



Great Falls
Business Improvement District
Call to Artists
Traffic Signal Box Art Project



Submission Deadline: Friday, March 10, 2023 3:00pm

THE PROJECT:

The Great Falls Business Improvement District (BID) would like to invite artists residing in Cascade County to apply for a public art project to create public art on traffic signal boxes (TSB) located in Downtown Great Falls. The goal of the project is to use local traffic signal boxes as “canvasses,” greatly enhancing Downtown Great Falls’ visual surroundings. All TSB’s to be completed during the summer of 2023 will be installed by the Clean Slate Group, utilizing a vinyl application. Artists will be submitting their designs to the BID and Clean Slate Group will then create a digital image and do the installation.

Art should cover all exposed sides and top of the box. In addition, artists should be aware that the concrete bases may be painted in a solid color or colors complimentary to the design, if the artist should choose to do so. Designs should take into consideration that the TSB will be visible for short glimpses by passing vehicles and some will have more pedestrian traffic than others.

LOCATIONS:

The Great Falls Business Improvement District, working in partnership with the City of Great Falls Public Works Department, would like to complete the signal box located at: 2023 Proposed TSB Locations include:

1 traffic signal box on the northwest corner of 2nd Avenue North and Central Avenue

ARTIST’S AWARD:

Selected artists will be awarded \$150 as a commission for their artwork. The commission shall be full compensation for the work, all rights granted, services rendered, travel and all supplies, materials and equipment used by Artist to design, execute, and fabricate the work. The total budget includes all materials and artist’s labor, as applicable.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY:

The project is open to artists residing in Cascade County. All eligible applicants, regardless of race, sex, religion, nationality, origin or disability, will be considered. If you are unsure about eligibility, contact the BID before applying. Emerging artists are encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION PROCESS & DESIGN CRITERIA:

- Artwork **MUST BE ORIGINAL**, and **MAY NOT** be work that has been sold or reproduced in any way.
- Artists **MUST** reside in Cascade County.
- Use the template provided to propose a design concept. **NOTE:** changes to the design may be required to accommodate site requirements.
- Design **MUST** include all visible sides of the TSB and top.
- Designs **MUST NOT** contain any representations of traffic lights, signs or signals.
- If the design is to include text, it **MUST** be included with the design concept. TSB's **MAY NOT** be used for advertisement or to promote a business, product or viewpoint.
- Designs **MAY NOT** include any breach of intellectual property, trademarks, brands, images of illegal activity or involve the attachment of any object(s) to the box.
- Because this program aims to deter graffiti vandalism, designs should not mimic or take the style of graffiti.
- The finished artwork will be in the public domain and therefore may be subject to vandalism. Accordingly, artists should be thoughtful about having large open areas in the design – for example, large areas of a single color might give a vandal the perfect spot to deface the work.
- Designs may not obstruct functionality of the traffic signal box.

GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSALS:

The Traffic Signal Box Art Project is designed to enhance Downtown Great Falls by adding works of art to the streetscape on surfaces that can be targeted by graffiti vandals. Artwork on TSBs functions as a form of communication to a moving audience with the goal of creating a safe, inclusive and interesting environment. Successful proposals will foster community pride and convey the sense of community. When designing your artwork, think of the relevance of the image to the project site and its users (pedestrians, commuters and neighborhood citizens). Consider what makes Great Falls and Downtown Great Falls unique: the arts, history, music, community events, recreational opportunities, and special attractions.

Artists should understand that the finished work will be on functioning equipment that will need repair or replacing at some point in time. As such, the City of Great Falls or MDT cannot guarantee how long each TSB will be in use.

THE SELECTION PROCESS:

All artwork selected will be major public art commissions. As such, the BID expects it to be of the highest quality in both concept and execution, while recognizing public safety and durability.

The BID will review applications for completeness. In addition, the Selection Committee will include representatives from the BID, the City of Great Falls, MDT, the Downtown Great Falls Association, the Great Falls Police Department, and private citizens. Applications will be evaluated on the basis of artistic and technical merit as well as relevance of proposed design. The Selection Committee will review all materials received by the specified deadline for content, completeness, qualifications, experience and references.

PROJECT TIMELINE:

Friday, March 10, 2023 3:00pm Submission Deadline

Complete submission packets to include 3-dimensional model are to be received by the BID no later than 3:00pm. All models must be delivered to the BID office at 318 Central Avenue.

