

Salt Lake City Public Art Program

Fleet Block Open Space *Request for Qualifications*

Applicant Info Session

Friday, January 23rd, 2026
12:00 pm (MT)

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



Eligibility

This Call for Artists is open to all professional 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 or teams who demonstrate the ability to create artwork that reflects values articulated through prior community engagement for the Fleet Block Open Space, including justice, equity, belonging, and collective healing. Preference will also be given to artists with experience developing projects that thoughtfully respond to a site's history, context, and community significance through collaboration with project stakeholders.

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.

Project Summary

Public art project on the southeast corner of the former Fleet Block site (approx. 320 West 900 South)
Salt Lake City, UT | [City Council District 5](#)

Salt Lake City is transforming approximately **three acres** of the former Fleet Block into a new **public open space** serving the Granary District, Central 9th, Ballpark neighborhoods, and the broader city. The site, located on the southeast corner of the block between **300 West–400 West** and **800 South–900 South**, has been the focus of **community planning and advocacy** for over a decade. Its current name reflects its historic use as the City's **fleet maintenance and operations site**, active until 2009; the block will be renamed through a future process.

This commission seeks an **artist or artist-led team** to create a **central artwork** for the open space that reflects values highlighted through extensive community engagement, including **justice, equity, belonging, and collective healing**.

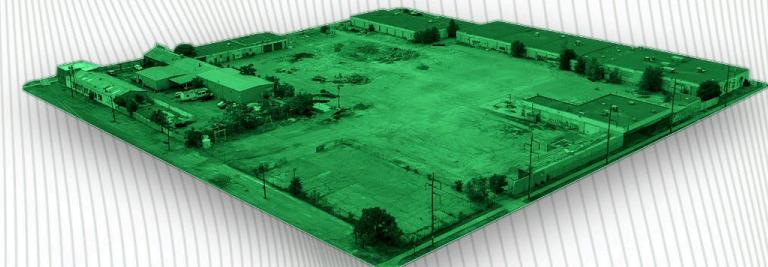
The selected artist will also help **define a conceptual framework** for future artworks by other community artists, to be commissioned separately by Salt Lake City.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Request for Qualifications

