



Request for Qualifications

Dove Springs Public Health Facility

Budgets:

Pavilion shade structure: \$110,000

Exterior wall: \$64,000

Deadline for RFQ submission Thursday, March 31, 2022, 5 pm CST

Virtual Artist information meeting: Wednesday Feb 23, 2022 12:00 - 1:00 pm and 6:00 - 7:00 PM CST

The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department (EDD) seeks to commission visual artists, or artist team, to design and fabricate two different artworks for the new Dove Springs Health Facility at 5811 Palo Blanco Lane. Austin, TX 78744.

Artists living and working in the Austin Metro area are eligible to apply. Artists are invited artists to submit an application for the project. Artists with lived experience in the area are encouraged to apply.



Project Background

Multiple past floods in the Dove Springs area have highlighted the lack of public health, basic needs, preventive health care, and employment support services in this neighborhood. The public health

service delivery is limited and compromised by the lack of a sufficient dedicated space for offices, food pantry, clinic space, and other business and client amenities.

The City Demographer's data shows that the 78744 is one of the low-income city areas with the high minority population density. According to the 2016 American Community Survey, of all the people who live in 78744, 26.4% are below the poverty level, or 12,408 people. 75% are Hispanic or Latino, and of those who are not Hispanic or Latino, 16% are White, and 7% are African-American and 2% are of other races. 31% of the population is under the age of 18.

In 2017 there were 6,328 unduplicated persons that were served at the Dove Springs Recreation Center through two APH food distribution programs. We anticipate that additional 3,000 - 4,000 clients could be served if we had access to a full-service neighborhood center. Currently, the South Austin Neighborhood Center is the only nearby location to which clients can go to receive the full range of services. It is an hour away for clients that need to use public transportation.

The City of Austin voters approved a 2018 Bond Election proposition, sponsored by Austin Public Health (APH), to build a new public health facility in the Dove Springs neighborhood. The new facility will be located on a parkland parcel, north of the Dove Springs Metro Park (DSMP) where several of the Parks and Recreation Department (PARC) facilities are located. The representatives of APH, PARC, Public Works Department (PWD), Capital Contracting Office (CCO) and Small and Minority Business Resources (SMBR) formed the City's project team that have been working with the Design-Builder to provide guidance and review comments. The City Team has completed the Chapter 26 process for use of parkland through the City Council approval. As part of this approval, a memorandum was signed between the APH and PARC for the acres of parkland that could be utilized for permanent and temporary use.

The goal of the Dove Springs Public Health Facility project is a construction of a new two-story, 23,000 square feet facility, with a maximum ground floor footprint of 16,000 square feet. The proposed services include an immunization clinic, a neighborhood center, a Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) clinic, a high-quality childcare center with an outdoor play area, and multi-purpose spaces for the community. APH staff will manage this facility and employ a licensed provider for the childcare center portion of the services.

See Appendix A for additional background information.

Budget

The funds for this project are derived from the 2% for public art portion of the City of Austin's contribution to the estimated construction budget. Two commissions will be awarded, budgets are inclusive of design, fabrication and installation, including permitting fees, travel and shipping expenses, insurance and other project related costs.

Pavilion shade structure: \$110,000

Exterior wall: \$64,000

Public Art Intent & Goals

The Art in Public Places program seeks to commission works of art of redeeming quality that advance public understanding of visual art and enhance the aesthetic quality of public places through the selection of a qualified artist who can innovatively and thoughtfully design within the context of this project.

To engage local voices in the Dove Springs community, AIPP held a virtual meeting with the Dove Springs Task force to solicit feedback on project goals and intent. Feedback was collected during the meeting via menti.com.

The goal of the Doves Springs Public Health Facility Art in Public Places Project is to commission an artist or artist team to design artwork which:

- » Creates an iconic artwork that identifies the Dove Springs area as a strong multi-generational and multi-cultural, historically-family neighborhood;
- » Reflects a welcoming, healing, and caring place of protection;
- » Visually or physically integrates educational elements that promotes early childhood development;
- » Is safe, easily maintained, and vandal resistant in an exterior environment; and
- » Enriches or adds to the depth/breadth of the City of Austin's public art collection.

Artwork Opportunities

This public art opportunity is open to a wide range of ideas to be proposed by the selected artist, or artist team, in consultation with the project's design team. The selected artist or artist team will coordinate with City staff and stakeholders to develop an artwork to be integrated into the construction of the new building addition.

The selected artist, or artist team, will work closely with the project's design team to develop a comprehensive design for artwork. The project's fast track schedule will require the selected artist, or artist team, to begin work immediately and complete installation by Spring 2023.

