

Salt Lake City Public Art Program

**An Iconic Public Art Installation
for Salt Lake City's West Side –
9-Line Trail
*Request for Qualifications***

Applicant Info Session

Thursday, October 28th, 2025

12:30 pm (MT)

A recording of this info session and the slides covered today will be published on our website afterwards.



Eligibility

All artists or artist-led teams **located within the United States** regardless of race, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, political opinion or affiliation, or mental or physical disability. **Strong preference will be given to artists/teams who have experience creating community-informed artwork, whether through direct collaboration with community members or by drawing meaningfully from community-driven input and cultural context.**

Artist-led team applications are welcomed. **Each team must be led by a person with a demonstrated history of professional activity as an artist.** Teams may not substitute team members after submission unless the Public Art Program consents to any proposed substitution.

An artist may not apply as a member of more than one team and may not apply as an individual artist if already applying as a team – one person/one application.

Introduction

Public art project located on the 9-Line Trail,
west of the I-15 underpass
Salt Lake City, UT | [City Council District 2](#)

The 9-Line Trail is a multi-use pathway stretching across Salt Lake City, connecting neighborhoods, supporting recreation and active transportation, and fostering community gathering. As highlighted in various masterplans and other supporting documents, several areas within the 9-Line Trail present opportunities for public art that celebrates the diversity and vibrancy of the West Side. The trail links open spaces and neighborhoods, offering a framework for art that strengthens community identity and civic pride.

This public art opportunity seeks to commission **an iconic public art installation(s) for the West Side**. The selected artist or team will be responsible for developing their design and concepts in close collaboration with SLC's West Side communities, who have expressed a desire **for an artwork that fosters a sense of community and belonging and reflects their shared values**.



