



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee  
**Date:** March 14, 2017

**From:** Jane Fernyhough  
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services  
**File:** 11-7000-09-20-226/Vol 01

Mike Redpath  
Senior Manager, Parks

**Re:** West Cambie Neighbourhood Park Integrated Landscape Public Art Project  
Call to Artists

### Staff Recommendation

1. That the staff report titled, "West Cambie Neighbourhood Park Integrated Landscape Public Art Project Call to Artists," dated March 14, 2017, from the Director of Arts, Culture and Heritage Services and the Senior Manager of Parks, to issue the Artist Call for an artist to work with the Landscape Team for the West Cambie Neighbourhood Park Integrated Landscape Public Art Project be endorsed; and
2. That the General Manager, Community Services, be authorized to enter into a design services contract with the selected artist as part of the West Cambie Neighbourhood Park planning process.

Jane Fernyhough  
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services  
(604-276-4288)

Att. 4

Mike Redpath  
Senior Manager, Parks  
(604-247-4942)

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
<b>ROUTED TO:</b> Finance Department Engineering	<b>CONCURRENCE</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b> 
<b>REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b> 	<b>APPROVED BY CAO</b> 

PRCS - 119

## **Staff Report**

### **Origin**

On November 12, 2013, Council adopted the Alexandra Neighbourhood Public Art Plan in keeping with the goal of the Public Art Program Policy for public art to complement and develop the character of Richmond's diverse neighbourhoods to create distinctive public spaces, which enhance the sense of community, place and civic pride.

In support of the Alexandra Neighborhood Public Art Plan, this report presents, for Council's consideration, the West Cambie Neighbourhood Park Integrated Landscape Public Art Project Call to Artists to select and contract an artist or artist team as part of the West Cambie Neighbourhood Park planning process.

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #2 A Vibrant, Active and Connected City:

*Continue the development and implementation of an excellent and accessible system of programs, services, and public spaces that reflect Richmond's demographics, rich heritage, diverse needs, and unique opportunities, and that facilitate active, caring, and connected communities.*

*2.1. Strong neighbourhoods.*

*2.3. Outstanding places, programs and services that support active living, wellness and a sense of belonging.*

*2.4. Vibrant arts, culture and heritage opportunities.*

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #3 A Well-Planned Community:

*Adhere to effective planning and growth management practices to maintain and enhance the livability, sustainability and desirability of our City and its neighbourhoods, and to ensure the results match the intentions of our policies and bylaws.*

*3.2. A strong emphasis on physical and urban design.*

### **Analysis**

#### **Alexandra Neighbourhood Public Art Plan**

The Alexandra Neighbourhood Public Art Plan, adopted by Council on November 12, 2013, builds on the history and ecology of the Alexandra Neighbourhood of West Cambie. The Public Art Plan identifies themes and opportunities for public art to play a role in achieving a connected community.

#### **West Cambie Neighbourhood Park**

On December 14, 2015, Council approved the West Cambie Neighbourhood Park Capital Project. This phase of the park development focused on work that includes installation of storm

drainage and underground utilities, completion of a pathway system, first phase implementation of the play environment, landscape planting and installation of site furniture.

West Cambie Neighbourhood Park is a new addition to the open space system that is being developed in the rapidly growing Alexandra neighbourhood of the West Cambie Area adjacent to Richmond's City Centre. The new park complements the existing Talmey, Odlin and Odlinwood Neighbourhood Parks in the adjacent West Cambie areas (Attachments 1 and 2).

Located at 9540 to 9700 Odlin Road, this newly assembled park is approximately six acres of formerly large single-family properties. Remnants of those landscapes remain including ornamental and naturalized plant material. In particular, one property was used as a commercial garden nursery and many trees, including a Sequoiadendron "Redwood" Grove, still exist on the site. The adjacent north and south greenways also retain a combination of introduced and naturalized tree, shrub and grass areas.

The West Cambie Neighbourhood Park will serve as the local green space for surrounding residents and, with the greenways, will play an important role in connecting north to Tomsett Elementary School Park and south to the Garden City Lands, a destination open space being developed for community wellness, agricultural, ecological conservation and connectivity purposes.