**Fleet Block
Open Space**

A Public Art Installation



Project Vision

Fleet Block Open Space

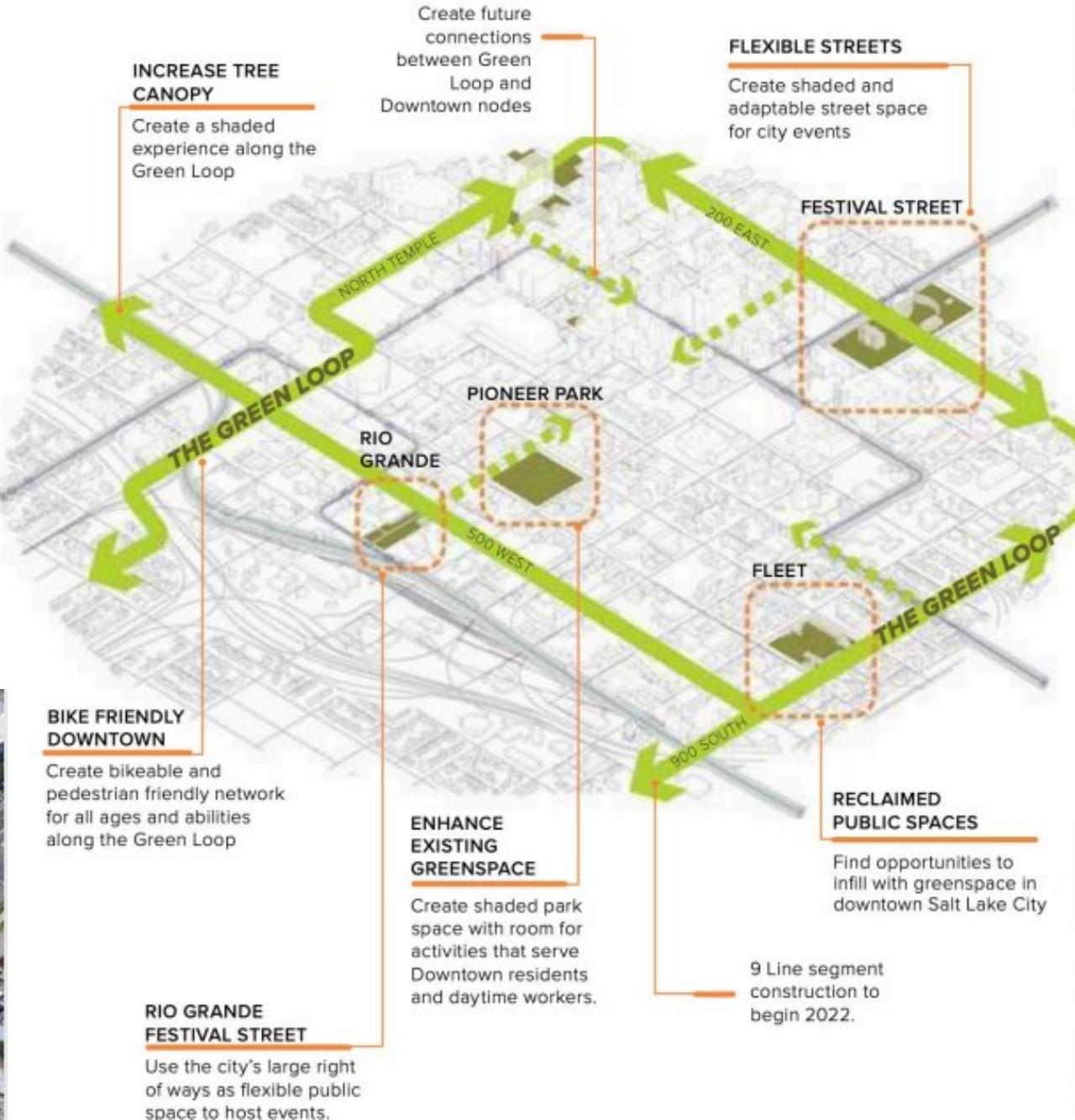
Fleet Block Open Space is envisioned as a vibrant, safe, and restorative public environment that reflects Salt Lake City's commitment to being a **welcoming, inclusive, and just city**.

- Grounded in principles of **dignity, fortitude, industry, and social justice**.
- Designed to support **gathering, reflection, and civic belonging**.
- Connects **natural, recreational, residential, commercial, and cultural spaces**.
- Intended as a space for **community presence, care, and shared civic life**.





Figure 31: Activating downtown SLC diagram.



Site History & Social Context

Fleet Block has a history tied to **community expression and social justice**.

- In 2020, following the murder of George Floyd, **temporary murals** honoring victims of harmful police interactions were created on the site by a collective of anonymous artists.
- The murals became a catalyst **for dialogue, reflection, and public conversation**.
- Although the buildings were removed in 2025 due to environmental and structural concerns, the **values, questions, and community impact** of these artworks continue to shape the project.

Salt Lake City Government and the Salt Lake City Arts Council believe that art is central to the future of Fleet Block. This commission seeks an artist whose work can invite reflection, foster connection, and help residents imagine more just, inclusive, and hopeful shared futures.

This opportunity builds on the site's legacy without prescribing a single narrative or artistic approach.



Fleet Block Murals & Relationship to This Commission

The 2020 Fleet Block murals played a powerful role in shaping public dialogue, collective mourning, and calls for social justice in Salt Lake City.

- The murals were always understood to be **temporary** and were painted on **vacant buildings later demolished** due to environmental hazards and safety concerns
- The City will **not recreate or replicate** the murals as part of this public art commission
- Instead, this opportunity seeks to **honor the broader values and impact** the murals represented — including **justice, accountability, healing, visibility, and community voice** — through a **new, forward-looking artwork**
- This commission is not intended as a memorial, but as an opportunity to support **imagination, reflection, and future-oriented civic meaning**

The murals remain publicly documented and accessible:

Fleet Block Project History:

<https://www.slc.gov/fleetblock/project-history/>

360° Virtual Tour of the Murals:

<https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=xvznohG1jAU&play=1>

Individual Mural Image Archive:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/8n6wwm9zl3ruxho7594h1/AAzHs51PSwjzrERdrYUDMg?rlkey=1armaasv7p0sxalxrhofcv6x&e=4&st=5n9u9ygs&dl=0>

FAQs about the murals:

<https://www.slc.gov/fleetblock/faqs/>

Community Engagement & Planning Framework

This project is shaped by **years of City-led community engagement** and an [ongoing planning process led by Sasaki](#), in partnership with Salt Lake City Public Lands and the Salt Lake City Arts Council.