CALL FOR ARTISTS

Request for Qualifications
Public Art

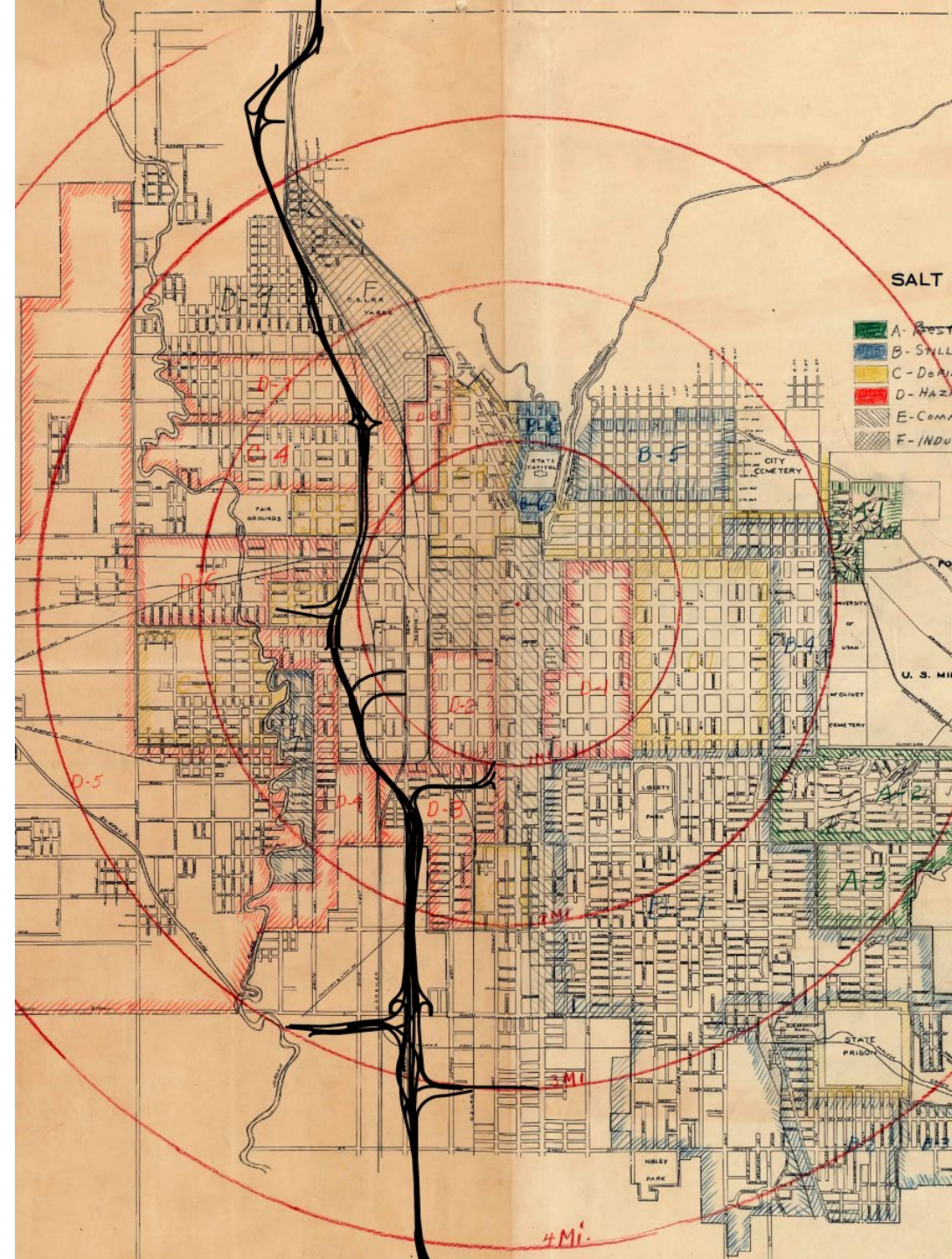
9-Line Trail
SLC West Side



Project Background

Overview of Salt Lake City's West Side

- Historically home to the Shoshone and Ute tribes; later a primary entry point for immigrants from Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America, the Pacific Islands, Africa, and the Middle East, as well as African Americans.
- **Includes neighborhoods:** Rose Park, Glendale, Westpointe, Fairpark, Poplar Grove, Jordan Meadows. Represented by Council Districts 1 & 2.
- **Culturally rich:** diverse religious, architectural, organizational, and business traditions; vibrant festivals and community life.
- **Challenges:** low-wage employment, rising housing costs, involuntary displacement, delayed infrastructure and public health improvements, lingering effects of redlining.
- **Physical divisions** like railroad tracks and Interstate 15 have contributed to **disparities** between West and East sides.
- Nearly half of residents identify as Latiné/x.



Mayor's Initiative & Community Engagement

Community-informed public art

- In 2023, Mayor Erin Mendenhall launched a goal to commission “iconic” public artworks for the West Side, grounded in community input and reflective of residents’ values of belonging, identity, and resilience. Engagement methods included:
 - Online surveys
 - In-person interactions
 - Community conversation event at Glendale Branch Library
- In summer 2024, the Salt Lake City Public Art Program released the first phase of this project and released a [Request for Qualifications for Glendale Park](#). This public art project is similar to 9-Line Trail RFQ in terms of scale and scope.
- In early 2025, [Matthew Mazzotta announced as the commissioned artist for Glendale Park](#) (2025):
 - Additional engagement was conducted to understand residents’ perspectives on place, identity, and belonging—not artwork-specific, but foundational for guiding public art on the West Side.
 - Feedback from Glendale Park and ongoing conversations across neighborhoods informed the structure, goals, and priorities for the 9-Line Trail public art commission.



