

**City of Boulder/Regional Transportation District
Request for Qualifications (RFQ)
Boulder Transit Village**

Deadline to submit: **5:00 p.m. February 22, 2010**

Project Description

The City of Boulder Transportation Department, the Regional Transportation District and the Boulder Arts Commission invite qualifications from artists or teams of artists to be considered for commissions for the first phase of the Boulder Transit Village project. The artist or artists awarded the commission will provide design, fabrication and installation of functional and integrated art for the Regional Transportation District (RTD) bus transit facility at the Boulder Transit Village (BTV). (See **Attachment A** for a map). RTD has committed \$70,000 to \$100,000 of the project funding toward art.

The Transit Village Area Plan (TVAP) provides the vision for a 160 acre area, located between Valmont on the north, Foothills Parkway on the east, the railroad tracks and the ditch south of Pearl Street on the south, and 30th Street on the west:

“To create a well-used and well-loved, pedestrian-oriented place of enduring value that serves all of Boulder and will utilize the FasTracks regional bus, future bus rapid transit, and future commuter rail.”

The plan includes goals for the area, land use designations, new transportation connections; and the publicly owned locations and services. These include a new pocket park, commuter rail service, regional bus service, bus rapid transit (BRT), the restoration of the historic depot, a civic plaza at the east end of Bluff Street and a new bridge over Goose Creek. The TVAP document and supporting materials can be found at:

http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5346&Itemid=2277.

Phase 1 of the TVAP will occur between 30th Street and the railroad tracks over the next 10 to 15 years. The city owns 8 acres on the northeast corner of Pearl and 30th Streets, at the current location of Pollard Motors, and anticipates a future mixed use development with up to 50 percent permanently affordable housing.

The first project in the TVAP is the 3 acre RTD regional and local bus facility, including an RTD park-n-ride lot and a new entrance road intersecting with Pearl Street that will have bicycle lanes, pedestrian sidewalks and landscaping. The RTD-owned property is located on the north side of Pearl Parkway, west of the Burlington Northern Railroad tracks and east of the Pollard Motor Automobile dealership. More information on the TVAP and the BTV bus facility is at:

http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5248&Itemid=2103.

The RTD bus facility is in the city’s site plan review process during 2009 and 2010. The concept plan that is the current basis for this work is found in **Attachment B**. Construction of the facility and associated infrastructure will begin in late 2010.

Public Art Opportunities

Public art should reflect this area as a new, sustainable, pedestrian and transit-oriented neighborhood in Boulder. At the current time, the City and RTD are interested in incorporating public art in the RTD bus transit station and park-n-ride facility. There is a preference for art and aesthetics integrated with the functional elements of the area and the artist will coordinate his/her design with the landscape architects, urban designers, engineers and contractor of the project. Examples are provided in the Draft City of Boulder Transit Village Area Public Art Masterplan, December 2009, found in Council Study Session packet for January 12, 2010, available at:

http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=457&Itemid=399.

Among the possibilities for functional and integrated art in the RTD project are:

- The entryway to the new regional RTD bus facility at Pearl and the new entrance road;
- The street frontage on the north side of Pearl Street between the railroad tracks and the new entrance road, defining the site and providing interest to passers-bys, acknowledging the key terminus of Pearl Street and the historic significance of this area (a History Section is included in the TVAP document accessed through the earlier link);
- Elements of the main passenger shelter in the bus layover area
- Enhancements to the new north-south connector road, from Pearl Street north to Goose Creek. This role will ultimately go all the way to Valmont in the future;
- Street furniture and way finding features including paving, plant materials, lighting, seating, and bus shelters along the new road and Pearl Street and other streetscape elements.

A more detailed list of potential opportunities for functional and integrated art is included in **Attachment C**.

Future public art installations could be located in several additional locations in the public realm--the pocket park, the civic plaza by the commuter rail stop, along future sections of the new north-south connector road and on and around the bridge over Goose Creek. Successful themes established at the BTV may be carried into these spaces but this is not part of this RFQ process.

Artist Qualifications and Artwork Criteria

This solicitation is open to artists or teams of artists who have the experience and skills necessary to complete a major public outdoor art project. The artist or artist team should demonstrate experience in designing, fabricating and installing outdoor public art. The artist or artist team will be responsible for the necessary design and engineering of any free standing art pieces. Functional and integrated art is the focus of this request and limited consultation will be available with the BTV design team regarding attachment, dimensions, and installation methods of the artwork in coordination with the larger design effort.

