



Request for Expression of Interest

StreetARToronto and Metrolinx: West Toronto Railpath and Ritchie Avenue

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2014, 4:30 pm

Call Summary

The City of Toronto's StreetARToronto (StART) program has partnered with Metrolinx to hold an open public art competition to create an outdoor art mural project to be installed on noise walls to be built at two locations: 1) A section along the West Toronto Railpath on the south side of the Bloor Street West entrance; 2) a popular small green space at the foot of Ritchie Ave. As part of the GTS Project, the noise wall will be used as an opportunity to bring art to the community and beautify these locations.

The purpose of this streetscape improvement is to continue the enhancement and rejuvenation of these neighborhoods and help prevent graffiti vandalism. Beyond improving the appearance through site specific work, the pieces should reflect the aspirations of the community through a robust community consultation.

StART invites Expressions of Interest from artists to submit proposals for wall art that will celebrate the unique and diverse character of these neighborhoods and be maintained for a minimum of five years. Commissioning/Installation is to begin in spring 2015 and must be completed by October 2015.

The purpose of the Expression of Interest is to gather a list of artists or artist collaborations who will be short-listed based on relevant professional credentials and preliminary design concepts. Short-listed applicants will be invited to respond to a Request for Proposal. At the final stage of the selection process, proposals will be reviewed and artists will be recommended for the project.

Application Deadline: Friday, October 24, 2014, 4:30 pm

Total Project Budget: up to \$42,000

Please note that the final dimensions, location and budget have not been finalized and are subject to revision. We will provide more information once the details have been confirmed.

A. Eligibility Requirements:

Artists located within the Province of Ontario who have completed a project with a similar budget, scale and scope. International artists are eligible to apply providing they are currently residing in Ontario. Artists must have extensive experience in community engaged visual arts practice, and in street art design and implementation.

Project Background

Launched in 2012, **StreetARToronto (StART)** is an innovative, public-private partnership designed to develop, support, promote and increase awareness of street art and its role in adding beauty and character to neighborhoods throughout the City. StART's philosophy is based on the belief that when communities find their voices, address shared identities and nurture the talent of artists, we all benefit from a more welcoming visual landscape. StART is an integral part of the City's Graffiti Management Plan.

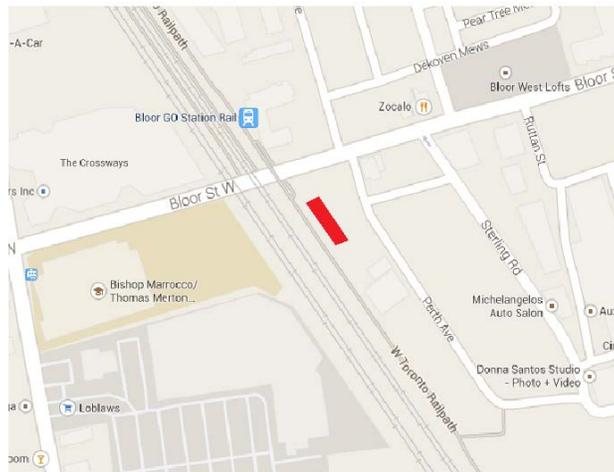
Metrolinx, an agency of the [Government of Ontario](#) under the *Metrolinx Act, 2006*, was created to improve the coordination and integration of all modes of transportation in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. The organization's mission is to champion, develop and implement an integrated transportation system for our region that enhances prosperity, sustainability and quality of life. Metrolinx launched *The Big Move*, a Regional Transportation Plan in September 2008. The Georgetown South (GTS) Project is a key element of The Big Move. It will provide infrastructure improvements to meet existing GO Transit ridership demand and future growth. It will also accommodate the new Union Pearson Express service between Union Station and Toronto Pearson International Airport. The art project site is along the GTS rail corridor.

B. Project Site

Please note that the final dimensions, location and budget have not been finalized and are subject to revision. We will provide more information once the details have been confirmed.

Two locations:

- 1) West Toronto Railpath (South/east side from Bloor St. W entrance)
(total surface area is approximately 22m² **[7x3m]**)



2)Ritchie Avenue (total surface area is approximately 45m² [15x3m])



C. Site History

As part of the GTS Project in these areas, Metrolinx is building a new Bloor Station with accommodation for the new UP Express, and adding tracks and new signal systems throughout the corridor. The West Toronto Railpath travels through this catchment and is an important link and linear park that connects the residents in the surrounding unique neighbourhoods of Bloor West, Junction Triangle, Roncesvalles, Dundas West and Parkdale, and beyond.