#### Design Considerations, Constraints and Opportunities

Artwork designed for the West Cambie Neighbourhood Park will need to consider the use and programming for the new park. As per the 2022 Parks and Open Space Strategy, West Cambie Neighbourhood Park is classified as a neighbourhood park. It is envisioned that this neighbourhood park will be used year-round primarily by local residents for leisure and recreational purposes and by pedestrians/cyclists using the greenway network.

The open area on the eastern side of the park contains a geothermal field which connects to the Alexandra District Energy Utility building located on the northern perimeter. Any art work contemplated must not impact the operation or maintenance of the existing or planned Alexandra District Energy geothermal system.

The site is of significance for Richmond's ecological network as it contains a variety of mature trees, scrub and grassland. These currently form important ecological corridors and foraging grounds for a variety of raptors including barn owls, as well as habitat for other wildlife species.

A landscape team will be retained by the City by late March 2017 to provide expert park design services including:

- site analysis;
- community engagement;
- development of an overall vision and objectives that reflect the site analysis and public engagement results; and
- preparation of a Park Detailed Concept Design for Council approval.

Public consultation on the park design will begin in 2017. Questions about the appropriate types of public art for integration in the park will be included in the public engagement process. The selected artist will work with the landscape team in developing the artwork concept through an innovative collaborative approach.

By involving artists and landscape architects on the design team, there is an opportunity to develop a unique “made in Richmond” project. In particular, the team would need to consider local plant species, soils and drainage conditions, programming for the park, maintenance costs and concerns, and a design that would be of interest to the local community.

The Artist Call seeks an artist or artist team to work with the landscape design team to develop a site-responsive integrated landscape artwork. Examples of integrated landscape art are illustrated in Attachment 3.

### Selection Process for Artists and Artworks

The selection of an artist for this project will follow the Richmond Public Art Program Policy guidelines as outlined in the Public Art Program Administrative Procedures Manual. One representative from the Alexandra West Cambie neighbourhood will be included in the selection panel.

The Artist Call is open to professional artists and artist teams residing in Canada.

The Public Art Advisory Committee has contributed to and endorsed the Call to Artists. If approved by Council, the project will move into the selection of the artist through an arm's length selection process under the terms of the Public Art Policy Administrative Procedures.

The draft West Cambie Neighbourhood Integrated Landscape Art Project Call to Artists is provided in Attachment 4.

### **Financial Impact**

The project budget for the West Cambie Neighbourhood Park integrated landscape public art project community engagement and concept development phases is \$40,000 CAD. All associated administration and coordination costs associated with the selection process will be incorporated within existing budget. The design cost of \$40,000 is based on an estimated implementation budget of \$400,000 for detailed design and construction of the integrated landscape artwork. For projects of this scope and scale, the City will manage the implementation of the artwork, including the tendering and award of construction contracts.

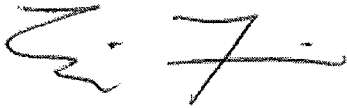
The resulting concept proposal, including the proposed implementation budget, will be presented for Council approval.

Funding for the concept design phase of the public artwork was approved in the 2012 Public Art Capital budget from the private developer contributions. The artist selection process was delayed in order to coincide with the start-up of the Park design work in 2017. Additional funding to support the implementation phases of the integrated landscape art will be requested through the City process for the 2018 Capital Budget and funded through developer contributions that have been deposited to the Public Art Reserve for projects in the Alexandra Neighbourhood.

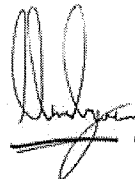
**Conclusion**

Adopted by Council in November 2013, the Alexandra Neighbourhood Public Art Plan provides a framework for including art in creating a culturally rich environment in a vibrant, healthy and sustainable city. The West Cambie Neighbourhood Park Integrated Landscape Public Art Project Call to Artists supports the Plan to include an integrated landscape artwork in the new West Cambie Neighbourhood Park.

The selected artist will enter into a Design Services contract to meet with stakeholders, develop concept design options with the design team for public stakeholder feedback and prepare a preferred concept proposal. The preferred concept proposal, with an implementation budget and schedule, will be brought forward to Council for endorsement in late 2017, in order to proceed with the detailed design and installation phase of the artwork by late 2018.



