



Call for Artists - Art Plan and Preliminary Artwork Concept Grand Connection Cross Project | Bellevue, Washington

Brief Project Description

The City of Bellevue seeks an artist or artist team to provide specific art planning and design services for the Bellevue Grand Connection: I-405 Crossing – Downtown to Eastrail project, also referred to as the Grand Connection Crossing (GCC) in Downtown Bellevue, Washington. The artist or artist team selected will develop an art plan for this section of the Grand Connection, provide design consultation to this major infrastructure project, and create a preliminary concept for a major public artwork with a budget up to \$2 million. A preliminary concept is defined as a visual representation developed enough to get a sense of the form, meaning, scale and location of the artwork. See full Scope of Services for additional details.

Fee

The not-to-exceed fee for this scope of work is \$65,000 plus reasonable travel expenses, billed hourly, for art planning, design consultation services and development of a preliminary public art concept for an artwork up to \$2 million inclusive of fabrication and installation. If the preliminary artwork concept is accepted for continued development, an additional budget for the remainder of artwork design will be added as a future amendment to this contract. A separate contract for fabrication and installation would follow.

Deadline to Apply: October 20, 2024

Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time) on October 20, 2024. Please allow ample time to complete your application; applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. If you are

experiencing technical difficulties, please reach out before the deadline. If you do not have access to a computer, arrangements can be made to submit paper applications; in this case, please contact us no later than October 10, 2024.

Eligibility

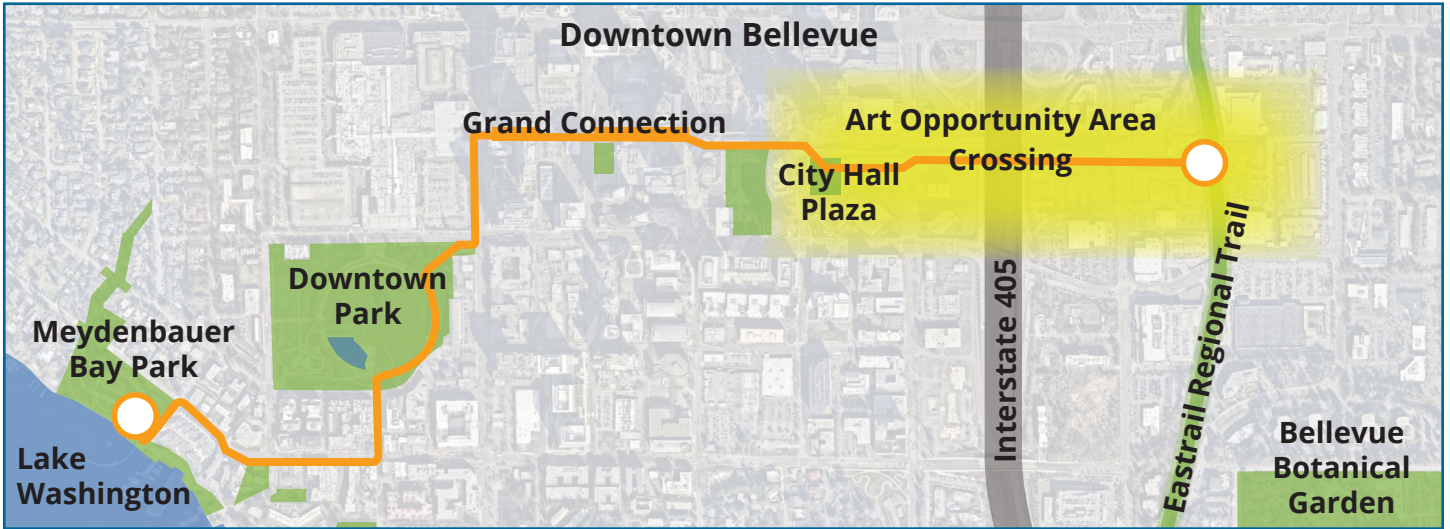
This opportunity is open to all artists with demonstrated experience working on complex infrastructure projects and completing art projects with budgets above \$300,000. Eligible artists must either be legally able to work in the United States or from countries that have an income tax treaty with the United States. For a current list of countries with such treaties, please see irs.gov/businesses/international-businesses/united-states-income-tax-treaties-a-to-z.

