



Bid No. 24-026

CALL FOR ARTISTS

In 2024, the City of Belton, Missouri, formed its first Public Arts Commission with the goal of developing more art, creativity and beautiful places for all our residents to enjoy. This project represents one of the first major art projects for the Belton Arts Commission. We are excited to invite all artists to apply and look forward to working with you on this and future projects throughout our community.

Project

The City of Belton and the Public Arts Commission is seeking an artist or artists to conceptualize and fabricate a piece of permanent mural art along a Parks & Recreation trail in our community.

The trail runs under Interstate 49 and connects east Belton and the High Blue Recreation Center/Waterpark with the rest of our community. The trail begins on the south side of Wallace Park and travels west under I-49 along the south side of Menard's to Markey Parkway (see Appendix 1 for dimensions of the tunnel and trail).

The goal is to have an original piece (or pieces of) artwork to unveil later this year. Note that the intended audience for the artwork is the community, including children.

The City of Belton is NOT SEEKING PROPOSALS. This Call is seeking artists wishing to be considered by the Belton Public Arts Commission for this project location. Artists will submit illustrations or photographs of pre-existing artwork if they are original and unique as part of the application process. Artists who have a conceptual idea may submit drawings or images of the proposed artwork as well.

Installation of the work as well as application of an anti-graffiti coating after artwork is complete must be completed no later than April 1, 2025. The art should be durable and require little to no maintenance. The artist should recognize the extreme nature of the weather in Belton. The location will be subject to wind, strong sun, and long winters.

We look forward to seeing your application and working with you as we bring more art to our community.

Mike Ekey

Assistant City Manager

MEkey@Belton.org // 816-892-1263





Application Requirements

The application deadline is Monday, Aug. 19 at 5 p.m.

Interested artists should submit the following to be considered:

- **Letter of Interest:** Please explain why you want to be considered for this project.
- **Current Resume:** Include information and details about educational background, previous work, gallery showings, and experience with public art projects.
- **Digital Images:** A maximum of 12 images of previous work should be sent as .jpgs on either a thumb drive, CD or via email. Images should be named with the artist's name and image number to correspond to the Image Identification Sheet. Images should be at least 300 dpi, with a maximum size of 600 x 800 pixels. Image CDs will not be returned.
- **Image Identification Sheet:** A sheet that lists the title of the work, the date it was completed, the dimensions of the work, and what materials were used.

Send electronically to MEkey@Belton.org

Send by mail to: Mike Ekey, Assistant City Manager, 520 Main Street, Belton Mo. 64012.

All submissions should be received by 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 19.

Eligibility

The Call for Artists is open to all artists over the age of 18. Emerging artists are encouraged to apply.

Selection Process

The Public Arts Commission will review all submissions meeting the application requirement and deadline. Artists will be selected based on submission materials evidencing artistic quality of past work and experiences. The Commission may ask for an in-person or virtual interview with finalists.

Once an artist is selected, the selected artists will enter into an agreement with the City of Belton for the project. Following the agreement, the artist will be required to submit a design concept for Commission approval before fabrication can begin. Artwork that is offensive or politically motivated or those that do not meet community standards of decency will not be approved.

Compensation

The selected artist will receive \$7,500 in compensation for the project. The artist will need to submit invoices and a valid W9 for payment. This compensation supports the conceptualization process, design and installation. Compensation will be paid as follows:

- \$2,500 following the execution of the agreement between the City and artist
- \$2,500 following the Public Arts Commission's acceptance of the project design
- \$2,500 following project completion.

Compensation may change if multiple artists agree to a collaboration on the project.



Promotion

The selected artist and artwork will be promoted in local publications, including the City of Belton website and social media throughout the process.

Installation

Artists are responsible for transporting materials and work tools. Most installation costs regarding site prep and some on-site equipment will be covered by the City. The method and materials for installation must be approved by the City. Consideration should be given to resistance to the effects of weather, and attention to public safety issues (including vandalism) will be important. Approval of artwork will be contingent on satisfactorily addressing liability issues.

Project Timeline

- **Application Deadline:** 5pm, Monday, Aug. 19
- Commission Reivew: 6pm, Tuesday, Aug. 20
- Selected Artist Notified: Friday, Aug. 23
- City Council contract approval: Tuesday, Sept. 10
- Design Phase: September-October
- Fabrication Phase: November
- Anticipated Completion: December

Project timeline is flexible; however, the project must be substantially completed by April 1, 2025.

Questions

Contact Assistant City Manager Mike Ekey at MEkey@Belton.org or at 816-892-1263



APPENDIX 1

Site Specifications

The location of the proposed mural is part of both our Parks & Recreation trail system and stormwater management program. The trail runs from Wallace Park to the west under I-49 and just to the south of Menard's to Markey Parkway.

The trail is one-half of the 200-foot box culvert that allows Oil Creek to flow from the Markey Detention Basin under I-49. Half of the bridge/box culvert is the walking trail, while the other half allows the stream to flow. This past year the Parks & Recreation Department spent time rehabbing the concrete and stone block walls by removing graffiti and other debris. They have applied a basic white base coat, but another base coat will be required.

The trail itself is 200 feet long and eight feet wide with lighting along the entire path that remains on 24 hours a day.

The walls inside the walking trail portion are 10 feet tall.

At both end of the trail, there are a set of wing walls that are 10 feet tall and extend roughly 17 feet out of the trail entrances.

We would like to see proposal that consider painting all the available space, but it is not a requirement.

Easiest access would be to park at Menard's and walk the trail to the west entrance.