Eric Fiss, Architect AIBC, MCIP, LEED AP  
Public Art Planner  
(604-247-4612)



Mark Synan  
Park Planner  
(604-233-3311)

- Att. 1: West Cambie Neighbourhood Map  
2: West Cambie Neighbourhood Park  
3: Examples of Integrated Landscape Art  
4: Draft West Cambie Neighbourhood Park Integrated  
Landscape Public Art Project Call to Artists

West Cambie Neighbourhood Map



Excerpted from the West Cambie Area Plan, Adopted by Council July 24, 200



## West Cambie Neighbourhood Park



West Cambie Neighbourhood Park, 9540 to 9700 Odlin Road

## Examples of Integrated Landscape Art



Toronto Music Garden, Yo-Yo Ma and Julie Moir Messervy, Toronto, 2005



Governor Island The Hills, New York, West 8, 2016





The Red Ribbon, Tanghe River Park, Kongjian Yu, China, 2006



Alara, Konstantin Dimopoulos, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2011



# call to artists



Figure 1 – West Cambie Neighbourhood Park in the Alexandra Neighbourhood

## West Cambie Neighbourhood Park Integrated Landscape Public Art Project

### Request for Qualifications, (RFQ)

March 2017

#### OPPORTUNITY

The Richmond Public Art Program, in partnership with the Parks Department, is seeking an artist or artist team to develop a site-responsive integrated landscape artwork for the new six-acre West Cambie Neighbourhood Park in the rapidly developing Alexandra neighbourhood, at 9540-9700 Odlin Road, Richmond, B.C.

This is a two-stage open artist call. Following review by the selection panel of the submitted artists' statements of interest and qualifications, up to five artists will be shortlisted and invited to attend a site orientation and make a presentation of their qualifications at an interview. A fee of \$1,000 CAD + GST will be paid to each of the shortlisted artists or artist teams plus travel expenses to a maximum of \$1,000 per artist team.

**Budget:** The total concept phase project budget is \$40,000 CAD, for all design, consultants, presentation materials including models and all associated costs. The selected artist will enter into a Design Services contract to develop a concept proposal in consultation with the City.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Open to professional artists and artist teams residing in Canada.

**Deadline for Submissions:** Thursday, April 27, 2017, 4:00 p.m. PDT

**Installation:** Summer 2018

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# call to artists

## INTRODUCTION

The City of Richmond is seeking an artist to create a signature integrated landscape artwork, to address the themes identified below. Integrated landscape artworks are site-specific environmentally low-impact artworks using earth, water and plants in combination with man-made materials. The selected artist will work with the City appointed Park design team (landscape architects, engineers, biologists) and consult with area residents to develop a concept proposal to be implemented in 2018.

## ARTWORK THEMES

For this Call to Artists, artists are to consider the theme of *"Connectivity: Ecology, Infrastructure, and History"* in relationship to:

- **Connecting Ecology**  
The ecology of Richmond's landscape has been formed by the Fraser River delta and its wildlife.
- **Connecting Infrastructure**  
Richmond is building a sustainable city through innovative infrastructure initiatives such as the Alexandra District Energy Utility that provides geothermal energy to heat and cool homes in the neighbourhood.
- **Connecting History**  
Referencing the area's agricultural heritage, geological history and the story of human settlement connects new residents with the area's past.

## BACKGROUND

With traces of Alexandra's agricultural past and habitat supporting numerous species and other wildlife, there are abundant opportunities for artworks to connect with the ecology and history of the area. Artwork in the park and greenway has the opportunity to assist in promoting and communicating the initiatives underway for renewable and sustainable energy systems for the community, which include the Alexandra District Energy Utility, based in the park (Figures 4 and 5).