The artwork desired for the area shall be:

- Unique and creative in design;
- Reinforce or explore the themes identified in the TVAP and in the Public Art Masterplan;
- Safe for unsupervised public contact;
- Resistant to vandalism and deterioration with specific attention to durability of materials and impermeability to outdoor weathering. The artwork will be resistant to the hail, snow and wind found in the Boulder area;
- In conformance with all applicable city, state, and/or federal building codes and ADA requirements,

Artist Shortlist and Evaluation Criteria

Applications submitted in response to this RFQ will be reviewed by a selection panel consisting of representatives of RTD, city of Boulder staff and boards, the city Arts Commission, and community representatives. The panel will review all complete, eligible applications received by the deadline. Upon evaluating the qualifications provided in the applications, the committee will shortlist two to five artists or artist teams to be invited to an in depth interview of project proposals. Those artists selected will each receive a \$750.00 stipend for the development of a site concept.

Initial applications and Site concepts will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Form

- Attractiveness and desirability of art
- Boldness and creativity of art
- Experience and reputation of artist

Function

- Durability and maintenance
- Feasibility of design and construction
- Response to TVAP goals and objectives

Application Requirements

Each application shall include one complete hard copy of all materials and digital copies of all materials on one CD/DVD in a common and easily accessible file format such as Word, pdf, jpg or html.

Applications will include the following materials:

1. Resume- Each applicant shall include a professional resume including information on past public art commissions, exhibitions and installations. Teams must submit a separate resume for each team member.
2. References- Each applicant should submit the names of two references. Please do not send letters of recommendation. Teams must submit separate references for each member.

3. Ten to twelve images of previous public art works. Please include an image list corresponding to the submitted items including: image description, title of piece, date of completion, media, dimensions, location and description. Please include a self addressed stamped envelope if you would like your CD/DVD returned.
4. Artist's statement- A brief (2 page maximum) narrative addressing the following items:
 - a. Artist's vision and intent for the project;
 - b. Artist's philosophy on public art and how their work would be appropriate for the RTD bus transit facility as well as the larger TVAP area;
 - c. In concept, intended materials to be used for the project including their durability and longevity

Links may also be provided to appropriate Web sites including previous public art works but are not required. All initial responses to this RFQ will be prepared at the artist's expense. The City and RTD will not reimburse artists for travel, shipping or other entry and presentation expenses beyond the stipend provided to the short listed artists.

Timeline

RFQ Release	January 20, 2010
Site Tour and questions session	February 4, 2010, 1:30 p.m.
Application Deadline	February 22, 2010
Short list selection	Week of March 1, 2010
Presentation of developed proposals	Approximately 6 weeks later (with the possibility of a two month delay depending on external factors)

A tour of the site and the opportunity to ask questions on this RFQ will be held at February 4, 2010, 1:30 p.m. for interested applicants. Please see the map in **Attachment A** for information on the location of the site and the site tour. Additional details on the tour will be provided to applicants via email.

Artists may submit only one (1) application for this project. All RFQ application materials must be received no later than **5:00 p.m. MST, February 22, 2010**. Postmarks are not accepted and incomplete or late submittals will not be accepted.

Deliver hard copy submittals to: Donna Gartenmann at:

Boulder Arts Commission
P.O. Drawer H
Boulder, CO 80306

Or
Boulder Arts Commission
Boulder Public Library
1001 Arapahoe
Boulder, CO 80302

Any questions regarding the RFQ must be addressed to:

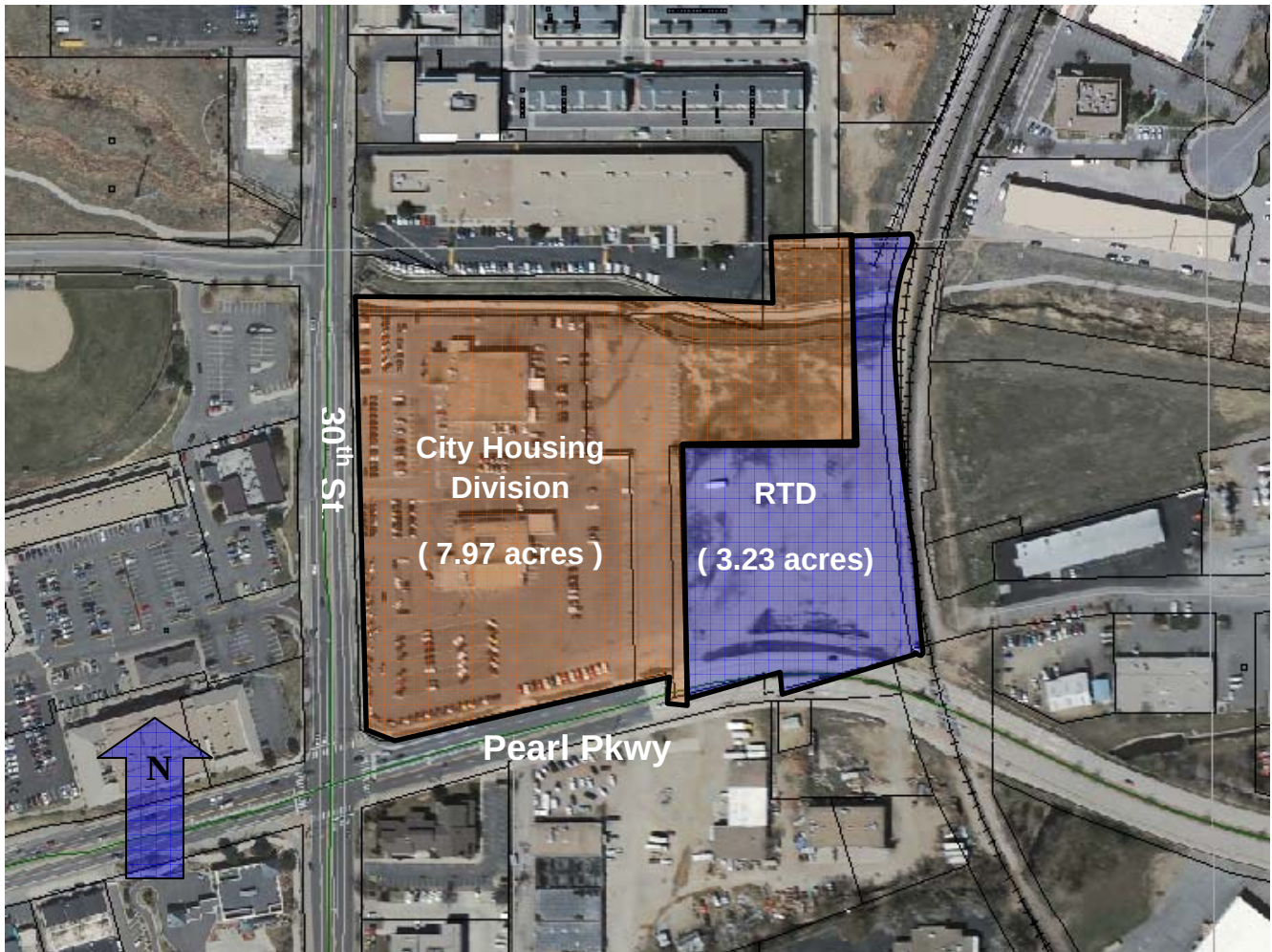
Randall Rutsch at rutschr@bouldercolorado.gov, 303-441-4270, or
Donna Gartenmann at gartenmannnd@boulderlibrary.org, 303-441- 4113

Attachment A: Site map of the BTV

Attachment B: Concept Plan for the RTD bus transit facility at BTV

Attachment C: Potential elements for functional art and art in BTV

Boulder Transit Village: Master and Site Planning 11.2 Acre Site



ATTACHMENT B



EXHIBIT B: PHASING

BOULDER TRANSIT VILLAGE: Concept & Site Planning Project
September 15, 2008

PIVOT

EDAW

AECOM

Potential elements for functional art and art in BTv:

Potential Feature	Location
Entry/gateway	Entering Junction Place from Pearl
Entryway to the new regional RTD bus facility	Pearl and the new entrance road
The street frontage to create interest for pedestrian and passing traffic	North side of Pearl Parkway between the railroad tracks and the new entrance road
Street enhancements to the new north south connector road (Junction Place)	From Pearl Street north to Goose Creek (it will go all the way to Valmont in the future)
Potential fountain/water feature	In pedestrian plaza
Patron drinking fountain	In pedestrian plaza
Pedestrian scale fencing and railings	Throughout site
Pedestrian seating structures as stand alone features or integrated into walls or fences	In pedestrian plaza
Murals/graphics for walls or as free standing structures	In pedestrian plaza
Wind and visual screens	In pedestrian plaza
Terrazzo paving areas and other surface treatments for pedestrian walkways	Throughout site
Pedestrian crossing features	Crossing bus drives and on Junction Place

Way finding features including paving insets and signage	Throughout site
Lighting fixtures, particularly pedestrian scale lighting	Throughout site
Bike racks	In pedestrian plaza, parking area and along Junction Place
Trash receptacles	Throughout site
Bollards	Throughout site
Planting containers	Throughout site
Ticket vending machine enclosures	In pedestrian plaza
Newspaper vending racks	In pedestrian plaza
Enhancements to street side bus shelters	Along the new road (Junction Place) and Pearl
Signature piece terminating the sight line of Pearl Parkway looking east	On the SE corner of site