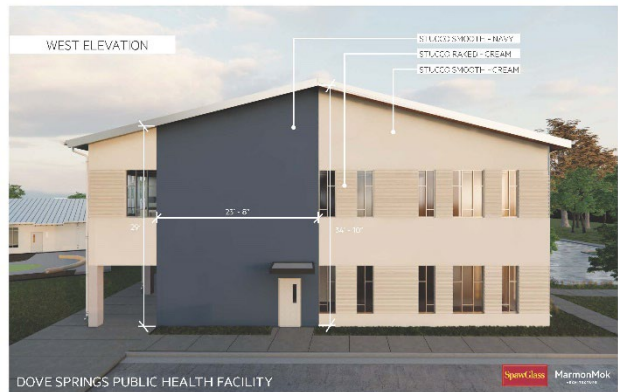
Pavilion shade structure: \$110,000

A foundation platform will be provided at measuring at approximately 18'x 42'. The artists will design, fabricate and install a shade structures that will serve as a meeting place.



Exterior wall: \$64,000

The west-facing wall at the entrance to the facility will have an approximate area of 34' tall x 23' wide to create a wall hung 3-D artwork or a 2-D artwork to be mounted to the building.



Artist Information Meeting

Virtual Artist information meeting: **Wednesday Feb 23, 2022 12:00-1:00 pm and 6:00 - 7:00 pm CST.** A recording will be posted to www.austintexas.gov/aipp. AIPP staff and Austin Public Health staff will present information on the project, answering questions from interested artists and reviewing the application procedures.

Artist Eligibility

Applicants should meet the following requirements:

- Professional visual artist, or artist team
- At least 18 years of age; and
- Live in the 7-county Austin metropolitan area (Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet, and Blanco counties).

Full-time, permanent City of Austin employees are *ineligible* to apply. Employees of the project consultants and sub-consultants are also *ineligible* to apply.

Artists who currently have one active contract for a permanent artwork with the Art in Public Places program are *ineligible* to apply. Artist teams are considered as separate entities; their projects do not count as projects by the individual artists.

Applications not meeting all eligibility criteria will be withdrawn from consideration.

Evaluation Criteria

The selection of an artist, or artist team, shall be based on whose qualifications best meet the requirements contained in this Prospectus. In addition to the standard project selection criteria found on the City of Austin's Art in Public Places website (http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/aipp_selection_criteria.pdf), the Selection Panel will review and consider the following evaluation criteria:

- » Artistic merit and technical expertise;
- » Demonstrated ability to successfully execute innovative public art projects in an outdoor environment;
- » Demonstrated ability to successfully execute a public art project on time and on budget; and
- » Expressed interest in creating artwork for the community.

Selection Process

A Request for Qualifications will be solicited to professional visual artists who live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties. The City of Austin Art in Public Places Panel will convene a selection panel to evaluate the submissions. The Jury shall review applications and select one artist or artist team and one alternate. Up to three finalists may be selected for interviews. This final artist and alternate recommendation will be presented to the Art in Public Places Panel, Arts Commission and City Council for approval.

Submission Requirements

Applications must be received online via www.PublicArtist.org no later than 5:00 pm (CST) on Thursday, March 31, 2022. For technical assistance with your application, please contact info@publicartist.org or 210-701-0775 (9:00 am – 5:00 pm). Art in Public Places will convene a Jury to evaluate artist qualifications.

Applications include:

- A series of short answer questions (response 100-200 words/question). These are questions that we've formulated to help artists put their best foot forward in introducing themselves and their practice to the jury.
 1. What does the jury need to know about you and your work as an artist? What is your public art experience?
 2. What is your connection to the Dove Springs neighborhood? Are you familiar with the history or heritage of the surrounding neighborhoods?

3. As an artist, what role would community engagement or social practice play in your design for this project? If you haven't worked with community, why would you be interested in doing?

- 10 images of completed relevant artwork with the required descriptions
- resume
- 3 professional references.

Jury & Project Advisors

A 3-member voting selection jury of artists and arts professionals shall be advised by members from the Dove Springs Task Force.