AN ICONIC PUBLIC ART INSTALLATION FOR SALT LAKE CITY'S WEST SIDE

- Funded by Salt Lake City Community Reinvestment Agency (CRA), this public art installation will:
 - Provide opportunities for West Siders to engage with public art in daily life
 - Enhance neighborhood connectivity along the 9-Line Trail
 - Celebrates the West Side's cultural richness, resilience, and unique identity, while creating an iconic public artwork along a key east-west corridor.
- 9-Line Trail commissioned artist will reference these two documents in the creation of their artwork:
 - [West Side Public Art Mayor's Goal Engagement Report \(2023\)](#)
 - [West Side Public Art Community Engagement Report \(2025\)](#)
- Artwork should be deeply community-informed, with potential for resident involvement in design, fabrication, or installation.
- Together with Glendale Park commission, these public art efforts represent a coordinated celebration of the West Side's identity, resilience, and cultural richness.

WEST SIDE PUBLIC ART PROJECT: 2023 MAYOR'S GOAL

Engagement Report
January 2024



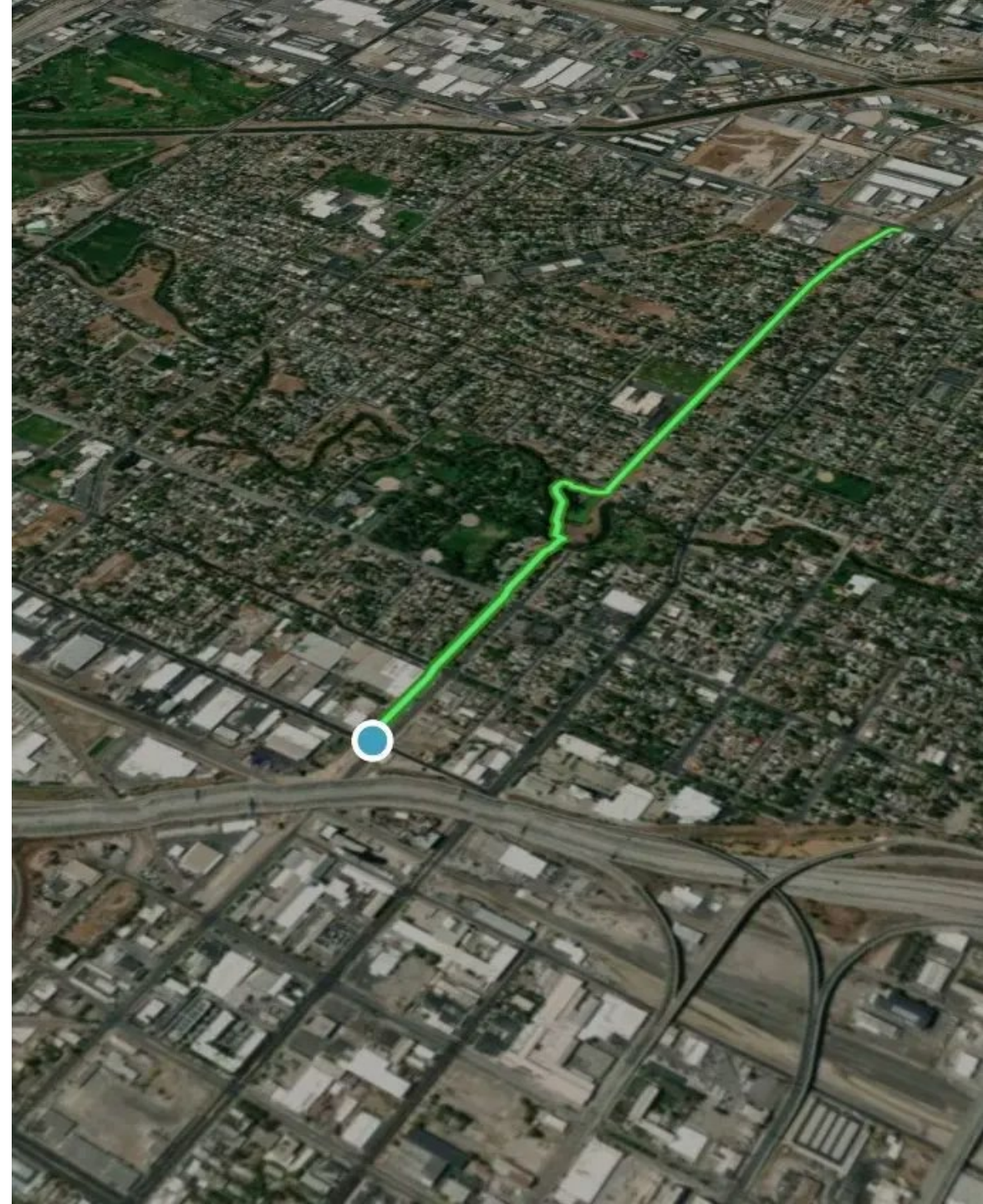
West Side Public Art Piece

Community Engagement Sessions Recap Report

