

## REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

### CITY OF SANTA FE ARTS AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT SEEKS ARTISTS FOR URBAN TRAILS PUBLIC ART PROJECT

Project Location: River, Watershed and Trails/Public Works  
Six (6) Locations

Project Budget: \$25,000 per location  
Three (3) to six (6) artists will be selected

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**DATE ISSUED: February 2, 2021**

**DUE DATE: March 4, 2021**



#### OVERVIEW

Santa Fe has 50 miles of urban bikeways and trails and another 37 proposed miles connecting neighborhoods throughout the City.

This project seeks to activate and celebrate the people of Santa Fe and the joy of being outdoors among the city's rich high desert mountain scenery. Through this project, we intend to define the bikeway network as a place for all people, with a special focus on the residents of our community, both past and present. This is especially relevant now in the midst of the Coronavirus public health crisis, resulting in a national spike of outdoor activities and use of public bikeways. According to the Santa Fe MPO's bike and pedestrian counting analysis from March to July:

- **58% increase** in trail use compared to 2019
- **118,113 more times** people went past our counters compared to 2019

Selected artists or artist teams will create a permanent public art installation for one of the six sites within the Arroyo de Los Chamisa Trail, Gil Ryba Trails and Santa Fe Rail Trail (see figure 1 for locations). The low-stress bikeway network is intended to connect more residents to destinations via safe, comfortable biking, walking, and transit. The artworks will encourage and activate these bikeways in order to foster healthy and safe mobility options for all people.

The Arts and Culture Department’s mission is guided by the Culture Connects Roadmap that promotes a lens of equity, inclusion and access. It is the intention of this call to artists to reach out to Black, Indigenous, Persons of Color (BIPOC) artists, and artist not already represented in the City’s Public Art Portfolio.

This project is funded through the Art In Public Places program which allocates 2% of capital improvement projects towards permanent public artworks. These projects are part of the 2018 Gross Revenue Tax Bond projects.

