

**City of Mesa**  
**Request for Qualifications (RFQ)**  
**Rio Salado Pathway Public Art Project – CN 0065**

- Deadline to Apply: Thursday, July 26, 2018, 5:00 p.m. (local time)
- Project Budget: Up to \$45,000; funding from City of Mesa Transportation Department
- Project Location: Rio Salado Underpass, under the Loop 202 Red Mountain Freeway, west of Dobson Road, north side of Riverview Park
- Project Dimensions: South Entrance Wings – East & West Wall: 148 feet by 7 feet tall  
(*average height of slope*)  
Tunnel – East and West Wall: 212 feet by 12 feet tall  
North Entrance Wings – East and West Wall: 9 feet by 8 feet tall  
(*average height of slope*)

**PROJECT SUMMARY:**

The City of Mesa invites professional artists or artist teams residing and eligible to work the United States to submit their qualifications to create permanent artwork along two walls and/or entrance wings of the bicycle and pedestrian underpass along the Rio Salado Shared Use Pathway (RSSUP). The artwork may take the form of a mural, series of murals, and/or artistic elements of a significant enough scale to fully impact and engage underpass users. A variety of mediums can be considered, including permanent paint, ceramic tile, glass tile, and/or other durable materials appropriate to the Sonoran Desert climate.

It is anticipated that the selected artist will design, plan, and create their artwork in partnership with members of the surrounding community. This could include students from a local school, bicycle enthusiasts, Riverview Park users, residents of the adjacent Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and/or other community members.

The underpass includes a 345-foot-long, 15-foot-wide concrete path, pedestrian level lighting, and barrier fencing. It creates an inviting, comfortable and safe way to travel underneath the Loop 202 Red Mountain Freeway, connecting users with the RSSUP and eliminating conflicts with vehicular traffic.

The underpass connecting Riverview Park to the RSSUP provides an exceptional opportunity to showcase Mesa's rich history along with its iconic regional scenic new bicycle and pedestrian pathway system connecting to many bicycle and pedestrian destinations in Mesa, the Southeast Valley and the Maricopa regional bike system. The RSSUP project was identified in the Mesa 2012 Bicycle Master Plan and provides an expedient and vital link in the city's non-motorized network.

The RSSUP is a bike and pedestrian path that connects the cities of Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa. It runs from Mesa Riverview to the Chicago Cubs Training Facility, ASU, Downtown Tempe, and connections to other shared use paths. The goal of including artwork is to create a beautiful, engaging experience for those using the path and the underpass.

## **ADDITIONAL PROJECT INFORMATION:**

### Budget

Up to \$45,000. Budget must cover all costs associated with design and construction of the public art elements. The project budget must include all costs related to the artist's project management fees; the artwork's final design, fabrication, transportation, delivery and installation costs; subcontractor and consultant fees including any engineers or fabricators; permit and license fees; General Liability and other insurance required by the City, and all other costs associated with the art project.

### How to Apply

The entire submission must be emailed to the following address: [Al.Zubi@MesaAZ.gov](mailto:Al.Zubi@MesaAZ.gov) All requirements listed below must be met or the application will be removed from consideration. Specific proposals are not requested at this stage in the process and will not be accepted. NOTE: All written documents (resume, letter, image list) should be saved into a PDF format and uploaded to the Submittal Site.

- Digital Images: six (6) images of previously completed work. Specific proposals will not be accepted. All images should be jpeg format.
- Letter of interest: (maximum 1 page) Describe why you are interested in this canal project and explain previous relevant experience. If you are applying as a team, the letter should clearly describe the contribution of each collaborator.
- Resume: (maximum 2 pages) Outline your recent experience and accomplishments as an artist including any public art experience. If applying as a team, each member may submit a one-page resume.
- Image List: (maximum 2 pages) A separate document listing information about the 6 digital images. For each image submitted list the title, date, size, location, and budget with a thumbnail of the image.

### Artist Selection Process

Applications will be pre-screened by City staff to ensure that the submissions meet the minimum qualifications as described in the eligibility section. An artist selection committee comprised of Transportation Advisory Board, community stakeholders, arts professionals, community representatives, and associated City of Mesa staff will review artists' submissions and select 2-4 finalists. The finalists will be provided with a \$1,000 stipend to create a conceptual proposal, and be invited to interview with the selection panel. The selected Artist will work with Mesa Transportation staff throughout the project. Final selection of the selected Artist will be made by City of Mesa/City Manager's Office.

### Tentative Schedule

- July 26, 2018: Submissions due by 5:00 p.m.
- August 2: Finalists notified
- August 23: Finalists' conceptual proposals due
- August 27-30: Finalists' interviews with selection panel
- September 6: Winning artist, and alternate artist selected; finalists' stipends distributed
- September 13: Contract issued
- Fall, 2018: Development of winning proposal, community meetings, artist meetings
- December 1: Artwork installation completed

## Project Aesthetics

The selected artwork should cultivate a unique community identity that advances Mesa as a vibrant and progressive destination. Mesa's collection of permanent and temporary public art balances the natural and built environment through innovative place-making, installations and infrastructure enhancements. Public art in Mesa promotes artistic expression, bringing people together to strengthen Mesa's sense of community and place.

[www.mesaaz.gov/bikeped](http://www.mesaaz.gov/bikeped)

## Notes

This Call to Artist does not commit the City to enter into any agreement, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal to this request or in subsequent negotiations, or to produce a contract for the project. The City reserves the right to reject any or all applications, reissue the RFQ, revise the project terms or procure any service by other means. While all reasonable care will be taken, the City is not responsible for loss of or damage to materials included with applications.

Mesa Transportation Department is responsible for the design of signage and pavement markings as well as barricading and traffic control projects, maintaining streets, alleys, sidewalks, storm drains, traffic signals and street lights and providing bus, bike, pedestrian and light rail facilities.  
[www.mesaaz.gov/transportation](http://www.mesaaz.gov/transportation)

The accepted artist must be a resident of Arizona, and will be required by Arizona State Law HB 2008 to sign a statement verifying that they are lawfully present in the United States. City of Mesa employees, Transportation Advisory Board members, and their immediate family members are not eligible to be selected for this project.

## Questions?

Al Zubi  
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480)644-4912

Robert Schultz, Assistant Director, City of Mesa Arts & Culture Department  
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480-644-6602



Looking north over the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community



Interior of the underpass