Artistic merit (excellence, originality) as evidenced by representation of relevant past work in slides and other supporting material.
2. Appropriateness of the artist's medium, style, and experience in relation to the project goals and settings.

3. Responsiveness of the application narrative to the specifications of this Call for Artists
4. Experience with projects of a similar scale and scope and/or adequate professional experience (studio and employment experience included) to fulfill the requirements of this project.
5. Experience should include familiarity with public agencies, the public review process, and/or collaboration with city agencies and community groups. Artists must have good communication skills and be able to work with diverse city representatives and community members.
6. Completeness of the proposal package, including design sketches drawings and images to convey the finished installation, public interactivity features, and adaptability to existing conditions.
7. Ability to assist residents in shaping the course of public art at the park.
8. Capacity to improve the overall appearance of the vicinity and to create a community asset and sense of place.
9. Demonstrated ability to recognize, honor, and link together significant historic, cultural, and natural resources representative of a site and surrounding community.
10. Availability to fabricate and install the project during the time period identified for this project.

Process for Finalists

Finalists will receive an honorarium to meet the following requirements:

- submit a model of the proposed project by the deadline announced when finalists are selected
NOTE: The model will be displayed publicly (at the City Hall or Community Center) for a public comment prior to the artist's presentation of the model to the Arts Committee.
- provide the following additional materials:
 - a materials list and samples of all materials to be used
 - a detailed budget for the project
- present the model to the Selection Panel in an in-person, public interview

Artist will be selected to develop proposals based upon the following criteria:

- a) Is the site location and public visibility of the artwork appropriate?
- b) Is the artwork appropriate for the project site, environment, and community?
- c) Is the artwork potentially offensive to the public?
- d) Does the artwork create a physical or visual safety hazard to the public?
- e) Is the scale of the artwork appropriate for the intended location and surroundings?
- f) What physical elements (i.e. rain, sun, irrigation, landscaping) might change the appearance of the artwork over time?
- g) Is the artwork protected from vandalism or graffiti?
- h) Does the applicant have a maintenance plan for the artwork to ensure longevity?
- i) Does the artwork include appropriate night or accent lighting?
- j) Does the artwork include an identification plaque, with the artwork title, artist name and date of installation?
- k) Does the project preserve and integrate with any natural features of the project site/environment? Natural features may include trees or other features of the natural terrain.

- l) Does the artwork have compatibility of design and location within a unified design character or historical character of the site?

The artist whose work is selected for the project will be required to sign a contract that will include, among other obligations, the following:

- give a brief public presentation as part of the opening ceremonies after the installation of the sculpture
- document the artwork once it is installed (in photos) and provide documentation to the committee
- provide a description of maintenance required for the artwork installed

Project Timeline

Applications due: September 22, 2016, 4:00 pm

Site Walks: Wednesday, July 20 at 10:00 am and Monday, July 25 at 2:00 pm. Meet at Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Avenue, Albany

Notification of finalists: no later than December 1, 2016

Finalists' proposals due: January 20, 2017

Models on Display at Community Center or City Hall: January 24, 2017 – March 24, 2017

Finalist interviews: March 2017

Notification of Artist Selected: by March 31, 2017

Installation complete: by September 30, 2017

Please note that this is an estimated timeline and is subject to change.

Acceptance of Proposals

The Albany Arts Committee and City of Albany reserves the right to reject all design proposals submitted in response to this Call for Artists as well as the right not to award any contracts for this project. This Call for Artists does not constitute an agreement to fund artwork for the site described above. All information contained herein does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract. The provision of this Call for Artists are subject to change.

Retention of Proposal Materials and Models

In the event that an artist is provided an honorarium to develop drawings and/or a model of a proposal, the following policy shall apply:

- a. The Albany Arts Committee, at its sole discretion, have the unconditional right to maintain ownership of any model, drawing or other materials used for its evaluation and selection process, as part of commission awards.
- b. The Albany Arts Committee may at its option choose to retain all such requested models, drawings and other materials until completion and final approval of the project installation, at which time such materials may be returned to the artist.

- c. Models and proposals submitted to the Albany Arts Committee shall be original, and unique in design and fabrication, and shall convey the proposal concept with reasonable accuracy, scale and detail.

Contact Information

For questions about this Call for Artists, please contact Isabelle Leduc, Albany Recreation & Community Services Department, ileduc@albanyca.org or (510) 559-7226.

This Call for Artists is also available online at: <http://www.albanyca.org/index.aspx?page=565>



Application for Ohlone Greenway Public Art Project

Deadline: September 22, 2016, 4:00 PM

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Website address(es) _____

- I am submitting this application for Project 1 - San Gabriel Play Sculpture
- I am submitting this application for Project 2 - Creek Art

Application Checklist – Please submit ten (10) complete, one-sided, collated sets of the written materials listed below. Each set should contain one of each of the materials, in the order in which they are listed below. Please do not bind materials and do not submit in plastic sleeves, folders or binders.

- Written description of the proposed artwork, including the artist's intent, process, and project goals, and the names of all project partners including contractors and subcontractors;
- Artist's resume and/or other supporting materials relevant to the artist's experience with similar projects, such as the artist's website(s) and portfolio and three (3) letters of reference or testimonials;
- Detailed description of proposed materials and methods of installation deemed suitable for the site conditions;
- Photographs of the existing site;
- Adequate visual representation, in color, of the proposed work, in drawing(s) and/or three dimensional model(s), with scale indicated;
- A scale drawing or digital photographic mockup depicting the proposed work in the context of its environs (with surrounding landscape, buildings, sidewalks, etc.);
- A preliminary estimate of all costs related to creating and installing the artwork;
- A project timeline including design process, all city reviews and installation;
- A suggested maintenance plan indicating schedule, instructions, life expectancy of work, etc.

Incomplete or incorrectly assembled applications may not be accepted. Neither the Albany Arts Committee nor the City of Albany staff may be held responsible for lost, missing, or damaged materials submitted. The Albany Arts Committee will endeavor to return the originals to the applicant. The City of Albany reserves the right to refuse all entries.

PLEASE INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WITH ADEQUATE POSTAGE FOR RETURN OF APPLICATION MATERIALS.

Send Application Form and materials, **prior to September 22, 2016**, to:

City of Albany, Att: Isabelle Leduc

Recreation and Community Services, 1249 Marin Avenue, Albany, CA 94706