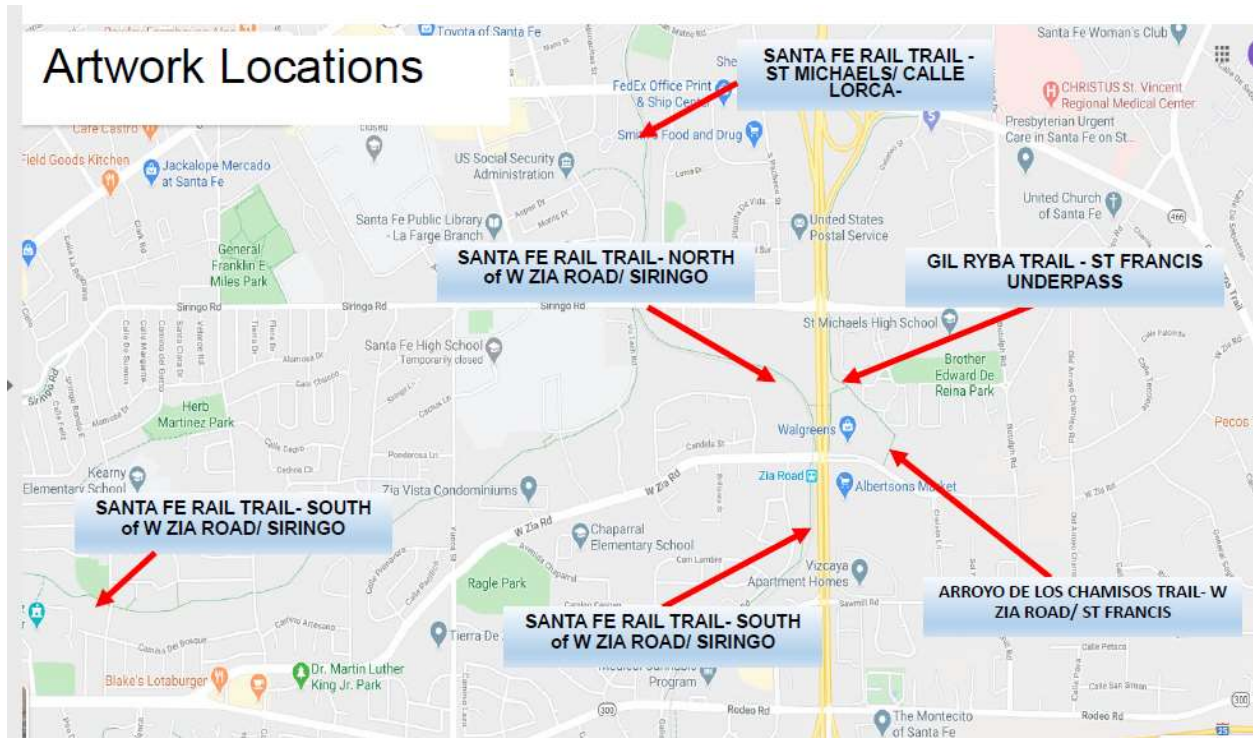


Fig. 1: Six locations of proposed artworks adjacent to bridges

## GOALS AND LOCATION OF ARTWORK

Public Art is an essential element of the built environment. Through this project, we seek to:

- Enhance the lives of Santa Feans, children, and families through the creation of engaging public spaces available for daily use
- Invest in local artists through large-scale commissions
- Promote and “activate” community utilization of public bikeways and walkways
- Support placekeeping in our city, and increase civic pride through public art
- Create lasting, innovative works of art that influence and shape the development of underutilized, underrepresented spaces as locations for community gathering and celebration
- Increase awareness of natural surroundings, environmental issues and public health benefits
- Promote public art as a meaningful art form
- Contribute to Santa Fe’s standing as a destination for public art
- Highlight the cultural relevance of art as a means to represent community



## BUDGET

The all-inclusive artwork budget is **approximately \$25,000/site**. This budget includes artist fees, liability insurance, artist travel and all costs associated with the design, engineering, fabrication, permitting, delivery and installation of the artwork.



## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

February 9, 2021	RFQ Process Workshop 6:30pm via Zoom (optional attendance)
<b>March 4, 2021</b>	<b>Deadline for RFQ Submissions 5pm MST to <a href="mailto:artscommission@santafenm.gov">artscommission@santafenm.gov</a></b>
March 2021	Finalists Interviews/ (5-9 Artists) Selected to Develop Proposals
March 2021	Artist and Artwork Proposal Selected
May 2021	Artwork Final Design Completed
Summer, 2021	Fabrication Started
September, 2021	Artwork Installation Completed

## RFQ PROCESS WORKSHOP - VIRTUAL (OPTIONAL)

Potential applicants are invited to discuss the RFQ process with the Santa Fe Arts and Culture Department, including the RFQ and strategies for successful portfolio submissions. Questions raised in the workshop will be posted publicly on the Arts and Culture Department website on February 12, 2021 (2 days after workshop date)

Date and time: February 9, 2021, 6:30pm  
 Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting  
 RSVP: Required by February 8, 2021 at 5pm MST  
 Please RSVP to Erminia Tapia, [emtapia@santafenm.gov](mailto:emtapia@santafenm.gov)  
 SUBJECT LINE: RSVP RFQ WORKSHOP



## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE – ONE-ON-ONE APPOINTMENTS

If you would like your submission materials reviewed, please make an appointment no less than two weeks (or by February 17, 2021) prior to the submission deadline. Technical assistance needs often increase during the final two weeks of the call; therefore we cannot guarantee a review of materials during the last days of the call. Assistance is offered on a first-come first-served basis. To request an appointment, email to [artscommission@santafenm.gov](mailto:artscommission@santafenm.gov) no later than February 17, 2021 5pm MST.

## ELIGIBILITY

This public art project is open to artists or artist teams led by an experienced artist residing or working within Northern New Mexico and who have had experience with medium scale projects. Artists who have not had medium scale project experience are encouraged to apply in artist teams with other artists of appropriate experience. Artists who have public artwork already in the Public Art Portfolio (permanent artworks, does not include temporary) will be eligible if this project has a higher budget than the previously commissioned project or if the artist has not done a public art project with the City for five years. Artist/lead artist must be 18 years of age or older.