For thousands of years, the lands on the Fraser delta were the home of the Musqueam people. The Middle Arm of the Fraser River was a favoured location for fish traps and valued for its indigenous flora and fauna. Farmers started arriving in the mid-1800s to grow grain crops and raise cattle, building a system of canals for drainage and irrigation. Fishermen gained access from the river to work the coastal waters. Later, mixed-use industry occupied the area, which is now bordered by walking and cycling trails along the river's edge. Today, pan-Asian immigrants are making Richmond their home. Dense urban villages are planned throughout the city, which will bring further diversity and vibrancy to the mosaic of cultures that are thriving in Richmond.

# call to artists

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## LOCATION

The West Cambie Neighbourhood Park and Greenway span the new Alexandra neighbourhood and connect the residential neighbourhood north of Cambie Road to the Garden City Lands south of Alderbridge Way (Figure 2).

The artwork will be located within the West Cambie Neighbourhood Park, located at 9540–9700 Odlin Road, and adjacent greenways in the rapidly developing Alexandra neighbourhood of Richmond, B.C. (Figures 3 and 4).

## BUDGET

The total budget for this project is \$40,000 CAD. The budget includes (but is not limited to) artist fees, design, consultant and engineering fees, presentation materials including models, photography, insurance and all taxes. Travel to Richmond and/or accommodation is at the artist's expense.

Following the selection process, the recommended selected artist will enter into a Design Services contract to participate in community engagement to be organized by the City and to develop concept proposals working with the City design team leading to a preferred design concept for public feedback and City Council endorsement.

## ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

This opportunity is open to artists and artist teams residing in Canada. Qualified artists will have proven experience producing artworks for civic projects. City of Richmond staff and its Public Art Advisory Committee members, selection panel members, project personnel and immediate family members are not eligible to apply.

## SELECTION PROCESS

The selection panel will recommend the artist/artist team for City approval through a two-stage open call process.

A five-person selection panel comprised of three art or design professionals, one representative from the Alexandra West Cambie neighbourhood, and one representative from the Landscape Design Team will review the applicants' materials. Representatives from the City Parks and Recreation Department and Engineering Department will serve as advisors to the panel. Based on the selection criteria listed below, the panel will select up to five finalists to attend a site orientation and interview.

A fee of \$1,000 will be paid to each of the shortlisted artists or artist teams.

Out-of-town finalists will be reimbursed for travel and lodging expenses to a maximum of \$1,000 per artist team to attend the orientation and interview in Richmond. If applying as a team, the allowance for travel may not fully reimburse all team members.



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## ARTIST SELECTION

The following criteria will inform the Selection Panel deliberation process as part of the artist selection process in Stage One and Stage Two:

### Stage One

- Artists submit a written Statement of Interest, Qualifications, References and examples of previous work in the format outlined in the Submission Requirements below.
- Selection Panel to shortlist up to five artist or artist teams.

### Stage Two

- Shortlisted artists invited to Richmond for a site visit and project orientation with City staff and design team to discuss opportunity and constraints.
- Shortlisted artists will be invited to an interview with the Selection Panel. Artists will be asked share their initial thoughts about the project and to indicate their approach to the art opportunity.
- Artists to be selected on the merits of their work, including creativity and quality of past production, preliminary ideas and approach.
- Selection Panel to recommend one artist or artist team to City Council for endorsement. Panel reserves the right to make no recommendations from the submitted applications and artist interviews.

## ARTIST SELECTION CRITERIA

Submissions to the call will be reviewed and decisions made based on the following:

- Qualifications demonstrated by creativity, quality and skill of previous work.
- Artistic merit of artist Statement of Interest.
- Appropriateness of initial approach to the site and viability of preliminary ideas.
- Ability of the approach to respond to the existing character of the site by taking into account scale, colour, material, texture, content and the physical characteristics of the location.
- Potential for making engaging artwork, suitable for multiple audiences.
- Sensitivity to environmental concerns.
- Understanding of the relevance of the site and its histories.
- Ability to handle complex detail and communications.
- Experience with projects in the public environment.
- Capacity to work with other design professionals and stakeholders.
- Appropriateness of the approach to the City of Richmond Public Art Program goals: [www.richmond.ca/culture/publicart/plans/policy](http://www.richmond.ca/culture/publicart/plans/policy)

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## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