Prepared by: Union Creative Agency | June 2025

Project Scope

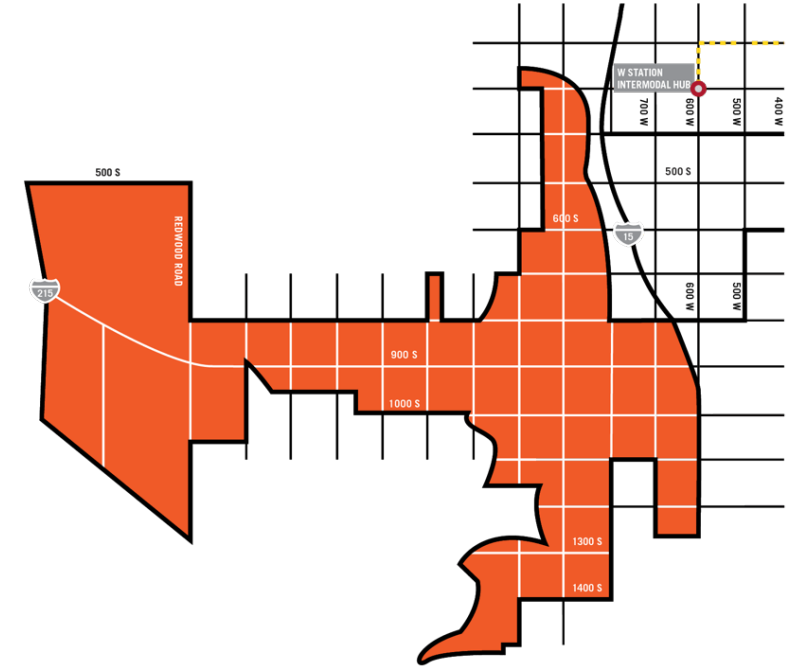
- Commission for an artist or artist-led team to create a community-informed public artwork for the West Side.
- Artwork should:
 - Reflect West Side communities' shared values
 - Foster a sense of belonging
 - Represent the culture, history, and people of the West Side
 - Serve as a landmark for the city and local neighborhoods
- Build on findings from 2023 & 2025 engagement reports; additional engagement is optional
- Artists may collaborate with local artists to strengthen community connections



Project Area and Primary Site

900 South 900 West

- Project area: public right-of-way along the 9-Line Trail west of I-15
- **Primary site:** intersection of 900 South & 900 West (major, iconic installation)
 - The artwork on this site will function as the project's anchor
- **Secondary elements:** extend the impact of the primary artwork along the trail
 - Wayfinding
 - Gateway elements
 - Small-scale activations reinforcing the main concept





Project Area and Primary Site

900 West (left, top street) & 900 South (right, left street)

[Click here to view additional site images & photos.](#)