## RFQ SELECTION CRITERIA

The Arts and Culture Departments strives to create artworks which reflect aesthetic and technical quality, innovation, site-specificity and civic engagement. The selected artist or artist team will be required to participate in a rigorous design process. This process includes research through site visits and design meetings, conservator review, structural engineering, budget tracking and timeline management.

Artists will be selected on the basis of their qualifications, as demonstrated by the quality of their past work and suitability of their artistic expression for this particular site.

Under Culture Connects with a lens of equity and inclusion, the Arts and Culture Department reserves the right to reserve three out of the six finalist positions for local artists residing within Santa Fe County.

Artist applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Artist Selection Criteria	
Artwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Proven artistic merit and strong professional qualifications that demonstrate the artist's ability to achieve the guiding principles of the Art in Public Places Program: aesthetic and technical quality; innovation; site specificity; civic engagement; and the ability to transform a space and user experience</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ability to create artwork for the potential location(s) indicated in this RFQ</li> </ul>
Function & Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Artist or artist team demonstrate ability to effectively assess the spatial and technical conditions of an architectural space and propose an integrated, easily maintainable, durable, permanent artwork</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Proven experience completing a prior exterior permanent artwork</li> </ul>
Process and Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Artist or artist team demonstrate ability to execute project within project timeline</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Artist to demonstrate the affordability of the project in preliminary budget and final budget before fabrication (refer to attached preliminary budget worksheet)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Artist or artist team to demonstrate ability to work with a multidisciplinary team, for example, government agencies, architects, and engineers</li> </ul>

## TO APPLY

Application materials must be received **on or before March 4, 2021 at 5pm Mountain Standard Time to [artscommission@santafenm.gov](mailto:artscommission@santafenm.gov)**; Subject: **Urban Trails Public Art Project Submittal**.

Any application materials received after the date and time specified above will be rejected and considered non-responsive, and returned to the Artist unopened.

## Submit the following materials as **ONE PDF or MS Word format**:

NOTE: if you need assistance in creating this document, please set an appointment for assistance. Assistance is offered on a first-come first-served basis. To request an appointment, email to [artscommission@santafenm.gov](mailto:artscommission@santafenm.gov) no later than February 17, 2021 5pm MST.

1. Resume (not to exceed two pages)
  - Including name, mailing address, phone number(s), fax, email, and web page/Instagram or other social media/digital platform (if applicable)
  - Include a team bio if applying as an artist team
  - List your related arts and community experience
2. A maximum one-page letter of interest, addressing:
  - Your artistic practice, your sources of inspiration, and your method for developing high quality, innovative, and timelessly meaningful artwork
  - Why this project interests you, your connection to Santa Fe and the urban trails. You may indicate if you identify as BIPOC

3. In one page (maximum) address this additional information:
  - Your demonstrated project approach when faced with restricted site conditions, strict technical constraints, and materials requirements, including specifications for size, strength, and engineering capacities such as (but not limited to) wind load constraints
  - Artist teams (if applicable): your respective roles and history of collaboration
4. Up to 6 images of your relevant work (refer to Artist Selection Criteria)  
Please select work that best reflects your approach and style relevant to this project  
Include for each image:
  - Title, date, medium, and dimensions
  - Artwork location
  - Brief project description (maximum 100 characters)
  - Project budget
  - Commissioning agency or client, and project manager (if applicable)
5. Three professional references, with title, phone, and email addresses included

**Application materials must be received on or before March 4, 2021 at 5pm MST to:**

**TO:                   artscommission@santafenm.gov**  
**SUBJ:               Urban Trails Public Art Project Submittal**

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

A Project Coordination Committee (PCC) is composed of but not limited to an Arts Commissioner; one representative each from River/Watershed/Trails, Metropolitan Planning Association; arts professionals and community member. The Arts and Culture Department staff serves as a non-voting advisor to the PCC. Artists should send images that can be understood by an audience that is not professionally versed in the arts. Artists should not send art proposals in response to this RFQ.