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Works judged by selection committee

Friday, March 17, 2023

Finalists announced

The Selection Committee may schedule interviews with finalists through conference calls or personal interviews, if deemed necessary.

Sometime after May 1, 2023

Weather permitting, TSB artwork installation shall be completed by the Clean Slate Group.

The BID reserves the right to change the project timeline.

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

For artists to be considered the following information must be submitted in person or electronically via email (.pdf format). Submittal paperwork may be emailed to: info@greatfallsbid.com (Great Falls Business Improvement District). Subject: TSB Project. CD's and models of your information may also be mailed/delivered to: TSB Project, GF Business Improvement District, 318 Central Avenue, Great Falls MT 59401. NOTE: ALL models must be delivered to the BID office. 3-D models of selected artwork become the property of the BID.

1. Proposal Description/Project Description (attached – limited to one page – 8 ½” x 11”) explaining concept and design and how artist proposes to approach this project (one page maximum).
2. Completed Application form (attached), including:
 - a. Examples of artwork images
 - b. Contact information for two professional references with artist's name at the top
3. Five (5) images illustrating examples of your best works (.pdf format). It is suggested that these pieces have relevance to public commissions. Each piece of documentation must be clearly identified with the artist's name, title of work, size, installation location, if appropriate, and numbered to correspond with an attached annotated list. DO NOT provide website addresses or links directing the Selection Committee to examples of your work. It is the responsibility of each Artist to select the five (5) works which best illustrate their capabilities.
4. Current resume detailing your experience as an artist and any past public art projects (please, no more than three pages). NOTE: Additional support materials may be submitted that relate to the artist's past public art experience.
5. 3-D scale model using the template provided. Please note: A scale model depicting the finished artwork as accurately as possible IS REQUIRED for all submittals.
6. A high-resolution digital image of the 2-D version of the artwork.

Artists may submit up to two design proposals. A statement and scale model for each design must be submitted; only one resume will be necessary.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

**Applications with 3-D models must be received by Friday, March 10, 2023.
Late and incomplete submissions will not be considered.**

INFORMATION/QUESTIONS:

Questions related to this proposal may be directed to:
Great Falls Business Improvement District
(406) 727-5430

Email: kellie@greatfallsbid.com Subject: TSB Project

DISCLOSURE:

The Great Falls Business Improvement District reserves the right at any time to supplement, amend or otherwise modify this solicitation and to request additional or supplemental information or proposals from any or all participating artists. In addition, the BID reserves the right to accept or reject, at any time prior to commissioning of a work, any or all proposals or any part thereof submitted in connection with this solicitation; to waive any defect or technicality; and to advertise for new proposals where the acceptance, rejection waiver, or advertisement would be in the best interest of the BID. The BID also reserves the right to negotiate unacceptable provisions incorporated within an otherwise acceptable proposal. A proposal which is incomplete, unclear, conditional or which contains irregularities of any kind, may be rejected without evaluation.

Failure to comply with proposal requirements described in the prospectus will constitute an invalid application.

APPLICATION
Great Falls Business Improvement District
Traffic Signal Box Art Project

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ ALT PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

IMAGE IDENTIFICATION (five examples of your most representative works):

Complete this chart for image identification. Be sure to write the same number/title on your image.

TITLE	MEDIUM	SIZE	DATE COMPLETED
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

PROFESSIONAL ART REFERNCES

NAME	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
1.		
2.		

CHECKLIST:

Artists must submit the following information electronically. Application materials may be emailed to: kellie@greatfallsbid.com (Great Falls Business Improvement District) Subject: TSB Project

ALL MODELS MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE BID OFFICE – 318 Central Avenue

- Completed Application Form
- Proposal/Project Description
- Current Resume
- Five (5) images illustrating examples of your most representative works
- 3-Dimensional model of your design proposal
- High resolution digital image of the 2-D version of the artwork

DESIGN TEMPLATE
Great Falls Business Improvement District
Traffic Signal Box Art Project

This is a diagram of a typical utility box showing four sides and the top. Use this template as a guide to create your scale model in your chosen material (e.g., paper, cardboard, foam core, etc.). Your 3-dimensional model should measure a minimum of 12" in height. Replicate your design in all artistic aspects (e.g., hue, intensity, etc.) to accurately represent the finished artwork. Note: Actual utility boxes vary in size and shape. Please be prepared to adjust your artwork to fit the box you are assigned.