E-mail all documentation as one (1) PDF document not to exceed a file size of 5 MB to: [publicart@richmond.ca](mailto:publicart@richmond.ca)

- INFORMATION FORM – Please complete the information form attached to this document.
- STATEMENT OF INTEREST – (300 words or less) why the artist/team is interested in this opportunity and how their practice relates to this project and the posted selection criteria. If applying as a team, please address how team members work together in the statement of interest. Please include this clearly on a separate line at the beginning of your Statement of Interest.
- ARTIST CV – (2 pages maximum) current professional resume. Teams should include two-page resumes for all members as one document. PDF format is preferred; Tex (.txt) files will also be accepted.
- DIGITAL IMAGE WORK SAMPLES – Applicants must submit up to 12 samples of past work that best illustrate their qualifications for this project. If applying as a team, the team submits no more than 12 images.
- REFERENCES – three (3) references who can speak to your abilities, skills and accomplishments. Please provide name, title and contact telephone number and/or email.

## PROJECT TIMELINE

**Submission Deadline:** Thursday, April 27, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

**Shortlisted Artist  
Notifications and Site  
Orientation:** Mid May 2017

**Shortlisted Artist  
Interviews:** Tuesday, May 30, 2017\*

**Concept Design Phase:** Summer 2017

**Installation:** Summer 2018

\*All applicants are asked to reserve this date in their calendars.

# call to artists

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## SOURCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[Richmond Public Art Program](#)

[Alexandra Neighbourhood Public Art Plan](#)

[2022 Parks And Open Space Strategy](#)

[West Cambie Area Plan](#)

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. All supporting documents must be complete and adhere to these guidelines and submission requirements (above) or risk not being considered.
2. Submissions must be formatted to 8.5 x 11 inch pages. Portfolio images and concept sketches are best formatted to landscape format.
3. Submission files must be 5 MB or smaller.
4. If submitting as a team, the team should designate one representative to complete the entry form. Each team member must submit an individual resume/curriculum vitae. (See Submission Requirements)
5. All documents must be sent by e-mail to: [publicart@richmond.ca](mailto:publicart@richmond.ca)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. The selected artist will be required to show proof of WCB coverage and \$2,000,000 general liability insurance.
2. Please be advised that the City and the selection panel are not obliged to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The City reserves the right to reissue the Artist Call as required.
3. All submissions to this Artist Call become the property of the City. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (BC) and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright in the concept proposal. While every precaution will be taken to prevent the loss or damage of submissions, the City and its agents shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.
4. Submissions must be received by Thursday, April 28, 2017, 4:00 p.m. Extensions to this deadline will not be granted. Submissions received after the deadline and those that are found to be incomplete will not be reviewed.

## QUESTIONS

Please contact the Richmond Public Art Program:

Eric Fiss

Tel: 604-247-4612

E-mail: [publicart@richmond.ca](mailto:publicart@richmond.ca)



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Figure 2 – West Cambie Alexandra Neighbourhood



Figure 3 – West Cambie Neighbourhood Park



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Figure 4 – North Alexandra Greenway, facing north



Figure 5 – Alexandra District Energy Utility Building in the north portion of the West Cambie Neighbourhood Park

Attach one (1) copy of this form as the first page of the submission.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team Name:** (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Secondary Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Website:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(One website or blog only)

**Incomplete submissions will not be accepted. E-mailed submissions over 5 MB will not be accepted. Information beyond what is listed in the checklist will not be reviewed.**

**List Team Member Names:** (Team Lead complete above portion)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please let us know how you found out about this opportunity:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Would you like to receive direct e-mails from the Richmond Public Art Program?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Submit applications by e-mail to: [publicart@richmond.ca](mailto:publicart@richmond.ca)

#### **Additional Information**

Please be advised that the City and the selection panel are not obliged to accept any of the submissions and may reject all submissions. The City reserves the right to reissue the RFQ as required. All submissions to this RFQ become the property of the City. All information provided under the submission is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (BC) and shall only be withheld from release if an exemption from release is permitted by the Act. The artist shall retain copyright of the submitted documents. While every precaution will be taken to prevent the loss or damage of submissions, the City and its agents shall not be liable for any loss or damage, however caused.