D. Site Images (Not Yet Built)

Renderings of wall concept (artwork is for illustration purposes only).



Relevant to both locations: 1) West Toronto Railpath, 2) Ritchie Avenue

E. Context

Noise walls (West Toronto Railpath; Ritchie Avenue)

The two areas represented in this project form a central part of a larger partnership between Metrolinx and StART. Metrolinx has identified many sections of their

infrastructure recently built, or currently being constructed that would benefit from the installation of street art: this includes sound barrier walls, retaining walls and underpasses located primarily along the GTS rail corridor.

These two locations were selected as an opportunity to bring art to the community and beautify these areas that are frequently visited by surrounding residents. Preference will be given to works that are innovative and relate to the respective areas.

The outcome of this project will be the transformation of the noise walls into a celebrated community feature. In order to achieve this, a multi-staged project is required to ensure real and meaningful engagement with the local community and to ensure a quality art installation.

F. Deliverables

Overview of final project deliverables and artist responsibilities are as follows:

- The final product shall be a permanent creative installation that is durable and requires minimal maintenance over a five-year period. The installation should be made of appropriate and durable materials, and artists should take into consideration the sustainability of the artwork.
- A work plan will demonstrate how the project will be completed on time, within budget, in compliance with any applicable health and safety regulations, and will be reflective of community input and feedback as obtained during the community consultations.
- All short listed artist candidates will be required to attend and participate in a community consultation led by StART's project manager and refine their original design proposal to reflect the discussion at the community consultation.
- The selected artist(s) will be responsible for purchasing and supplying all materials and equipment required for the project including anti-graffiti coating (if applicable to the selected design and material). With assistance from the StART project manager, arranging for any required permits.
- The short listed artist candidates will meet all deadlines as outlined in Section J: Competition Schedule.

G. Overview of Selection Process

Stage One: Artist Submissions of Response to Request for Expression of Interest

In order to respond to this Request for Expressions of Interest, please submit an application with the components detailed below. An optional information meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 14, 2014 @ 10 am at 2340 Dundas St W., 3rd Floor, Suite 302** (note: this is a meeting room located in 'Crossways Employment Services' offices) to provide potential applicants with the particulars of the project and will include a site visit.

Please note we now accept electronic submissions. When submitting an electronic copy

of your application please ensure that one PDF document containing all of the below information is submitted, saved as "First name_Last name_Ritchie-WTR." Electronic submissions can be submitted by email or delivered on a USB key or CD.

Applications should include:

1. Contact Information – Artist(s) full name or names (if collaborative), address, phone number, email address and website (if applicable).
2. Concept Proposal – (two page maximum). A letter of interest including an artist statement, rationale and a preliminary concept visualization that describes any preferred themes, ideas and artistic medium i.e. mosaics, paint, aerosol, photographic image, etc. and methods of required maintenance.
3. Preliminary Budget – Complete the attached budget template (see Appendix 1) with estimated costs.
4. Details of Past Experience in Community Engaged Visual Arts Practice (one page maximum) – Metrolinx and StART are committed to community engagement. We are seeking an artist that can implement inclusive processes of community engagement. Please include a one-page summary of previous experience with projects that required community engagement. Include ideas for how artwork can reflect the outcomes of a community consultation process.
5. Resume/Curriculum Vitae – If you are submitting as a team/collaborative, each member must provide a personal resume.
6. Name and Contact Numbers for Three References – References should be able to speak to your or your group's expertise and experience in relation to implementing projects of similar size and scope.
7. Images of Past Work (up to ten images) – Please include images of past work in any medium that best illustrates qualifications for this project. Please include the following information for each image: title of work, medium, dimensions (approx.), location and date.

Stage Two: Jury Review of Expressions of Interest and Selection of Short Listed Artist Candidates

Artists' expression of interest submissions will be reviewed by an internal review committee (jury) comprised of two representatives from Metrolinx and one representative from StART. The jury will select four candidates to be invited to engage in Stage Three of the procurement process (Short Listed Artist Candidates). The selection shall be based on the selection criteria set out in Section I.