- The City worked with **neighbors, community groups, family members of those depicted in the murals, and the broader public** to understand community hopes and aspirations for the site.
- Engagement included **virtual and in-person surveys, public meetings, and working groups**.
- Input was gathered from approximately **700 participants**.

These priorities directly inform the goals, scope, and expectations of this public art commission.

Fleet Block Public Open Space Design Principles



A place for community



A place to gather



A place to rest



A place for justice



A place of progress

Looking Forward

Public Art & Community Impact

Salt Lake City continues to engage surrounding communities while addressing **environmental remediation, site preparation, and long-term planning**.

The future Fleet Block Open Space will:

- Integrate thoughtfully designed public art
- Reflect principles of social justice and civic belonging
- Support healing, visibility, and collective memory
- Inspire residents to imagine and shape a more equitable future

A second phase of engagement for the Fleet Block Open Space will begin in the coming weeks.

Stay engaged. [Sign up for Fleet Block Updates here.](#)

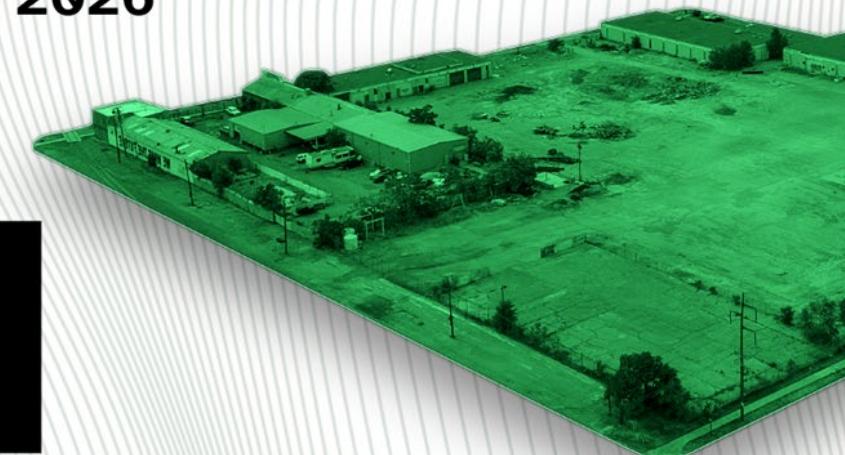
CALL FOR ARTISTS

Request for Qualifications

Fleet Block Open Space

A Public Art Installation

Deadline to Apply:
Feb 17, 2026



Project Scope

Overview | Media & Approaches

- The Salt Lake City Arts Council's Public Art Program, in collaboration with **Salt Lake City Public Lands, the Mayor's Office, and project stakeholders**, is commissioning an artist or artist-led team to create a **central public artwork** for Fleet Block Open Space.
- The artwork should reflect Salt Lake City's vision of a **welcoming, inclusive, and just community**, engaging themes such as **dignity, fortitude, industry, and civic belonging**.
- Artists are encouraged to explore **equity and justice** through **abstraction, metaphor, or experiential design**, creating a work that invites **reflection, gathering, and connection**.