Secondary Locations

Additional Nodes for Artist Integration

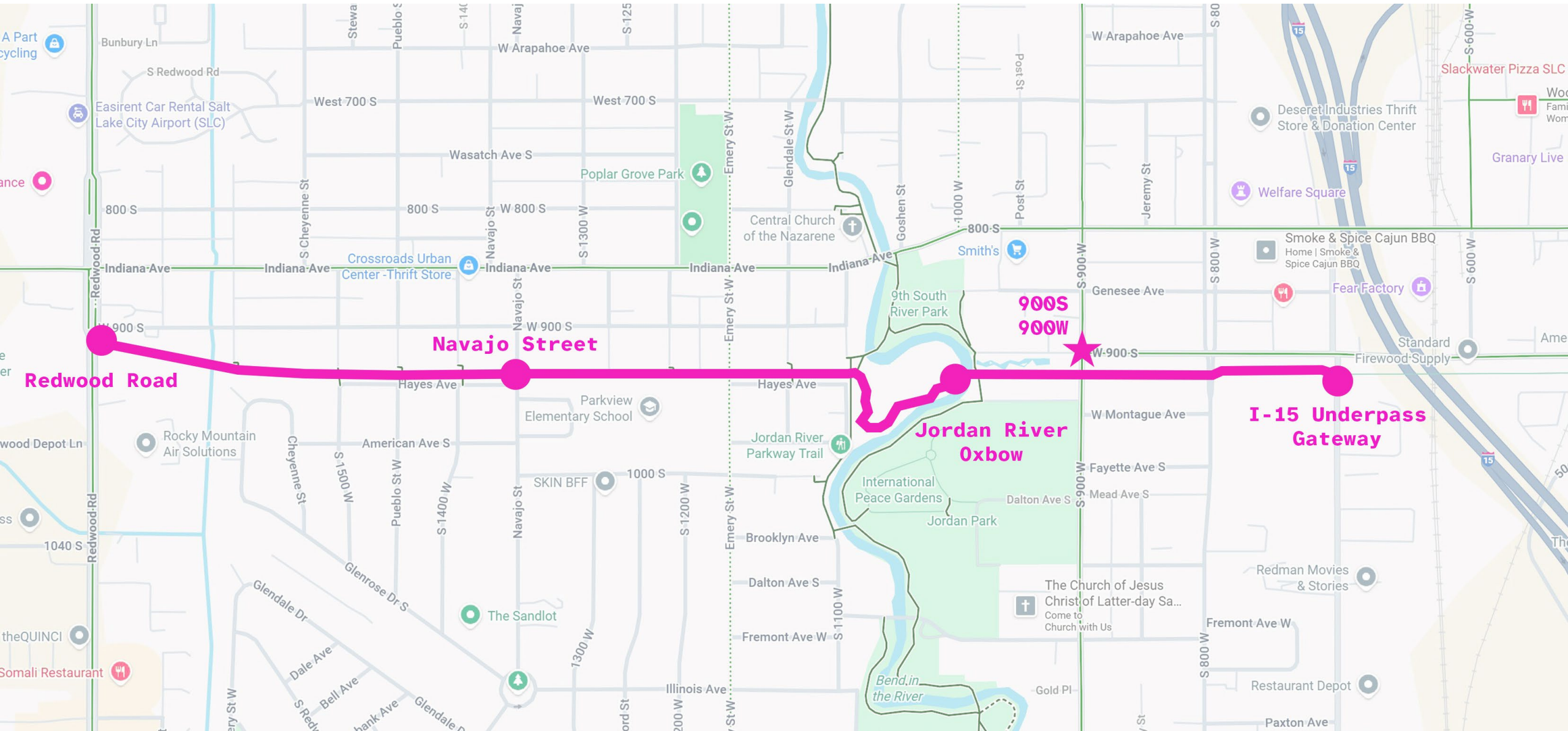
- Artists will be asked to **integrate additional artwork elements** in additional **key nodes** along the 9-Line Trail within the project area.
- Identified nodes include:
 - Redwood Road
 - Navajo Street
 - Jordan River Oxbow
 - I-15 Underpass/Gateway



- These locations are envisioned as **community hubs** where art can enhance trail identity, connectivity, and sense of place.
- Any proposed elements must:
 - Be **limited in scope** and **clearly connected** to the primary installation
 - Demonstrate **feasibility and integration** with existing infrastructure
 - Align with the **9-Line Corridor Master Plan** and the **trail's broader vision**