About the Grand Connection

The Grand Connection (bellevuegrandconnection.com) program is a major City initiative seeking to create an exceptional and dynamic pedestrian experience between Meydenbauer Bay Park through Downtown Bellevue across I-405 to connect to Eastrail, ultimately tying Downtown Bellevue into the 175-mile regional trail network that connects more than half a million Eastside residents.

While the most high-profile element of the Grand Connection is likely to be the Crossing over I-405 (see map), the route will also provide other beautifully-designed spaces for human connection, creative inspiration, and movement—such as a new landmark artwork by Marc Fornes/THEVERYMANY at the northeast corner of Downtown Park, raised intersections along the route for safe pedestrian crossings, and a planned expansion of Meydenbauer Bay Park on Lake Washington.

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With the intention for the Grand Connection to be a place that welcomes and attracts everyone who lives, works and plays in Bellevue, public art and cultural programming have a large role in representing and engaging these communities, especially Bellevue’s diverse ethnic and language communities, and people of all ages and abilities.

The site is inclusive of the section of the Grand Connection from City Hall to the Eastrail (see map) and any adjacent areas, neighborhoods or structures connected or leading to this part of the Grand Connection.

Estimated Project Schedule

- October 20, 2024:** Call Closes
- November 2024:** Artist Selection
- December 2024:** Artist Presented to Arts Commission
- December–January 2025:** Contracting
- January – May 2025:** Art Plan Development
- January 2025 +:** Design Consultation
- July 2025:** Preliminary Public Art Concept Due
- Optional Task 4 (Full Artwork Design):** Potential start in September 2025

Application Requirements

To be submitted online:

Artist Application: Fill out all required fields in the online application, including your primary location and country of residence, and the following items.

Artist’s Statement: (not to exceed 150 words)
Write a brief description of the primary focus of your work.

Resume: Provide experience specifically relevant to this opportunity. Please include any art plans you’ve contributed to.

Up to Seven Images of Your Artwork: Submit up to 7 images of your artwork. Not all work submitted needs to be of projects with a budget over \$300,000, although at least one of the seven images should be of a project that has been installed with an art budget over that amount. Although built projects are preferred, renderings are acceptable for any projects in process.

Image Descriptions: Provide descriptions of all images to include: title of artwork, medium, year made or current status if in process, and project budget. Applications that do not include project budgets will not be accepted.

Optional Art Plan Examples: For artists that have completed art plans, please provide a link to up to three art plans that you contributed to.

References: Provide three professional references from past projects. At least one of your references should be linked to a past project you completed with an art budget over \$300,000.

Selection Process

City of Bellevue staff will review all applications for eligibility prior to artist selection by a panel of art professionals, stakeholders and community members. Three finalists will be selected for virtual finalist presentations and interviews.

- An artist or artist team will be selected based on the following criteria:
- Eligibility
- Artistic Merit (merit factors can include artistic vision, mastery of technique, originality)
- Application Materials
- References
- Finalist Presentation and Interview

The City of Bellevue reserves the right not to select any applicants.

How To Apply

Complete the online application before midnight on October 20, 2024. Applications are collected through SurveyMonkey Apply.

Link to Call application:

https://bellevuearts.smapply.io/prog/grandconnection_public_art_and_art_plan

Bellevue Public Art Collection - Mission and Vision

Mission: To be a vital platform for living artists and source of creative inspiration for our community; excelling in representing Bellevue's unique story through art.

Vision: The Bellevue Public Art Collection seeks to be a leading platform and community resource for cultural exchange and creative inspiration through art. The collection enhances the experience of Bellevue's public places, fosters community pride and belonging, raises the discourse on the defining aspects of Bellevue's civic life, and explores the diverse identities and converging cultures of our residents, creative sectors, and the interplay between nature and the urban experience.