Artists may work across a **wide range of media and approaches**, including but not limited to:

- Sculpture
- Environmental or land-based art
- Installation
- Environmentally responsive work
- Interdisciplinary or socially engaged practices
- Artist-designed functional or utilitarian elements

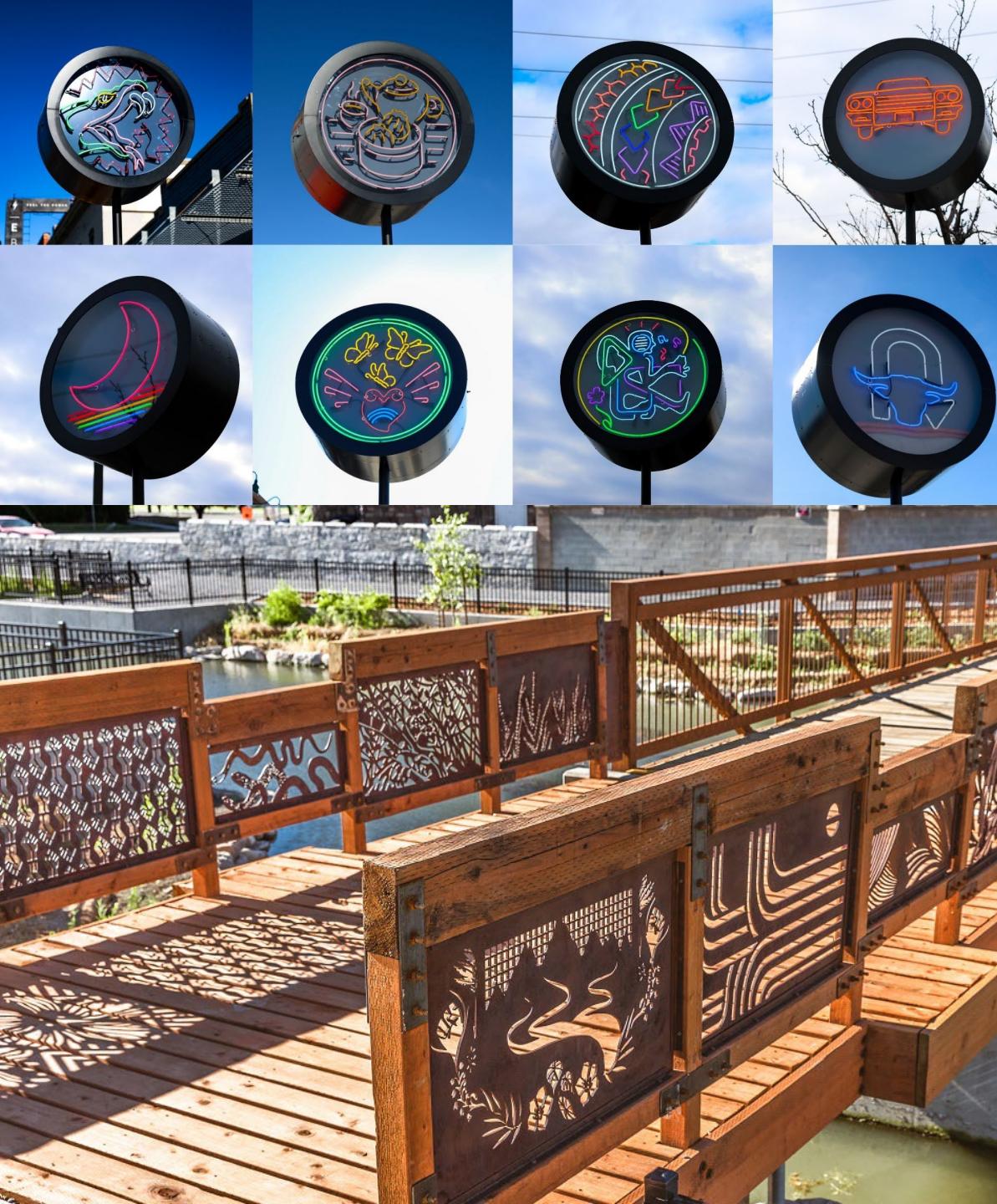
Note: Specific materials and forms will be developed during the **proposal phase** in coordination with project partners.