Possible Jurors may include:

- » Monica Maldonado, Mas Cultura
- » Angel Garcia, Marmon Mok Architects
- » Angel Alcala, TEMPO 2019 & AFD Phase 6 artist

Possible Advisors may include:

- » Frances Acuna – GAVA, SE Combined Neighborhood Plan Contact Team
- » Arlyn Argumedo - Dove Springs Recreation Center
- » Anna DiCarlo – Parks Board Member, District 2
- » Barbara Garcia – Dove Springs Recreation Center
- » Robert Kibbie - Dove Springs Advisory Board
- » Gloria Lugo – Community
- » Alberto Mejia – Community Development Commission, District 2
- » Irene Magna-Noverola – Austin South-East Branch Library
- » George Morales – Dove Springs Advisory Board
- » Mathew Worthington – Early Childhood Council, District 2
- » Raymond Young - Dove Springs Advisory Board
- » Ofelia Zapata – Community Leader
- » Ricardo Zavala – Dove Springs Proud

City of Austin Advisors include:

- » Kimberley Maddox - Austin Public Health
- » Kalpana Sutria – Project Manager, Public Works
- » Filip Gecic – Austin Public Health
- » Dove Springs Rec Manager
- » Gina Saenz – Parks and Recreation Department, City of Austin
- » SpawGlass, Design - Builder

AIPP Panel and Arts Commission Project Advisors may include:

- » Joel Nolan – Liaison Art in Public Places Panel
- » Jaime Castillo – Liaison Austin Arts Commission, District 2

No gallery owner, dealer, or art agent may serve as a juror due to the potential for conflict of interest. No juror may serve more than once in any two-year period in an attempt to bring a diversity of interests to the selection process and to more precisely match the expertise of the jury members to each project.

The selected artist(s) will be put under a design + commission contract to coordinate with the City and the project's design team to develop a comprehensive design for artwork. The final design is subject to approval by the Art in Public Places Panel and the Austin Arts Commission and may be subject to review by other relevant City Boards and Commissions and stakeholder groups.

AIPP Alignment with City of Austin Vision

As it approaches its 200th anniversary, Austin is a beacon of sustainability, social equity and economic opportunity; where diversity and creativity are celebrated; where community needs and values are recognized; where leadership comes from its citizens and where the necessities of life are affordable and accessible to all. <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/imagine-austin-vision>

City of Austin's Strategic Direction 2023 (SD23)

The Austin City Council adopted a strategic direction guiding the City for the next three to five years. SD23 outlines a shared vision and six outcomes of which two directly guide Art in Public Places: Economic Opportunity & Affordability and Culture and Lifelong learning.

As part of the SD23 process Art in Public Places and the Economic Development Department will quantify a number of key performance measures including, participants who are satisfied with City-offered culture and lifelong learning events, activities, and resources, and number of jobs supported. The Department will use that data to better align decision making and budget allocations.

Because artists are small businesses, Art in Public Places may ask commissioned artists to outline how many jobs were supported based on their current City of Austin contract as well as whether the contract strengthened their overall business operations.

Commitment to Equity

Art in Public Places embraces cultural equity. It is the goal of the program to ensure as many people as possible have meaningful engagements with public art and access to viewing, experiencing, and creating artwork.

Art in Public Places actively seeks to provide members of historically underrepresented communities, which can include identities such as Black or African-American, Arab-American, Asian-American, Hispanic or LatinX, Pacific Islander, Indigenous Nations, LGBTQIA, or a person with a disability, with equitable access to public art opportunities.

In support of this commitment, the program will make every effort to expand access to the collection and programmatic decision-making.

For each project, every effort will be made to comprise project selection panels and finalist pools for Art in Public Places commissions with representatives from a variety of historically underrepresented communities to better reflect the diversity of Austin.

Schedule *(subject to change)*

2021

April - Project introduction to AIPP Panel

September - Community engagement meetings

2022

January - Prospectus approval by AIPP Panel & Arts Commission

February - Request for Qualifications (RFQ) released

- Virtual Artist information meeting: Wednesday Feb 23, 2022 12:00-1:00 pm and 6:00 - 7:00 pm CST

March - **Deadline for RFQ submission Thursday, March 31, 2022, 5 pm CST**

April - Selection panel review of applications and Artist Interviews

May - Approval of artist and alternate by AIPP Panel and Arts Commission

June - City Council Authorization and Artist's contracting approvals

July – Artist's project Kick-off meeting and community engagement

September - Mid-Design review by AIPP Panel

November – Final Design sponsor department and conservation reviews

December - Final Design approval by AIPP Panel and Austin Arts Commission

2023

Winter- artwork(s) fabrication and installation

Spring - Anticipated project completion

Contact/Questions

Anna Bradley, Art in Public Places Project Manager
(512) 974-7841 or anna.bradley@austintexas.gov

*Appendix A.

Proposed Services

Austin Public Health seeks to offer the following services at the proposed Dove Springs Public Health Facility.

