

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DRIVE INNOVATION CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Request for Qualifications

Perforated Fencing at I-20
Underpass



MAYOR'S OFFICE
OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

OVERVIEW

- The City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs invites architects, artists and designers to submit qualifications for the design, production and installation of laser cut metal fence to be installed on MLK, Jr Drive underneath the I-20 overpass. The artwork will be part of the 7.2 mile east-west corridor that connects points of interest such as the new [Mercedes Benz Stadium](#), the [Atlanta University Center](#), the [Atlanta BeltLine](#), [Westview Cemetery](#), and several [MARTA](#) bus stops.
- The area's culture is internationally significant. It was home to intellectual leaders of human rights, including W.E.B. DuBois, Booker T. Washington, and the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr.
- The Renew Atlanta initiative that is sponsoring this installation along with several others along the corridor will address vehicular and pedestrian safety concerns, provide additional pedestrian and bicycle access through the implementation of new multi-use trails, and introduce a new linear park along the corridor in addition to several public art installations. The goal is to transform MLK, Jr. Drive into an art filled pedestrian and bicycle friendly corridor with improved access to the Atlanta BeltLine and MARTA bus service.
- Years of community-driven planning, detailed analyses, stakeholder support, and political and financial commitment have come together and integrated social justice to transform the corridor in the heart of Atlanta into a world-class "boulevard." The goal of the coming together of these entities is to transform through tailored, multi-modal improvements and complementary workforce capacity building, business recruitment, socio-cultural preservation, and green infrastructure. This will not only honor the name of Atlanta's most famous resident, but further the City of Atlanta's vision to preserve its historical past, maintain the livability of the present, and transform its future through the highest quality of implementation to enhance the level of service it provides to all people of Atlanta. The initiative is a global showcase for the community-based deployment of recent innovations in transportation safety, delivery, and risk management practices, in a high visibility, internationally significant cultural context.
- Mobility & Access: The Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive corridor carries some 28,000 motorists a day and MARTA, which provides local bus service on and parallels the corridor with four heavy rail stations, provides 438,000 trips per weekday. Users of the corridor will benefit from improved operations, more multi-modal options and connections, and reduced conflict between modes.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DRIVE

- MLK, Jr. Drive is a heavily used east-west corridor linking points of interest such as [Downtown Atlanta](#) (which includes the government center), [Philips Arena](#), the new Mercedes Benz Stadium, Atlanta University Center ([Morehouse College](#), [Spelman College](#), [Clark Atlanta University](#) and [Morehouse School of Medicine](#)), historic Westview Cemetery, four MARTA heavy rail stations, and the [Fulton County Airport-Brown Field](#). Suburban and historic urban neighborhoods line the corridor alongside notable parks such as [Mozley Park](#) and [Washington Park](#) and other community facilities such as the historic [Booker T. Washington High School](#), [Adamsville Recreation Center](#), [Atlanta BeltLine](#), and the [Lionel Hampton Multi-use Trail](#). The corridor also parallels I-20, the region's major east-west freeway and crosses I-285, the region's perimeter freeway. At the intersection of Ralph David Abernathy Boulevard, MLK Jr. Drive becomes State Route 139 going westward past historic [Westview Cemetery](#), through the Adamsville community and eventually to the Atlanta city limits and Fulton Industrial Boulevard in unincorporated Fulton County. The corridor is served by 14 local and one express bus route and is located near portions of regional multi-use trail systems that currently have limited connectivity. The eastern end of the corridor intersects with the [Atlanta Beltline Southwest Trail](#) that is currently under construction.
- There are three [MARTA](#) Heavy Rail stations within one quarter of a mile of MLK, Jr. Drive and one located on the street. There are 14 MARTA bus routes and three core and secondary bicycle routes on the Drive. I-20 an east-west expressway and I-285 an interstate highway loop encircling Atlanta both intersect MLK, Jr. Drive.