Project Scope

Artist Responsibilities

The selected artist or team will:

- **Design, fabricate, and install the central or anchor artwork, responding to the physical, social, and cultural context of Fleet Block while embodying values of justice, dignity, resilience, and civic belonging.**
- **Collaborate with City staff and open space designers to ensure all artistic elements are integrated harmoniously, supporting the aesthetic, functionality, and accessibility of the site.**
- **Define opportunities for future artworks by other community artists, imagining how additional interventions can interact with, respond to, and complement the anchor artwork and the entire Open Space. Artist will provide guidance or input on how these future artworks might be curated and integrated, though these subsequent commissions will be managed and funded separately by Salt Lake City.**
 - *Note: Click on the images on the right to see examples of public art commissions that SLC fabricated and installed on behalf of community artists*



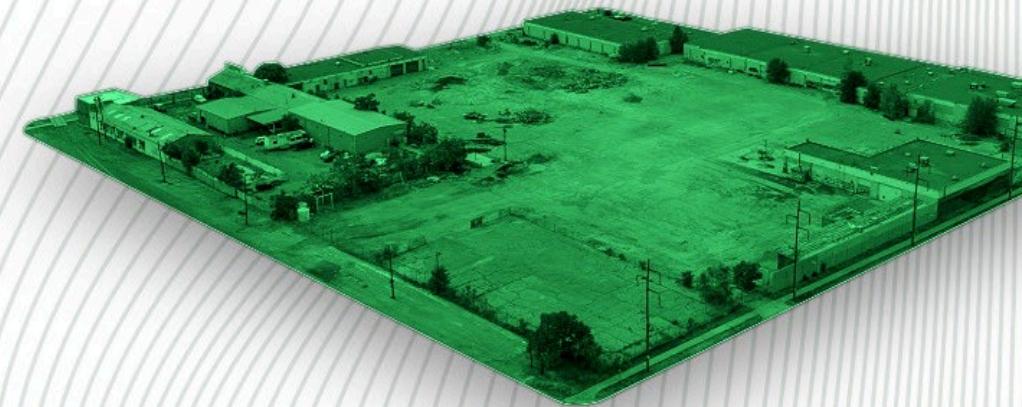
Artwork Goals

Overview

At its core, the Fleet Block Open Space public artwork should look **forward** – not to create an endpoint, but to invite reflection, connection, and imagination toward a more equitable and just future.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

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Fleet Block Open Space

A Public Art Installation

Artwork Goals

The artwork should meet some or all of the following conceptual and aesthetic goals:

- Embody a compelling, forward-looking artistic vision that reflects values of justice, resilience, and collective civic engagement, inspiring new possibilities for shared futures.
- Serve as a place of connection and belonging, supporting visibility, dignity, and care for all visitors.
- Integrate seamlessly with the site's landscape and design, enhancing the Open Space as a place to gather, reflect, and imagine a more equitable future.
- Respond thoughtfully to the physical, cultural, and historical context of Fleet Block, while inspiring dialogue, curiosity, and forward-looking perspectives.
- Present a vision for how community artists' contributions might relate to and enhance the anchor artwork, creating a cohesive and inclusive experience across the site.
- Demonstrate craftsmanship and technical excellence, ensuring long-term durability, public safety, and accessibility in accordance with City standards.
- Invite engagement, exploration, and interaction, encouraging visitors to experience the site as a welcoming and dynamic public environment.

Finalist Process & Proposal Presentation

Finalist Process & Expectations

The Salt Lake Art Design Board, in consultation with project stakeholders, will review properly submitted applications and select up to five (5) finalists for proposal development

- **Mid-March 2026:** Attend a finalist meeting to learn about the project and ask questions to project stakeholders
- Develop a **site-specific conceptual proposal** that includes:
 - Scaled designs, renderings, and/or models
 - Written statement outlining intent, materials, fabrication, installation, schedule, and budget
 - Proposals should also present a vision for how future artworks by other community artists might interact with, respond to, or complement the primary artwork as part of a cohesive site-wide approach.