1. Neighborhood Center services:
 - a. Basic needs services (food pantry, bread distribution, clothes closet, child safety seats, notary services, form and application assistance, employment and case management information and referrals)
 - b. Social work case management services to assist clients in removing barriers to self-sufficiency and family stability (home visits, crisis intervention, grief counseling, and case management)
 - c. Preventive health services (health screenings, prevention education, health and wellness activities)
 - d. Seasonal services (Christmas Bureau applications, Income tax assistance, Coats for Kids vouchers, Thanksgiving baskets)
 - e. Community Youth Development

2. WIC services. WIC is a special supplemental nutrition program for pregnant women, new mothers, and young children. Participants learn about nutrition and how to stay healthy, and receive benefits to purchase healthy foods. The following programs will be offered:
 - a. Fruit and Vegetable fairs
 - b. Food demonstrations
 - c. Nutrition education
 - d. Stress Buster classes
 - e. Walking classes
 - f. Cooking classes
 - g. Breastfeeding classes
 - h. Food safety
 - i. SNAP
 - j. Farmer's Market Nutrition Program

3. Immunization services. Many communicable diseases among children are preventable. However, fewer than half the children in Texas receive the immunizations they need by age two. If not protected, children can develop life-threatening medical conditions including brain damage, deafness, pneumonia, and seizures. Some diseases, like Rubella, can be spread to pregnant women and cause miscarriage or birth defects. In addition, many adult diseases that used to be common can now be prevented with immunizations. The following programs will be offered:
 - a. Shots for Tots for Children (Childcare immunization requirements for children under the age of five, school immunization requirements for students K-12)

- b. Big Shots for Adults (Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR), Tdap, and Td)
 - c. Flu Shots (Children six months of age or older who are uninsured, Medicaid recipients, uninsured adults)
 - d. Shot Records (available at clinic locations for anyone who received their immunizations at public health clinics in Austin and Travis County, including Shots for Tots and Big Shots)
4. Childcare services. The proposed facility would incorporate a high-quality, affordable childcare center that would serve up to 75 children, ages infant to 5 years old. The center will have classrooms accessible to children with special physical needs, area for nursing moms to breastfeed and pump, and an outdoor activity space with a playground.

There will be 5 to 6 classrooms, staff break room, lobby, two family bathrooms, laundry, two offices, meeting space, storage space, and a janitor's closet. The childcare center will have a lot of natural light in all classrooms that will have two exits each, doors and interior walls with glass panels for increased line-of-sight throughout center.

Community Engagement

There has been a high interest in having a facility in the Dove Springs neighborhood that would provide public health services and function as a hub for other service providers. The Austin Public Health interacted with the community leaders in this area through numerous community events. APH facilitated creation of a Task Force that represents various community groups and meets regularly. In addition, APH organized several community meetings, both public and online, to seek the community's input for the provided services and the facility design.

Current Progress

In the previous period, the APH team in a collaboration with PARD and other City departments accomplished the following:

1. Executed a contract with the design-builder, SpawGlass, for the schematic design.
2. Established a Task Force (TF) that represents various community groups in the Dove Springs area and other representatives.
3. Conducted regular meetings with the TF during the schematic design to receive input on the site plan layout, and the look and feel of the facility.
4. Conducted two public (online) community meetings.
5. Conducted a community survey to collect input on the main design components of the facility.
6. Produced a facility concept design based on the community, Task Force, and partners' input.
7. Estimated the initial construction budget with SpawGlass that was determined to be higher than the available funding.
8. The City Team, Task Force, and SpawGlass have worked on a scope-budget reconciliation identifying savings without changing any the proposed public health programs.
9. Identified additional funds from the APH grants and a community donation to augment the available project funding.
10. Finalized the remaining design phase proposal and development, while working on the site plan submittal.

11. Procured inclusive, ADA accessible playscape equipment that will be added to the Dove Springs Metro Park near the Recreation Center.
12. Incorporated construction of the trails connecting neighborhood to the existing district park trail system and lighting improvements .
13. Adopted native landscape and outdoor learning environment concept for the proposed childcare center.

Timeline

The completed and anticipated phases of the project are the following:

1. Preliminary Planning Phase (Completed)
2. Design Criteria Manual (Completed)
3. Design-Builder Procurement Process (Completed)
4. Schematic Design (Completed)
5. Design-Builder Proposal for Guaranteed Maximum Price by Spring 2022
6. Full Facility Design and Permitting by Summer 2022
7. Expected Ground-Breaking Ceremony in Summer of 2022
8. Construction Completion by Summer of 2023