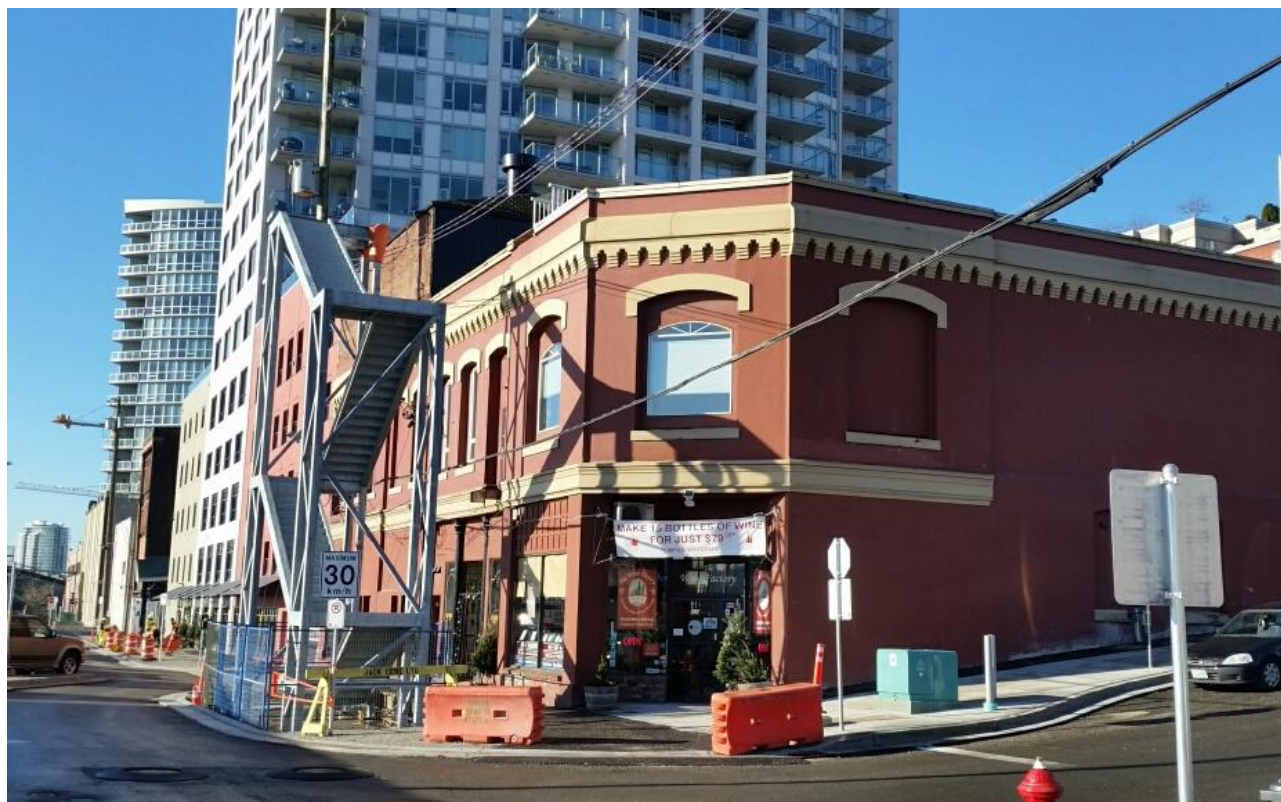


REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST



OPPORTUNITY

Fire Escape Stairs at 642 Columbia Public Art Integration

Deadline for Submissions: March 1, 2018 4:30pm PST

Budget: \$70,000 (The artwork budget must be inclusive of all costs including but not limited to artist fees, studio overhead, consultant fees (structural, electrical, etc.), artwork fabrication, site preparation, travel, transportation, traffic control, installation, all taxes and general liability insurance.)

INTRODUCTION

Located at the centre of lower mainland, New Westminster is the oldest city in Western Canada and the first capital of British Columbia. In 2012, the City of New Westminster adopted its first Public Art Policy which lays out the foundation for creating a critical and engaging Public Art Program. The Policy aims to create a dynamic visual expression in the urban landscape. The specific goals are to be diverse and inclusive, to animate New Westminster's public realm and draw attention to the city as a vital municipality which promotes arts, culture and tourism.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The demolition of the Western portion of the Front Street parkade in 2016 required removal of the existing ramps and stairs linking two buildings (600 and 642 Columbia Street) to the parkade structure. After removal of the old connections, new fire egress stairways were required to be installed for these buildings.

