



**CALL TO ARTISTS
COTTONWOOD CREEK TRAIL BRIDGE ENHANCEMENT
ALLEN, TEXAS**

The City of Allen and the Allen Public Art Committee (PAC) invite artists or artist teams to submit qualifications for the design and installation of enhancements to the Cottonwood Creek Trail Bridge. This project requires collaboration with the prime consultant for trail design and the manufacturer of a pre-fabricated bridge structure.

Project History/Scope

Allen, Texas (pop. 89,800) is a growing community located in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, 15 miles due north of Dallas. Its exemplary schools, outstanding community amenities and retail options make it a highly desirable place in which to live, work and visit. Please visit www.cityofallen.org or www.visitallentx.com for more information about our dynamic city, including the Allen's public art program.

Allen's award winning park system includes 53 miles of hike and bike trail. At completion, Allen's trail system will consist of 80 miles of trail. The Allen trail system is part of the Collin County Regional Trail plan. This plan will ultimately connect six cities, including Allen, via trail linkages. The Cottonwood Creek Trail is Allen's newest section of trail to be developed. This newest trail will be .6 miles long and will connect existing trails to the east and west. The trail will cross Cottonwood Creek via a bridge and will follow a path leading under U.S. Highway 75, a major north/south corridor in the north Texas region. The Cottonwood Creek Trail will be heavily used by walkers, runners, bikers and eventually possibly those commuting to work by bicycle.

An artist or artist team is being selected to provide design concepts and participate in the fabrication of artistic elements for enhancing the interior rails of the bridge that will cross Cottonwood Creek. The intent is to create engaging artwork in a place and in a way that is "unexpected", creating a surprise for those who encounter it while using the trail.

The bridge traversing Cottonwood Creek will be a pre-fabricated, weathered steel bridge with IPE, a Brazilian hardwood decking. The selected manufacturer will be required to have the willingness and capability of working with the selected artist or team on fabrication of the selected design as needed. The bridge will be located in a flood plain. Therefore, the artist will be required to work with the project's prime consultant on items related to flood plain requirements. Flood plain considerations and the possible flow of flood water must be taken into consideration when designing the artwork. The enhancements will be focused solely on the inside rails of the bridge and must conform to all safety guidelines. The final design and installation must comply with National Building Codes as well as state and local code requirements. See attached photographs related to this trail project.

Budget

Artist finalists may propose design concepts with a final project budget of up to \$100,000. Designs with strong artistic merit that can achieve the goals of the project and can be accomplished below the maximum budgeted amount are encouraged and will be of particular interest. The final proposed project budget must be inclusive of all fees, including but not limited to all design fees, costs for fabrication and installation, administrative costs, insurance and all travel expenses related to the project upon artist selection through completion of the project. Artists will be required to meet the city's insurance requirements.

Eligibility

Any artist or artist team, 18 years of age or older and who are authorized to work in the United States are eligible. Texas-based artists and artists who have experience working on trail and/or bridge projects are particularly encouraged to apply. The City of Allen follows the definition of an artist as being a professional practitioner in the arts, generally recognized by his or her peers as possessing serious intent and ability.

Deadline for Submitting Application and Materials

5:00 p.m. CST, Monday, December 23, 2013. Applications and materials must be received by this date and time to be considered. **Responses to this artist call will only be accepted electronically.** It is the responsibility of the artist to confirm receipt of materials. Mailed or physical copies of responses will not be accepted.

Selection Process

- 1) An initial submission of qualifications stage, from which up to three finalists may be selected based upon the materials submitted. The selection of finalists will be made by a panel appointed by the Public Art Committee.
- 2) A final interview stage, during which each finalist will be paid a \$1,000 honorarium to develop a conceptual design for the artwork to present to the selection panel. If submitting as an artist team, the honorarium will be paid to the team, not individual members of the team. Likewise, negotiated travel expenses in addition to the honorarium will be paid to one member of an artist team. A finalist recommendation will be made by the selection panel to the PAC. If approved, the PAC will then make a recommendation to the Allen City Council for final approval of the proposed design.
- 3) Selections for finalists will be based in part on the interest expressed in the artist letter of intent for this specific project, past experiences with projects of a similar nature and scope and/or evidence of creative place making as evidenced by submitted images.
- 4) Criteria to be used in selection of the final design concept will be shared with the selected finalists.

Estimated Schedule (Subject to change)

December 23, 2013:	Submissions due by 5:00 p.m. CST
January 13, 2014:	Selection panel review begins
January 20, 2014	Additional selection panel review as needed/Finalists selected
February 10, 2014	Artist interviews
February 18, 2014	Selection panel recommendation to Public Art Committee
February 25, 2014	Final concept recommendation made to City Council
March 2014	Artist contract negotiated
April 8, 2014	Artist contract to Allen City Council for approval
April 9, 2014	Execute artist contract
June 2014	Trail construction begins

Submission Guidelines

- 1) A maximum one page (8 ½ X 11) typed artist statement addressing the following:
 - a. Your interest in this specific project and any relevant experience related to the design of artwork for trails or bridges;
 - b. Your approach to design and working collaboratively with others.
- 2) A current resume (maximum 3 pages for each artist or each member of an artist team) including references.
- 3) Up to six photographs (JPEG), no larger than 1MB per photo, each to be named and numbered corresponding to an annotated script. No videos, please.
- 4) An annotated script (one page maximum), saved as a Word or PDF document related to the submitted photographs to include the project name, medium, date of completion, project budget and short statement describing the work.
- 5) Direct all submissions to PublicArt@cityofallen.org. Please include the following in the subject line: Cottonwood Creek Project.
- 6) For questions or to confirm receipt of materials, please contact Jennifer Robinson, Senior Administrative Assistant, 214.509.4703 or jrobinson@cityofallen.org

**Submissions must be received electronically no later than
5:00 p.m. CST, Monday, December 23, 2013.**



Cottonwood Creek – proposed bridge location, view #1



Cottonwood Creek – proposed bridge location, view #2



Bridge example only (specific bridge selection TBD)



Map showing partial Allen Trail system – Cottonwood Creek segment indicated in red, existing trail linkages in yellow.