CITY OF ATLANTA MAYOR'S OFFICE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

- The [City of Atlanta's Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs \(OCA\)](#) was established in 1974 to encourage and support Atlanta's cultural resources. The initial mission was to solidify the role that arts and other cultural resources play in defining and enhancing the social fabric and quality of life of Atlanta citizens and visitors.
- Today the OCA understands that the arts play an essential role in defining the cultural vitality of the city and is working to enhance Atlanta's reputation as a cultural destination. The OCA aims to provide programs that contribute substantially to the city's economy and quality of life.
- The Office of Cultural Affairs' programming is executed in four key areas: Public Art, Arts and Education Services, Contracts for Arts Services and Performing Arts. The OCA also manages the Chastain Arts Center/City Gallery at Chastain and Gallery 72.

CITY OF ATLANTA PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

- The City of Atlanta's Public Art Program (PAP) focuses on the conservation and maintenance of Atlanta's Public Art Collection and produces ELEVATE, an annual free Public Art festival featuring local, national and international artists throughout the city. ELEVATE had been named one of the Top 50 Public Art Projects in the country by Americans for the Arts and has also been nominated for the Livable Cities Award. The PAP also manages the City of Atlanta Public Art Audio Tours which focus on educating the residents and guests about Atlanta's Public Art Collection located in the central downtown Atlanta area.

THE SITE

- The Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs is looking for qualified applicants to design, fabricate, and install perforated metal fencing under the I-20 overpass on MLK, Jr. Drive with LED backlighting. The westside fence should be roughly 182' L and the eastside fence should be roughly 156' L.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

- The City of Atlanta is seeking applicants who are architects, designers or artists with portfolios that demonstrate professional experience designing, fabricating, and installing contemporary fencing. The portfolio will demonstrate ability to execute architectural work with an artistic design. All applicants, regardless of race, sex, religion, nationality, origin or disability will be considered.

BUDGET

- If selected to submit a proposal you will be given \$1000 and one month to build the proposal.
- If awarded the project the artist will be responsible for subcontracting fabrication, installation, transportation and travel costs.

BUDGET DESCRIPTION

Total budget: \$600,000

- Payment Schedule:
- First payment draw: \$150,000
- Second draw, 1/3rd complete: \$150,000
- Third draw, 2/3rd complete : \$150,000
- Fourth draw, complete: \$150,000



SELECTION CRITERIA

Artwork will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Artist merit and technical expertise
- Demonstrated successful, innovative and effective approach to architectural, design and public art projects of a similar scope
- Ability to successfully execute project in a culturally rich and complex area
- Express interest in creating artwork for the opportunities presented by this request for qualifications

REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS

- Statement of Interest: In one page using no smaller than 10 pt font, address the conceptual approach of the project; aspects of the site that are of interest; how you would engage the public; and, how the project will contribute to your existing body of work.
- Résumé that outlines professional accomplishments (maximum 2 pages per person). Include three professional references (name, affiliated organization, email address and phone number).
- Past work samples with a list of works submitted for review that includes title, location, date completed/performed, media, brief description of the project/conceptual information, and budget (if applicable).

TIMELINE

Questions:

- Questions and requests for clarification regarding this RFQ must be directed in writing to the contact person listed below. The deadline for submitting such questions/clarifications is shown below. All responses that are material in nature will be shared with all registered firms/artist teams.

For Questions, Please Contact:

- Emily Fisher,

Cultural Affairs Outreach Specialist

EAfisher@AtlantaGA.gov

How to Apply:

- Photos, drawings and the RFQ can be viewed at *INSERT LINKS*

Proposals due:

- Electronic qualifications must be received no later than **12AM April 2, 2018**. Proposals received after **12AM April 2, 2018** shall not be considered. Proposals received after the scheduled deadline for filing will not be opened.

Schedule Dates:

- **March 1, 2018:** RFQ issued
- **March 19, 2018:** Deadline for submitting questions
- **April 2, 2018:** Qualifications due
- **April 9, 2018:** Evaluation of Qualifications
- **April 12, 2018:** Artist or artist team selected to submit proposals
- **May 28, 2018:** Team Presentation/Interviews via skype
- **June 4, 2018:** Artist or artist team selected and announced
- **January 25, 2019:** Anticipated completion and installation of final artwork

GENERAL LOCATION ON MLK JR. DRIVE