Full Scope of Services

This scope of services is split into three distinct tasks: Art Plan, Design Consultation, and Preliminary Artwork Concept.

Task 1: Art Plan

The Art Plan will provide the City and key partners and constituents a guide for how art should be integrated into the Grand Connection Crossing. This is inclusive of five distinct areas: West Gateway, West Node, the I-405 Crossing, East Node, and the East Gateway. It is expected that the artist or artist team will conduct research and outreach to inform the Art Plan, in coordination with the outreach consultant working on the broader community outreach effort and prepare and present the art plan. The plan should, at minimum, include the following elements:

1. **Overall Creative Vision or Theme of Artwork:** What is the creative vision or theme that ties the experience of the Grand Connection Crossing together into one iconic and truly unique experience, being mindful of the broader art plan developed in 2017 for the Grand Connection at-large, with the ongoing work and associated vision and identity defined by the design team working on the Grand Connection Crossing? The Creative Vision or Theme should clearly demonstrate how the GCC will be a unique experience within Bellevue and should appeal to a broad, diverse, local and international audience.
2. **Guiding Principles:** What are the key drivers that support the Creative Vision or Theme that could inform artists on design? These should align with broad community objectives or attributes. The artist will facilitate an internal team workshop with the City and its consultants to develop these collectively. Examples could include sustainability, tourism, innovation, global connections, or others as defined by the planning artist. These should help give artists, the City, and organizations a place to build from in developing specific projects and programs.



3. Key Opportunities for Permanent Artwork:

Permanent art is defined as anything fixed to a place with an intended lifespan greater than 10 years. This is inclusive of sculpture, integrated artworks, mosaics, artist-designed lighting or light-based artworks, and other forms intended to have a lasting impression on the GCC and contribute to its character as iconic. What are the specific locations for future permanent art, key goals of each opportunity, types of projects (emerging artist project, small public artwork, large public artwork, landmark artwork, etc), anticipated budget ranges and applicable precedents? Planned opportunities should offer a range of artists at different stages of their career from local emerging artists to nationally or internationally known artists.

4. Key Opportunities for Temporary Artwork:

Temporary art is defined as any artwork intended to be installed 10 years or less. Examples could include murals, sculpture, installations, augmented reality art, and other artworks. What are the broad goals of temporary art on the Crossing, identified permanent features for temporary art (plinths, projection or mural walls could be examples) and applicable precedents?

5. Art and Cultural Programming/Placemaking on the Crossing:

Cultural programming is a key tool to engage, attract and welcome Bellevue’s diverse community, workers, and tourists to the GCC and is at the heart of what will make it an important community place versus a piece of infrastructure. How can art and cultural programs draw people, help

support the experience of the Crossing, and cement the Crossing as a prized community asset? What types of programs and applicable precedents should the City pursue in the development of future cultural programming?

Task 2: Design Consultation

The Grand Connection Crossing will be a vibrant sequence of places and experiences. As a member of the design team, the artist or artist team will be expected to work with designers and planners to ensure that appropriate space for art opportunities identified in the art plan are provided for, partner with the community engagement specialists to gather community input that will inform the Art Plan and also provide their perspective as an artist on aesthetic treatments that contribute to the overall experience of the Crossing. In serving in this capacity the artist or artist team will ensure that the art and design are integrated into a seamless creative and captivating experience.

The Grand Connection Crossing project is currently developing 30% design. The following is a general summary of current concepts and the general role of the artist for each location on the crossing.

- 1. West Gateway:** This location ties into the plaza at Bellevue City Hall and adjacent to the Downtown Bellevue Sound Transit Light Rail Station. The design is intended to include gathering spaces for special events, with landscaping, art, seating, possible play features, vending and more. The artist or artist team will contribute to the visioning and early design phase of the project with a focus on

the planned character of design elements and locations of art features and programming.