An opportunity exists to create a public art or design aesthetic enhancement to Fire Exit Stairs at 642 Columbia Street. The intervention should activate the stairwell with an innovative and interactive public art work. The artist will be responsible for design, fabrication and installation of the artwork. The objectives of the project are:

- To enhance the appearance of the staircase and add to the overall attractiveness of the public space around the structure
- To develop a sense of place, community pride and identity through the creation of the public art work
- To create a contemporary and innovative art installation that inspires residents and visitors
- To integrate programmable, multimedia or new media component such as light or sound

PROJECT FEATURES

The stairs are free-standing (i.e. are not attached to the adjacent building for structural support) and provide emergency egress for a three story historic building. There are 62 risers in total, 4 landings and a 1070mm high guardrail on either side. The stairs are industrial in scale and materiality, galvanized steel with metal-mesh sides and non-slip treads. An electrical conduit stub-out has been included in the construction of the stairs and may be used for as part of the proposed design intervention. Technical drawings accompany this call or can be downloaded here: <https://www.newwestcity.ca/services/arts-and-heritage/art-services#opportunities-for-artists>

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

This project is open to professional artists and artist teams. Qualified artists will have experience working collaboratively with other professional disciplines. City of New Westminster Council, staff and the City's Public Art Advisory Committee members, selection panel members, project personnel and immediate family members are not eligible to apply.

ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS

This is a two-step process and will be undertaken by a Selection Panel. The Selection Panel will be comprised of individuals representing the following areas: Design Team Member, New Westminster Public Art Advisory Committee, Arts Professional, Community Member and local Business Owner. The commission is subject to final approval by City Council.

Phase I - Expressions of Interest

The Artist Selection Panel will review all eligible Expressions of Interest submissions with the goal of short-listing three candidates for further consideration. The submissions will be reviewed using the following creative criteria:

Images: Previous work is refined, high quality, architectural, creative, and original.

Context: Previous work demonstrates ability to explore a variety of themes, site applications and technical compatibility.

Project Fit: Potential for distinctive site specific response to the project challenges from a both creatively & practically.

Availability: Artist's ability to fabricate and deliver a project within the scheduled timeframe.

Phase II – Short-listed Artist's Concept Development & Presentation (up to 3 artists)

Once identified, the short-listed artists will be invited to prepare a concept proposal for presentation to the Selection Panel and will receive a presentation fee in the amount of \$500.00. The short-listed

presentations will be reviewed and decisions made based on eligibility and creative criteria as outlined in this Call. However, if no submission warrants consideration, the Selection Panel reserves the right not to award the commission.

PROJECT SCHEDULE*

Submission Deadline Expressions of Interest.....	March 1, 2018
Shortlisted artists contacted.....	March 7, 2018
Deadline for concept developments submissions.....	April 6, 2018
Artist Interviews and Presentations.....	April 16, 2018
PAAC Meeting for Recommendation.....	May 3, 2018
Council Meeting for Approval.....	May 7, 2018
Artist Contracting.....	May 10, 2018
Complete Installation	July 1, 2018

*Schedules are subject to change

ARTWORK BUDGET

The total budget available to artist(s) team is \$70,000.00. The artwork budget must be inclusive of all costs including (but not limited to) artist fees, studio overhead, consultant fees (structural, electrical, etc.), artwork fabrication, site preparation, travel, transportation, installation, all taxes and general liability insurance.

SUBMISSION MATERIALS

(1) One page letter of interest

Provide perspective on the artist’s practice and specific interest in this project. Please do not provide a concept at this time.

Current CV (3 page maximum)

Provide your name, address, phone number, email address and details of all experience related to public artwork and other relevant information.

Up to 10 images of recent work

Up to 10 digital images showing previous examples of public art created by the artist(s). Provide the following information to support the images: title, date completed, medium, location and commission value.

Submission Deadline: March 1, 2018 4:30pm PST

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Submissions may be provided to the City either by email, uploaded to the City’s FTP site, or delivered in hard copy, on or before the deadline for submissions, as follows:

a) Email:

If the Artist chooses to submit by email, the Artist must submit their information electronically in two pdf files (Part 1 and Part 2) to the City at nwpurchasing@newwestcity.ca

PDF emailed submissions are preferred and the City will confirm receipt of emails. Note that the maximum file size the City can receive is 10Mb. If sending large email attachments, Artists should phone

to confirm receipt. An Artist bears all risk that the City's equipment functions properly so that the City receives the submission on time.

b) FTP site upload:

<https://fileshare.newwestcity.ca/filedrop/~sS3M7G>

c) Hard Copy:

If the Artist chooses NOT to submit by email or FTP site, the Artist should submit one (1) original and one (1) copy (two in total) which must be delivered to the City in a sealed package addressed to :

Fire Escape Stairs at 642 Columbia Public Art Integration

Attn: Purchasing Manager

C/O: Main Reception Desk, City of New Westminster, 511 Royal Avenue, New Westminster, BC, V3L 1H9

Additional Information:

Biliana Velkova, BFA, MFA

Arts Coordinator, Cultural Services, Office of the CAO

City of New Westminster

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