Presentation & Compensation

- **Proposal materials due to Public Art Program:** Wednesday, May 27, 2026, by 5 pm MT.
- **Presentation to Salt Lake Art Design Board:** Wednesday, June 3, 2026, 5 – 7 pm MT
- Each finalist receives a **\$3,500 stipend** (inclusive of artwork development, research, meetings, and community engagement if done).
- Stipend will be **deducted from the total commission budget** for the selected artist/team

Artist Qualifications

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

- Professional experience demonstrating a well-developed and successful body of site-specific public art projects of comparable scope and scale, as evidenced through visual documentation and past work;
- Ability to create conceptually rich and contextually responsive artwork that engages the history, values, and future vision of a civic space;
- Demonstrated experience working collaboratively with project stakeholders, community representatives, and design professionals to develop integrated, meaningful, and durable public artworks;
- Capacity to articulate a cohesive artistic framework in which additional artworks by other community artists may exist in relationship to the primary artwork;
- Ability to meet deadlines and budgets and to perform work in a timely and professional manner;
- Willingness to consult with and work collaboratively with the Salt Lake Art Design Board, City staff, and project stakeholders throughout the entire artwork development process;
- Strong understanding of design within a complex urban environment and the ability to respond sensitively to site, context, and community.

Budget

This public art installation is supported by the voter-approved [Parks, Trails, and Open Space General Obligation \(GO\) Bond](#)

Commission Award

- \$350,000 (total budget)
- Limit of 1 commission per artist or artist-led team

Commission is inclusive of:

- Artist's fees
- Design collaboration with open space designers
- Supplies & materials
- Fabrication and labor
- Insurance
- Artwork transportation, shipping
- Installation of artwork on site
- Travel expenses (hotel, meals, etc.) if outside SLC metro area
- Artwork engineering

Additional considerations:

- Artist should include a **contingency of at least 10%** of the project's commission
- Artwork concepts will be **fully integrated into the site's final construction documents (CDs)**.
- Structural components such as **footings or foundations** may be included within the park's construction scope and **may not impact the artist's budget**.
- Although the selected artist will not be financially responsible for the community art component, **they should allocate a portion of their budget to support potential participation in the selection, coordination, or advisory process for additional artists**, in collaboration with the Salt Lake Art Design Board.

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

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, February 17, 2026 by 11:59 pm MT

No late applications will be accepted.
No exceptions!

ARTWORK PROPOSAL PRESENTATION

Artwork Proposal Presentation to Art Design Board –
Wednesday, June 3, 2026, 5 – 7 pm

Recommendation to Mayor for commission – June 2026

Artist contracting – Early Summer 2026

ARTWORK PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

Up to five (5) finalists will be selected

If selected as a finalist, you will be notified in **mid March 2026**

Required finalists meeting in **late March 2026**

Artwork Proposal Development: **Spring 2026**

Artwork Proposal Due: **Wednesday, May 27, 2026 by 5 pm MT**

ARTWORK FABRICATION & INSTALLATION

Future community Call for Artists – **Fall 2026**

Artwork engineering & site integration – **Late 2026**

Artwork fabrication & installation – **2027**

Open Space permitting, bidding, & contracting - **2027**

Installation completion & Ribbon-Cutting –
Late 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 that are signed by Utah-licensed engineer** for approval prior to the start date of artwork fabrication.
- View a sample of [an Artist Commissioned Work Agreement](#) here.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

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A Public Art Installation



How to Apply



CaFÉ (CallforEntry.org)

https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=16808

- 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, February 17, 2026**, 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](http://www.callforentry.org) (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, CONCEPTS, OR IDEAS FOR A NEW ARTWORK AS PART OF THIS APPLICATION.**

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** and **specific examples** of your previous experience for projects of similar site, scope, themes, and/or scale
- Explain **your approach to creating artwork that reflects and amplifies the history, values, and vision of the Fleet Block Open Space.**
- Describe any **relevant experience developing artwork that exists in relationship to other artists' work, broader design frameworks, or multi-phase public art projects** (e.g., serving as a lead artist, working within a curatorial framework, or contributing to a larger site-based vision).

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/fleet-block-open-space/>

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@slc.gov for assistance.

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Salt Lake City Public Art Program: publicartprogram@slc.gov

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Request for Qualifications



Fleet Block Open Space

A Public Art Installation

**DEADLINE
JAN 2, 2026**

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/fleet-block-open-space/>
- Full RFQ PDF: <https://publicart.slc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Fleet-Block-Open-Space-RFQ.pdf>
- Site Plan: <https://www.slc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/FB-Map.png>
- Direct link to application:
https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?D=16808