Stage Three: Submit Response to Request for Proposals

Request for Proposals (RFP) will be sent to Short Listed Artist Candidates. The RFP will provide submission requirements and selection criteria for the detailed design proposals. Short Listed Artist Candidates will be paid a proposal fee of \$1,000 for the purpose of completing the proposal. Prior to submitting a final proposal, all Short Listed Artist

Candidates will be required to attend community consultations led by StART's project manager. The intent of the consultation is to receive ideas and suggestions from community members in a collaborative setting and use the feedback to create the final art design. Each Short Listed Artist Candidate is expected to include community input in their concept design and final artwork development.

Stage Four: Final Review and Selection

A jury comprised of the internal review committee in Stage Two plus two art professionals will review the Short Listed Artist Candidates.

H. Budget

The public art project budget is up to \$42,000 (WTR is \$30,000 + Ritchie Ave. is \$12,000) - which includes site preparation, design, fabrication, delivery to the site, installation, drawings, approvals or permits (if required), insurance, travel costs, artist fees, maintenance plan and applicable taxes.

Please note that the final dimensions, location and budget have not been finalized and are subject to revision. We will provide more information once the details have been confirmed.

Artists selected in Stage Three of the selection process will be required to submit a detailed budget with their final proposal.

I. Selection Criteria

The following evaluation criteria will be used in Stage Two of the selection process:

- Demonstrated excellence of past work in projects of similar size and scope and within a community engaged visual art capacity: 10%
- Artist qualifications and proven capability to produce work of the highest quality: 20%
- Concept Proposal and Site Suitability: 20%
- Project Budget and Feasibility: proven capacity to complete the work on time and on budget: 10%
- Quality and clarity of presentation package: 20%
- Proven capacity to engage and collaborate with the local community in concept development and final artwork rendering: 20%

J. Competition Schedule

Optional information meeting	Tuesday, October 14, 2014, 10 am
Deadline for submission of expression of interest	Friday, October 24, 2014, 4:30 pm
Notification of short-listed artists and request for proposals distributed.	Monday, November 10, 2014
Stage 2 information and site meeting	Monday, November 17, 2014 at 10 am
Open house/Community Consultations	Monday, November 24, 2014 time 6:30 pm
Online Consultation Period	Wednesday, October 29, 2014 – Wednesday, November 5, 2014
Short-listed artist full proposal deadline	Monday, November 17, 2014 4:30 pm
Final Selection panel meeting	Monday, November 24, 2014
Notification of successful artist	Friday, December 5, 2014

K. How to Apply

Submissions must be complete and submitted by email or delivered on a USB key or CD **as one PDF document** containing all of the above information saved as "First name_Last name_Ritchie-WTR" and delivered to:

Carolyn Taylor
Project Lead, StreetARToronto (StART)
Ctaylor9@toronto.ca
City Hall, 17th Floor, East Tower
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

by **Friday, October 24, 2014** no later than **4:30 pm**. Submissions will not be accepted past the deadline.

For further information or general questions, please contact:
Laurie Morris: lauriemorris@gmail.com

**Appendix 1
Preliminary Budget**

#	Project Expenditure Category	Details/Notes	Budget Amount
1	Artist Fees (not to exceed 50% of project budget)		
2	Design Development	Shortlisted Artist Candidates will be paid \$1000 for Stage Three design concept development	\$1,000
3	Materials and Fabrication		
4	Transportation, Installation and other Requirements (lighting, etc)		
5	Insurance*		
6	Subtotal		
7	Taxes on subtotal		
8	Contingency (10% of project subtotal above)		
9	TOTAL BUDGET		
NOTE: Total Expenditures - Not to exceed \$42,000			

**The selected artist agrees to purchase and maintain in force, at its own expense and for the duration of the work, the following policy of insurance, which policy shall be in a form and with an insurer acceptable to the City. A certificate evidencing the policy coverage, signed by the insurer or an authorized agent of the insurer, must be delivered to the City prior to the commencement of work:*

A. Commercial General Liability provided that the policy:

- (i) is in the amount of not less than Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00), per occurrence;*
- (ii) adds the City of Toronto and Metrolinx as additional insureds;*
- (iii) includes Non Owned Automobile Liability, Employer's Liability and/or Contingent Employer's Liability, and any other provision relevant to the services;*
- (iv) Includes a clause, which will provide the City and Metrolinx with thirty (30) days' prior written notice of cancellation (15 days if cancellation is due to non-payment of premium).*