The public artist will be selected through a two phased process:

In the first phase, artists' responses to this RFQ will be evaluated anonymously by the Project Coordination Committee (PCC) with facilitation by the Project Manager. Up to nine finalists and one alternate will be shortlisted for the second phase.

During the second phase of the selection process, finalists will be invited to develop a conceptual design proposal and presentation to the PCC. With guidance from Arts and Culture Department, the PCC reviews artist applications, conducts finalist interviews, selects the artists or artist teams and reviews the project from design development through artwork installation. Proposal fees of \$1,000.

**Artists should send images that can be understood by an audience that is not professionally versed in the arts.**

**Do not send art proposals in response to this RFQ.**

## **ABOUT THE PARTICIPATING DEPARTMENTS**

**Arts and Culture Department** provides leadership by and for the City to support arts and cultural affairs; we recommend policies and programs that develop and promote artistic excellence in our community. Our vision is for a thriving, collaborative, interdisciplinary cultural community that possesses a variety of resources, spaces and pathways with which to support educational, economic and creative needs of Santa Fe through the lens of Culture Connects to ensure diversity, equity, inclusion and access.

[https://www.santafenm.gov/arts\\_and\\_culture\\_department](https://www.santafenm.gov/arts_and_culture_department)

**Metropolitan Planning Organization's** purpose is to create a forum for transportation decision making in the metropolitan planning area. The Santa Fe MPO is responsible for:

- Facilitating cooperation, consistency, and connectivity between all transportation planning efforts within the Santa Fe metropolitan area
- Promoting a multi-modal, regional transportation system that is safe and energy and fiscally efficient
- Maximizing community connectivity
- Serving the mobility needs of all citizens
- Existing in harmony with the environment

<https://santafempo.org/>

**Parks, Trails and Watershed/Public Works** builds, operate and maintain safe, secure and enjoyable parklands for residents and visitors of Santa Fe. The River, Watershed and Trails Section implements the design and construction of the following projects:

[Santa Fe River and Watershed Improvement History](#)  
[Multiuse Urban and Recreational Trails](#)

[https://www.santafenm.gov/river\\_and\\_watershed](https://www.santafenm.gov/river_and_watershed)

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- *Do not send original artwork.*
- *Late applications will not be considered.*
- *If artists are applying as a team, the team must be declared at the time of application in the letter of interest. Include team bio, outline for the roles and responsibilities of each member, and brief resumes for all team members with the application. Please submit a minimum of 6 images per team (not per artist) of completed or proposed projects.*
- *The Arts and Culture Department reserves the right to accept or reject any and all responses received, or commission an artist through another process.*
- *All artists who submit their materials for review will receive written notification of the results of the selection process, including identification of the selected artist(s).*
- *This request for qualifications does not constitute an offer to contract or a promise for remuneration, recognition, or any other thing. Submission of any materials in response to this request for qualifications will not constitute an express or implied contract. The information*

## Art in Public Places Arts and Culture Department

*contained and/or any program or event described herein may be changed, amended, modified, canceled, revoked or abandoned without notice at any time and for any reason in the sole discretion of the Arts and Culture Department or the City of Santa Fe.*

- *Artists will not be eligible for more than two City permanent public projects at any given time.*
- *Priority will be given to artists who have had no prior commission of the same or higher budget with the Arts and Culture Department.*

- *If artwork proposal and/or designs are selected, the artist will be required to enter into a contract with the City of Santa Fe. Because the artwork will be located on public property, and because the City of Santa Fe is a public entity subject to laws, rules, and regulations which are not necessarily applicable to private persons or companies, the Arts and Culture Department has prepared a form agreement for use in connection with artwork commissioned for Public Art. A copy of the form agreement can be found on the Arts and Culture's website, at [https://www.santafenm.gov/arts and culture department](https://www.santafenm.gov/arts_and_culture_department)*

*If an artist is selected, the artist acknowledges that he/she is willing and able to enter into a contract in the form made available on the Arts and Culture Department website. The Arts and Culture Department reserves the right to revise or change its form agreement at any time, for any reason, and to require artists to use the revised form for contracting purposes.*

END OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS