

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) - Our Town Public Art Project at Chollas Creek

Background

Founded in 1995, Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation (JCNI) is a place-based nonprofit organization that works in partnership with the Jacobs Family Foundation and residents of the City of San Diego's Diamond neighborhoods. As a partner in community change, the JCNI is part of a caring community where people are responsible to each other, where all cultures are embraced, and where residents create the future they envision. JCNI believes that for change to be sustainable, residents must own the vision, plans, and assets leading to the transformation of 60 acres of mostly undeveloped land into a vibrant cultural destination.

Project Description

Over a two-year period, JCNI will undertake an open competitive process to commission an artist to create and install a permanent, site-specific artwork for the 2.6 acre linear urban park that follows a newly restored section of Chollas Creek, the Our Town Public Art Project at Chollas Creek. This project is a collaboration with the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture and is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

The project supports city and community planning efforts to revitalize the creek, which runs from the headwaters in La Mesa through the Diamond Neighborhoods and on to the San Diego Bay. Following a period of urbanization, freeway construction, and extensive channelization which led to pollution, crime, and vagrancy in the watershed, Chollas Creek is now recognized as a valuable asset, and the proposed project aligns with plans to establish an urban regional park linking trails, parks, open space, and bikeways along its 32-mile length.

The park is located across from a retail and residential plaza at the intersection of Euclid Avenue and Market Street, the area's main transit hub. The proposed artwork will be seen by visitors and residents that utilize the area for recreation and leisure, and will encourage a sense of civic pride, creating a vibrant, historic, geographic, and symbolic focal point. The Our Town Public Art Project at Chollas Creek also builds upon JCNI's history of artistically focused community engagement and JCNI's new development based on the Town Center Master Plan which calls for almost 800 homes and 200,000 square feet of commercial and retail space. The artwork will be part of an open space at the heart of this new development.

Through a planning process the 2012 *Art + Design Plan*, in collaboration with the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture and supported in part by an award from the NEA, identified values and themes to be expressed through the arts. The *Cultural* theme calls for the reflection of various heritages through common art forms. The *Natural* element emphasizes Chollas Creek as the unifying element for development. The plan recognized that a wealth of *Traditional and Contemporary* knowledge exists along with progressive ideas and that the artwork should be *Inspirational* and introduce new creative ideas to attract visitors to the area. The Our Town Public Art Project at Chollas Creek will build on JCNI's *Activating the Creek through Art and Sustainable Design Plan*, partially funded by the NEA Art Works and State of California Urban Greening grants. Relevant documents can be found on the following links:

[Public Art RFQ](#)

[Town Center Master Plan](#)

[Art and Design Plan](#)

[Activating the Creek through Art and Sustainable Design Plan](#)

[Dropbox link for RFQ Responses](#)

Scope of Work

The artist selected for the Chollas Creek Public Art Project is expected to design, fabricate, transport and install a permanent, site-specific artwork at the site within the given project budget and the given project timeline.

Eligibility

Any professional artist or artist team authorized to work in the United States is eligible to apply, regardless of race, gender, age, belief, or national origin, with no limitations of geographic boundaries. Teams may include cross-disciplinary members (architects, landscape architects, etc.), but an artist must serve as the team leader. Individuals with conflicts of interest are not eligible for contract awards under this solicitation.

Estimated Budget

The estimated budget is **approximately \$70,000 for artwork design, fabrication, and installation**. The budget is all-inclusive and must cover all costs associated with the artwork design and realization of the artwork, including all travel expenses.

Project Schedule

Issue RFQ	January 12, 2018
Pre-submittal Meeting(s)	January 30, 11 am and 1 pm, site tour noon
Application Due Date	February 16, 2018 - Noon PST
Shortlist Determination	March 2018
Notification	March 2018
Contract Negotiation with Finalists	March 2018
Artwork Concept Proposal Development	April/May 2018
Selection and Notification	May 2018
Contract Negotiation with Selected Artist	June 2018
Notice to Proceed	July 2018

Project Goals

- Create an artwork that is visually stimulating and responsive to the site and community
- Comply with established design themes and concepts in JCNI's public art planning documents.
- Feature a sustainable and context sensitive design
- Design artwork for universal pedestrian access, safety, vandal resistance and ease of maintenance
- Create an artwork that is truly unique, iconic and could only occur in the Encanto Neighborhoods

Artist Selection Process, Panel and Criteria

A panel appointed by JCNI will review and evaluate applications utilizing the artist selection criteria. The panel will be comprised of community members and visual art/design experts. The panel will create a shortlist of up to three of the most qualified artists to develop artwork proposals. Each finalist will enter into an agreement with JCNI to develop an artwork concept proposal that includes an itemized budget, scale model and renderings, and an in-depth project description. For this, they will each be paid an honorarium of \$3,000. This stipend includes one community engagement meeting and all travel expenses: hotel, transportation, mileage, for both the site visit and the subsequent final presentation meeting. Finalists will not be reimbursed separately for travel costs. Based on this evaluation, the panel will recommend one artist for the contract award. If the recommendations of the panel are approved by JCNI, the selected artist or artist team will enter into a contract with JCNI for the commission. The commissioned artwork will be owned and maintained by JCNI.

Artist Selection Criteria

- Professionalism and experience working in the field of public art
- Proven track record of success
- Project management experience and technical expertise
- Demonstrated ability to work with community members and other artists in design development
- Understanding of the historic value or cultural heritage of place
- Ability to meet timelines and budget requirements

Submission Requirements

JCNI will conduct the application process online, with all materials submitted in digital format as a single PDF to [Drop Box](#). There is no charge to the artist for applying. **The deadline for the online submittal is February 16, 2018 at noon, PST. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.**

Artists and artist teams interested in applying for the project should submit the following:

1. A letter of interest.
2. A current resume. If you are applying as a team, include all team member resumes within one document.
3. Three references including names, titles and contact information. Make sure to include references who are familiar with your community engagement experience.
4. Up to twelve digital images of relevant artwork including examples of public art projects that included community engagement. Include an annotated image list with description of each image (media, size, title, date of completion and a brief description of the artwork, if necessary.) Please do not present more than one view of artwork per image. If you wish to show a "detail", include it within the twelve (12) artwork images.

Pre-Submittal Activities

Questions: All questions regarding the RFQ shall be sent as an e-mail to: Victoria Hamilton vhamilton@jacobscenter.org. Submit questions beginning on 1/30/18 with responses ending on 2/6/18.

Pre-Submittal/Technical Assistance Meeting: The purpose of a pre-submittal/technical assistance meeting is to provide an opportunity for artists and artist teams to ask questions about this RFQ in preparation for submitting an application. Attendance at the pre-submittal meeting is optional.

The meeting will be held at 11 am and again at 1 pm with a tour of the site scheduled for noon on Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, 404 Euclid Avenue, San Diego, CA 92114. Please RSVP to Victoria Hamilton vhamilton@jacobscenter.org by 1/23/18.

Conditions for Submission

JCNI reserves the right to reject, in whole or in part, any responses to this RFQ, to not accept any artist recommended by the panel, to initiate an alternate selection process, to reissue the RFQ and/or cancel this RFQ, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice and makes no representation that any agreement will be awarded to any artist. Additionally, the JCNI expressly reserves the right to postpone opening responses to this RFQ for its own convenience, and/or to waive minor informalities or irregularities in the responses received.

JCNI reserves the right to revise this RFQ by addendum. JCNI is bound only by what is expressly stated in this RFQ and any authorized written addenda thereto. Addenda will be posted on JCNI's website. It shall be the artist's responsibility to check the website up to the final submission date for any possible addenda.

JCNI accepts no financial responsibility for any costs incurred by artists. JCNI reserves the right to propose modifications to the scope of services during the contract negotiation phase between JCNI and the contract awardee. JCNI is not responsible for the loss or damage of any materials submitted.

California Public Records Act

By submitting an application, artists acknowledge and comply with the California Public Records Act.

Eligibility Restrictions

Elected officials, commissioners, board members, committee members, agents, officers and employees of JCNI and City of San Diego and their business partners or their immediate family members are not eligible for a contract award under this RFQ.

Equal Opportunity Contracting

JCNI will not do business with any artist that discriminates on the basis of race, gender, gender expression, gender identity, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, or disability in the solicitation, selection, hiring, or treatment of subcontractors, vendors, or suppliers.

Insurance Requirements

Any artist selected to enter into contracts with JCNI may be asked to obtain, at the artist's sole cost and expense, all insurance required by JCNI. The artist may be asked to refrain from working until such insurance has been approved by JCNI.

Business Tax Certificate

Any artist selected to enter into contracts with JCNI may be asked to obtain, at the artist's sole cost and expense, a City of San Diego business tax certificate.

Drug-Free Workplace Policy

Although not required for submittal in the application, the selected artist will be required to comply with the City of San Diego's Drug-Free Workplace requirements set forth in Council Policy 100-17, adopted by San Diego Resolution R-277952.

Prevailing Wage

The selected artist will be required to comply with federal, state and local rules and regulations as it relates to prevailing wage.

Exhibits:

A – Location Map

B – Creek Area Plan

C – Photographs of Chollas Creek



Commission for
Arts and Culture



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Exhibit A – Location Map: Northwest Corner Euclid Avenue and Market Street, San Diego, CA 92114

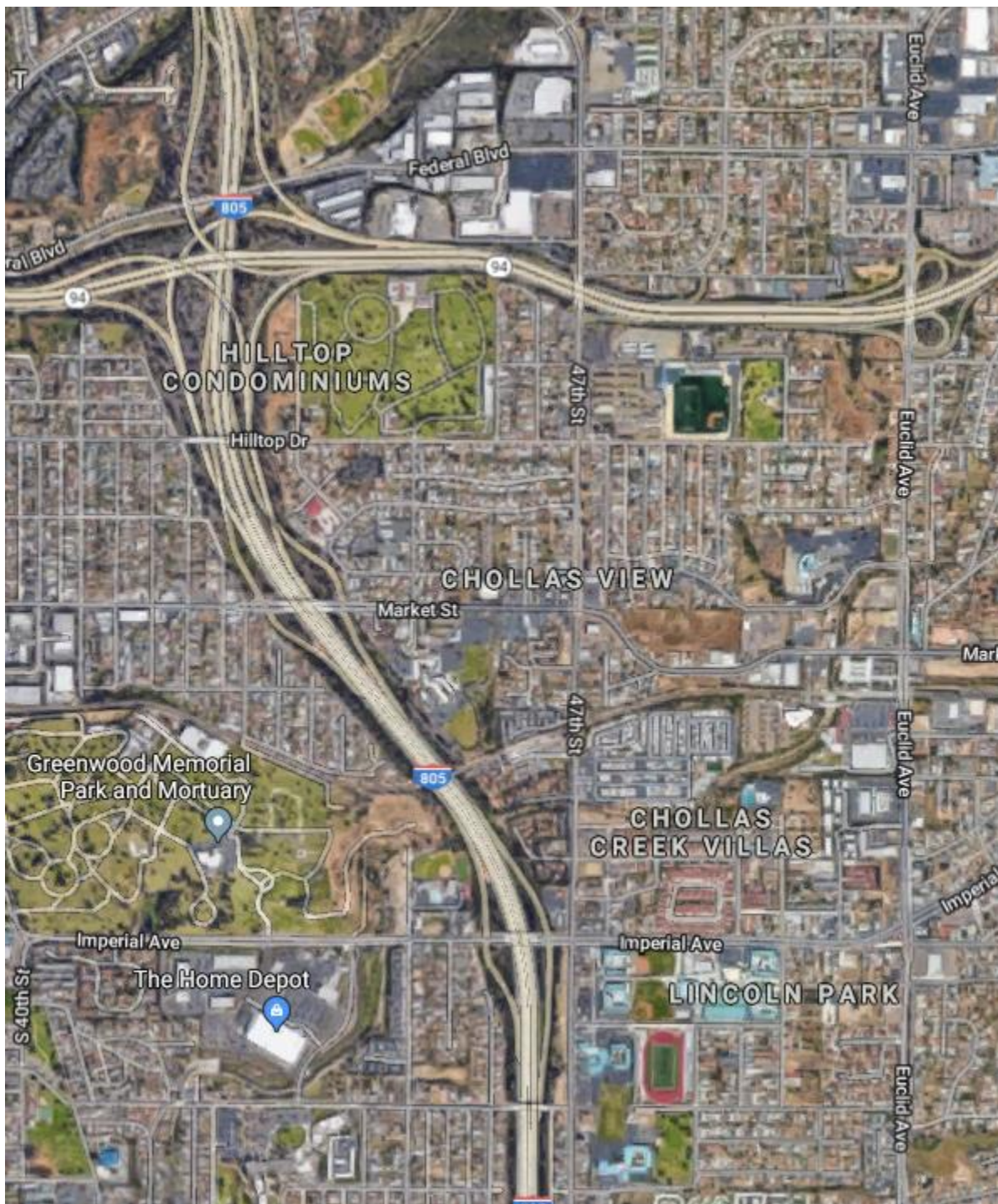


Exhibit B – Creek Area Plan, area available for art installation

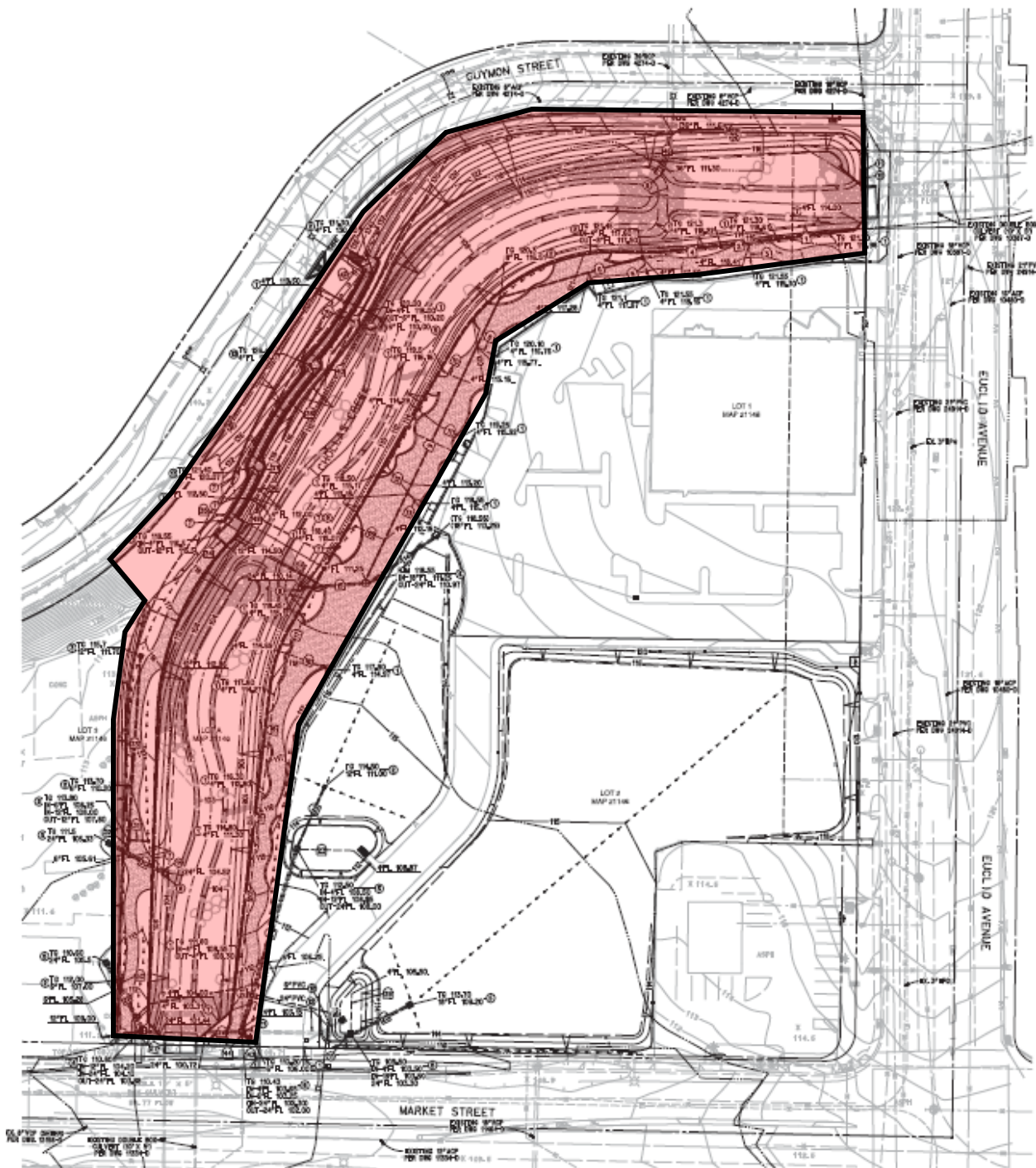


Exhibit C – Photographs of Chollas Creek

