Request for Proposals City of Golden Public Art Commission

Downtown Bicycle Corrals

Introduction

The City of Golden Public Art Commission (PAC) is seeking a qualified artist to create two original artistic bike corrals for downtown Golden. <u>Downtown</u> consists of a three-block mixed use neighborhood with apartments, homes, shops, restaurants, Clear Creek, and parking, within <u>Golden's municipal boundaries</u>. The artist fee is not to exceed **\$25,000**.

Public Art Commission Background and Overall Goals

Golden's public art collection began in the 1990's with many generous donations of traditional bronze sculpture to the City. At the time, there was no group overseeing that donation process, and there were no over-arching goals or criteria to guide the program. These initial sculptures tended to reflect the early history of Golden's foundations and heritage. Since the establishment of the PAC in 2013, the collection has grown and become more diverse. Furthermore, it has been integrated throughout the larger Golden community. It is beginning to tell a new, more contemporary story about Golden, its community and its bright future. As the City continues to grow and develop, the Program will continue to evolve along with it, communicating its collective history and shared vision for the future.

The PAC commissioned an <u>Audit and Analysis</u> of the collection in 2021 with a focus on summarizing the collection's strengths and weaknesses, themes, and gaps. The report provided with PAC with some key observations:

- Golden is a community that values public art and sites artwork in prominent locations for residents and visitors to the community, mostly in the downtown area.
- Much of the collection is represented by traditional bronze, figural artwork depicting historic or allegorical figures and western animals.
- The community and visitors truly enjoy the collection and engage with it regularly.
- The collection is not very diverse, whether in location, siting, or materials, nor artist genders, genders depicted or styles. However, this is improving with the addition of murals and more contemporary pieces.

In late 2022, the City of Golden approved a <u>Public Art Framework Plan</u> that included an overall goal to create a collection of permanent and temporary artwork that:

- Features work of the highest level of artistic excellence.
- Features work by a broad and diverse group of artists, working in a variety of methods and media.
- Explores and reflects a diversity of themes, subjects, and traditions; and
- Enriches public spaces in all parts of our City and is accessible and available to everyone.

Based upon the audit and Framework Plan, the PAC has identified a few general themes that can be enhanced with additions to the City's public art collection. Some of these themes include:

- Recognition of the contributions of local indigenous peoples.
- Recognition of the contributions of Golden's pioneer women.
- Recognition of our geographic and geologic setting.
- Recognition of the benefits of playfulness and whimsey.
- Recognition of nature and our natural setting.

Context and Details Regarding the Project

The project is a collaboration between the PAC and the City's Planning Division to infuse art with bicycling infrastructure, typically utilitarian in nature, as part of the recently-adopted Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan, whose goal is to provide residents, visitors, and commuters with safe and efficient multimodal travel. Please see the attached downtown map, corral locations, and APBP Essentials of Bike Parking for more information.

The PAC has identified bike corrals as an opportunity to broaden the public art collection from representational art to other forms. In addition, the PAC's goals for the installation include a celebration of downtown and the communities noted above. The bike corrals can be expected to be a "high touch" installation where cyclists will interact physically with the installation, both for bike security and artistic appreciation. The installation may include design of the bike corrals themselves or complementing off-the-shelf bike racks.

The bike corrals should be welcoming enhancements to the visual appearance of downtown and should appeal to a broad range of people and be uplifting and stimulating to the spirit, intellect, and physical senses. Artistic creativity and interpretation that speaks to Golden's heritage and natural setting are encouraged. The art should be in harmony and complimentary to the surrounding area, including the renovated Foothills Art Center at the historic Astor House and the Miners Alley Playhouse. While the PAC has not identified a specific theme for this installation, artists are asked to consider the themes listed above in developing their proposals. Materials should be durable and reflect the anticipated level of interaction between the public and the installation. Materials must also be able to withstand exposure to street maintenance such as snow plowing and debris sweeping. Artists must also be sensitive that the corrals must provide secure parking for bicycles as outlined in the APBP guide and do not conflict with pedestrian and vehicle movements. The PAC will reserve the right to require the relocation or alteration of the proposed installation design, based on anticipated conflicts or other concerns.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

The call is open to all artists and artist teams 18 years and older. Experience creating public art is preferred. The selection panel will not discriminate against any applicant on the basis of age, sex, race, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, or physical challenges. Excluded from participation are Artist Selection Committee members and their families.

Artwork will be selected on the basis of creativity, artistic merit, technical proficiency, and relationship to the aforementioned theme and site. Long-term maintenance, durability, and impact on operations concerns will be major selection criteria. The final location must be approved by both the PAC and the Cit

Additional Provisions

The PAC reserves the right to reject any all submissions and to fund approved entries as its budget and other responsibilities allow.

Budget

The project budget range is \$25,000 including concept design, fabrication and artist fee, travel, installation, and all other project related expenses.

Application Requirements

- Submit at least three images or drawings of the proposed artwork with all pertinent information including artist name, medium, and artwork title.
- Identify the specific suggested location for the proposed artwork within the area of the site identified by the PAC on the provided sketch. Also indicate any necessary site changes necessary to make the artwork easily accessible to site visitors (not to be included in proposal cost).
- Include at least three images of past work.
- Submit a letter of interest describing why you are interested in the project must be included in your application. If you submitting as part of a team one collective letter of interest is sufficient.
- Submit a current artist resume, placing emphasis on public art projects or other related art experiences, with a budget amount for all projects. If you are part of a project team submit one resume and indicate each team member's role with a specific project.
- Include a timeline for art development and installation.
- Create an estimated budget for the project fabrication, installation and artist's fee.

Application Procedure

All applications must be submitted using Call for Entry via https://www.callforentry.org/index.php no later than Sunday, November 15, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. MDT.

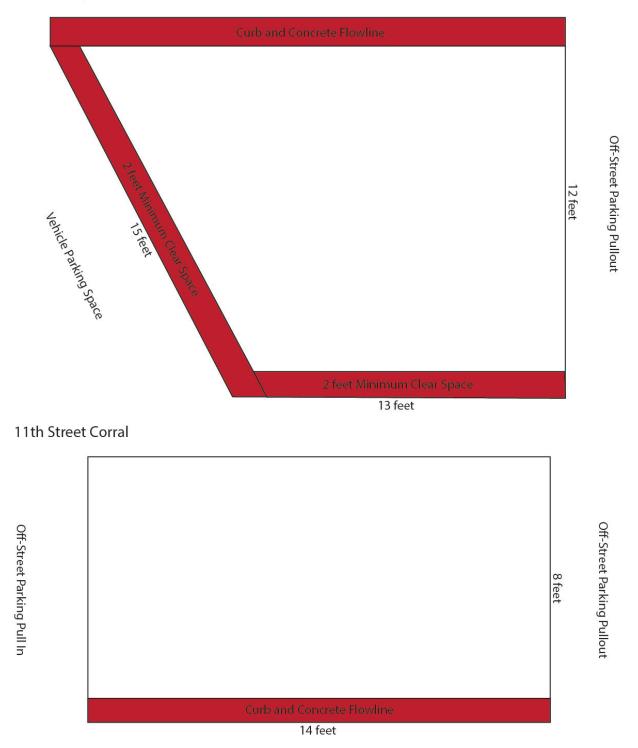
Questions

Please contact Robin Fleischmann at rfleischmann@cityofgolden.net.

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Note: Dimensions are approximate and do not include the minimum clear spaces. Please reference the APBP Bike Parking Guide for additional minimums and details.