Secondary Locations

Additional Nodes for Artist Integration





An artwork created *with* and *for* community

The selected artist or artist-led team will be expected to:

- Create a work that **resonates deeply** with the **West Side community**, informed primarily by the community engagement reports from 2023 and 2025.
- Note that **additional engagement is not required**, though artists may choose to pursue further collaboration if it **strengthens their process** or **deepens community resonance**.
- Artists from **outside Utah** are welcome—but not required—to **collaborate with local artists** (across any discipline) to help **co-create** or **facilitate community connections** in the development of this artwork.



Artwork Goals

The Salt Lake Art Design Board seeks to commission an artist or artist-led team to create a community-informed artwork for Salt Lake City's West Side along the 9-Line Trail that meets some or all the following conceptual and aesthetic goals:

- Demonstrates a compelling artistic vision that enhances placemaking, promotes neighborhood pride, and contributes to the vibrant character of Salt Lake City's West Side;
- Reflects the diverse cultural heritage, interests, and/or stories of Salt Lake City's West Side, highlighting the unique identities and experiences of its residents or environment;
- Serves as a visible and significant landmark for the West Side, fostering a sense of belonging, inclusivity, and connection for both residents and visitors;
- Aligns with the overarching goals of the 9-Line Trail to strengthen neighborhood connections and community identity;
- Is informed through community-centered strategies that celebrate and reflect the resiliency of the West Side and its residents;
- Considers innovative and sustainable design practices that reflect the West Side's commitment to environmental stewardship and resilience;
- Demonstrates high-quality craftsmanship and attention to detail, ensuring the artwork meets all public safety, structural, and maintenance standards, including accessibility requirements and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other Salt Lake City requirements.

Budget

The inclusion of a public art installation(s) on the 9-Line Trail is provided entirely by the Salt Lake City Community Reinvestment Agency (CRA)

Commission Award

- **\$420,000** (total budget)
 - Project payments to be divided into **various payments under one commission agreement**
- Limit of 1 commission per artist or artist-led team

Commission is inclusive of:

- Artist's fees
- Supplies & materials
- Fabrication and labor
- Insurance
- Artwork transportation, shipping
- Installation of artwork on site
- Travel expenses (hotel, meals, etc.)
- Artwork engineering

Additional considerations:

- Artist should include a contingency of at least 10% of the project's commission
- This public art commission is not tied to a larger City project.
- **Artists will be responsible for all site preparations, permitting, and/or infrastructure modifications required for integration and installation of the artwork.**

Insurance Requirements

General Liability

- Commercial General Liability Insurance (CGL) with **Salt Lake City Corporation** listed as additional insured (Minimums: \$1,000,000 per occurrence / \$2,000,000.00 aggregate)

Vehicle Insurance

- Commercial Auto Insurance with **Salt Lake City Corporation** listed as additional insured (Minimums: \$100,000.00 per person/\$300,000.00 per accident/\$50,000.00 property damage or single combined limit of \$1,000,000)

Worker's Compensation

- Proof of Worker's Compensation
OR
- Apply for a Worker's Compensation Coverage Waiver

Artist Qualifications

The Salt Lake Art Design Board, in consultation with project stakeholders, will choose up to four finalists for proposal development:

The selection of an artist or artist-led team is subject to, but not limited by, the following qualifications:

- Professional experience represents a developed and successful body of site-specific public art projects of a similar scope and scale as demonstrated by visual documentation;
- Demonstrates a commitment to creating community-informed artwork that authentically reflects Salt Lake City's West Side communities, drawing from past engagement reports and cultural context;
- Experience in community-centered approaches that inform the scope and design of artwork, whether through past engagement efforts or other strategies for grounding the work in place;
- Ability to meet deadlines and budget and to perform work in a timely, professional manner;
- Willingness of the artist to consult and work collaboratively with the Salt Lake Art Design Board, project stakeholders, community members, and design & construction teams;
- Demonstrates a strong understanding of sense of place and design in a context-sensitive manner.