2. **West Node:** This location is split between a City-owned parcel on the west side and a privately owned parcel on the east side of 112th Avenue NE. The City is working to develop visioning and planning objectives for the City-owned site, also known as the Metro site, and to identify how future development will integrate with the urban fabric and the Grand Connection Crossing. This location has a significant potential for art and cultural programming, public art and unique architectural forms. The artist or artist team will contribute to the identification of artwork locations, how art and other aesthetic elements relate to the design of the West Node's character, and space for cultural programming.

3. **Interstate 405 Crossing:** The bridge will be a segment of the overall Grand Connection Crossing that provides for pedestrian and bicycle movement and some space for landscaping, art, and viewpoints with views of the Cascades and Mount Rainier possible. The artist or artist team will work with the design team to identify and provide space and necessary amenities for a landmark public artwork (if possible), other permanent and temporary public art opportunities, and any proposed programming spaces. The artist will be asked to provide an artist perspective on specific aesthetic design decisions that could support the further execution of the Creative Vision or Theme in the Art Plan. This section may link to a future lid park over the freeway.

4. **East Node:** The main site (Lincoln Center) for the East Node is also owned by the City and is undergoing the same visioning and planning exercise as the Metro site to determine objectives and integration with the Grand Connection Crossing. The scope of work and the role of the artist or the artist team will be similar to the West Gateway and West Node

5. **East Gateway:** This location serves as one terminus for the Grand Connection and is a key opportunity. It is owned privately and connects to King County's Eastrail. Development of this section of Eastrail and the private property is expected to happen concurrently. The artist will meet with the private property owner and King County to review a draft of the Art Plan and may be asked to consult on how the planned private development can support the execution of the Art Plan, and the connection between the Grand Connection Crossing and Eastrail.

Task 3: Preliminary Artwork Concept

This deliverable is intended to provide an early concept for a landmark artwork within the Grand Connection Crossing project. This work will follow the development and approval of the art plan and be developed concurrently with design consultation deliverables. A budget for this project for the remainder of design, fabrication and installation could range from \$300,000 up to \$2,000,000. The concept should meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Unique to this project – artwork needs to be designed specifically to respond to this project.
2. Scalable – the artwork concept should be able to be scaled up or down depending on available budget. This should provide the City with options that will guide budgeting for a possible future landmark artwork.
3. Aligns with the art plan developed by the artist or artist team.
4. Fits into the design of its site.
5. Reasonably achievable given design constraints of its site.
6. And others to be developed as design for the Crossing continues.

The artist or artist team shall provide the following:

1. Two options for scalability utilizing the same concept. One should be estimated to

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cost between \$300,000 and \$1 million and another between \$1 million and \$2 million.

2. A draft budget for each of the scaled options.
3. At least two renderings representing the different scaled options of the proposed concept.
4. At least two dimensioned elevations representing the different scaled options of the preliminary concept.
5. At least one plan of the proposed location. If the smaller scaled project is proposed at a different location, then a second plan is required.
6. A written description of the preliminary concept, including how the community outreach or research informed the concept.
7. A minimum of two presentations of the proposed preliminary concept – one to the project team and one to the Arts Commission.

Optional Task 4: Full Artwork Design

If elected by the City and terms are agreed to by both parties, the City will work with the artist or artist team to amend this contract to develop the preliminary artwork concept through Final Design (100% plans) at the approved scale as a percentage of the overall accepted project budget.

If desired by the City, a separate contract for fabrication and installation of the artwork will be pursued with the artist or artist team following completion and acceptance of this optional task.

Contact Us

For questions regarding the call and how to apply, please contact the City of Bellevue's

Public Art Specialist, Scott MacDonald, at 425- 452-7897 or smacdonald@bellevuewa.gov

CDD-24-23680



For alternate formats, interpreters, or reasonable modification requests please phone at least 48 hours in advance 425-452-7897 (voice) or email smacdonald@bellevuewa.gov. For complaints regarding modifications, contact the City of Bellevue ADA, Title VI, and Equal Opportunity Officer at ADATitleVI@bellevuewa.gov.