Finalist Process & Proposal Presentation

Finalist Expectations

- Attend a finalist meeting to learn about the project and review **detailed community engagement reports**.
- **Site visits** encouraged; finalists may also conduct **additional community outreach** if desired.
- Develop a **site-specific conceptual proposal** that includes:
 - Scaled designs, renderings, and/or models
 - Written statement outlining intent, materials, fabrication, installation, schedule, and budget
 - Description of how the artwork **reflects the diversity and values of the West Side** and **incorporates engagement findings**

Presentation & Compensation

- Proposals presented to the **Salt Lake Art Design Board** and project partners.
- Each finalist receives a **\$4,200 stipend** (inclusive of travel, research, meetings, and community engagement).
- **Proposal materials due:** Wednesday, February 26, 2026, by 5:00 PM MT.
- **Finalist presentations:** Wednesday, March 3, 2026.
- Stipend will be **deducted from the total commission budget** for the selected artist/team

Project schedule

Dates provided are estimates based upon current knowledge of preliminary project schedules and are only intended to assist artists in determining their own availability to participate. The dates below in no way represent final approved schedules and are subject to change through future iterations of design and construction phases.

RFQ SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Tuesday, November 18th, 2025 by 11:59 pm MT

No late applications will be accepted.
No exceptions!

ARTWORK PROPOSAL PRESENTATION

Artwork Proposal Presentation to Art Design Board – Weds.
March 4, 2026, 5 – 7 pm

Recommendation to Mayor for commission – March/April 2026

Artist contracting – Spring 2026

ARTWORK PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

Up to 4 finalists will be selected

If selected as a finalist, you will be notified in **early December 2025**

Required virtual finalists meeting in **mid-December 2025**

Artwork Proposal Development: **Winter 2025 - 2026**

ARTWORK FABRICATION & INSTALLATION

Artwork engineering & site integration –
Summer 2026

Artwork fabrication & installation –
Fall/Winter 2026 – Spring 2027

Installation completion & Ribbon-Cutting
– **Summer 2027**

Artist Agreements & Project Assumptions

- If selected, you will enter into two agreements with Salt Lake City:
 - The **first agreement** will be to artwork proposal development, including any additional community engagement
 - The **second agreement (Artist Commissioned Work Agreement)** will be for artwork fabrication and installation, including any additional community engagement
 - The selected artist/team must carry general liability and auto insurance and must either provide proof of Workers' Compensation Coverage or apply for a Workers' Compensation Coverage Waiver.
- Salt Lake City will retain the right to remove or relocate the artwork as may be deemed necessary in the future. The selected artist/team will retain copyright to their work but will grant Salt Lake City right to reproduction.
 - In the performance of this project under agreement with Salt Lake City, artist/team shall comply with all applicable Salt Lake City requirements, laws, codes, ordinances, and regulations.
 - The artist/team must submit engineering drawings for approval prior to the start date of artwork fabrication.
 - View a sample of [an Artist Commissioned Work Agreement](#) here.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Request for Qualifications

9-Line Trail

*A Public Art Installation
for Salt Lake City's West Side*



How to Apply



CaFÉ (CallforEntry.org)

https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=16276

- All applications must be submitted through the CaFÉ website
- There is no application fee
- Give yourself enough time to become familiar with the site if it's your first time applying (*we recommend a minimum 48 hrs. prior to deadline*)
- All application materials will be uploaded in the corresponding fields through the provided CaFÉ application linked on our website/RFQ and in this presentation
- **Any materials not specifically requested as part of this application or exceeding the maximum page length or format requirements will not be considered or reviewed by the Art Design Board and may result in disqualification. Notifications of disqualifications will not be made.**

Submission Requirements

- Artists may apply individually or as a team. Submissions that arrive on or before **11:59 pm MT on Tuesday, November 18, 2025**, and meet all the application requirements will be reviewed.
- **The applicant's full name and contact information must appear on all submitted materials.** If applying as a team, indicate the name and contact information of the team's representative. An artist may not apply as a member of more than one team and may not apply as an individual artist if already applying as a team – one person/one application.
- To be considered for this project, applicants must submit all the required materials via the [CaFÉ \(www.callforentry.org\)](https://www.callforentry.org) website. There is no application fee. No other method of submission will be accepted. Assistance using CaFÉ is available [online](#), by [email](#), or by calling 303-629-1166 during business hours.
- **DO NOT SUBMIT A PROPOSAL FOR A NEW COMMISSION AT THIS TIME.**

Application Materials

*only one application per artist/artist-led team

Pay attention to Minimums/Maximums + other format requirements before submitting!

Letter of Interest

- No more than one page or **500 words**
- Keep narrative relevant and aim to connect to the project's goals for describing previous previous body of work
- Provide examples of previous experience collaborating with community members in your artistic process. While additional engagement is not required for this project, **preference will be given to artists who can thoughtfully incorporate community voices.**

Resume / CV

- 2 pages MAX per artist, not to exceed three pages
 - *Artist Teams must submit one resume per artist, combined into one PDF*
- Current, brief, and relevant
- Try to avoid fancy fonts, colors, and pictures
- **Include two professional references**
 - *References will only be contacted during the interview process for the finalists*

Images of Work

- MINIMUM of 5 images, MAXIMUM of 10 images, up to 2 videos
- Good quality, straightforward, and are just of the artwork itself
- Title, year, medium, dimensions, location, budget, and brief description of the work
- Do NOT submit multiple images of different works in one image
- Previous proposals not realized cannot be more than 3 of the 10 images
- **Images are the primary way the quality of your work is judged**

Assistance



All questions regarding this *Requests for Qualifications (RFQ)* may only be directed to Salt Lake City Public Art Program staff at the email address listed below. Artists may be disqualified if any unsolicited contact related to this *RFQ* is made with a member of the Art Design Board or project stakeholders other than the Public Art Program staff during the selection process.

We do our best to respond to inquiries quickly, however we may not be able to respond in a timely manner during the final days prior to deadlines stated above. Please give yourself ample time to consider your participation in this project and reach out to our staff, at any stage in the process, with any questions or concerns.

Contact: publicartprogram@slc.gov

Website: <https://publicart.slc.gov/9-line-trail-rfq/>

If you do not have access to a computer or WiFi to apply, the [Salt Lake City Public Library branches](#) offer free computer and WiFi access. If you require further resources or accommodations to complete the application materials, such as translation and interpretation services to other languages, please email publicartprogram@slcgov.com for assistance.

Resources

[West Side Public Art Project: 2023 Mayor's Goal Engagement Report](#) – Developed by Salt Lake City Arts Council and Civic Engagement team, this document presents the data and stories collected throughout this engagement. This document was used as a guide in determining a project structure for the West Side commissions.

[West Side Public Art Project: 2025 Community Engagement Report](#) – Developed by the Salt Lake City Arts Council, Union Creative (community engagement consultant), and Glendale Park commissioned artist Matthew Mazzotta. This engagement was not artwork-specific but instead focused on listening deeply to residents' perspectives on place, identity, and belonging.

Plus, multiple many others in RFQ PDF for this project – See “Resources” Section on pg. 9 the end of the document.



Questions?



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Renato Olmedo-González / Salt Lake City Public Art Program

renato.olmedo-gonzalez@slc.gov

publicartprogram@slc.gov

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Request for Qualifications



*9-Line
SLC West Side*



Thank you!

For a recording of this info session, to access these slides, and review entire RFQ, please visit:

- Application page: <https://publicart.slc.gov/9-line-trail-rfq/>
- PDF: https://publicart.slc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/FINAL_9-Line-Trail-West-Side_RFQ-PDF.pdf
- Direct link to application: https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=16276