



Public Art Request for Proposals:

Downtown Revitalization Initiative Streetscape Project

Bicycle Parking Shelters – Decorative Back Panels

City of Geneva, New York

Requested by the City of Geneva Public Art Committee
And the Office of Neighborhood Initiatives

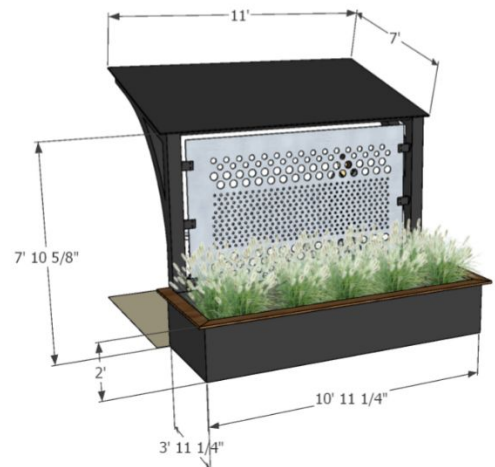
Minorities and Women In Business Enterprises (MWBE) Are Encouraged to Respond

Project Description

The City of Geneva and its Public Art Committee are seeking proposed designs for laser-cut back panels on three proposed Bicycle Parking Shelters in the downtown district, which will be constructed as part of a streetscape redesign project. Artists are asked to create preliminary drawings for each of these panels that respond to themes related to the community's identity, including its agricultural heritage, industrial and civic history, and relationship to Seneca Lake. Selected artist(s) will be expected to collaborate with the project team to refine their proposed designs, and will be required to provide their drawing(s) in file formats that are compatible with Computer Assisted Drafting (CAD) programs; artists will not be responsible for fabricating or constructing their designs.

Project Background

Since receiving a 2016 Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant from New York State, the City of Geneva has invested in a suite of projects to enhance the economic vitality, social opportunity, multi-modal transportation facilities, and sense of place in its downtown district. The Downtown Streetscape Retrofit project, to be constructed beginning in 2020, will contribute to this renaissance by transforming sections of the Castle Street and Exchange Street corridors into Complete Streets with enhanced pedestrian and bicycle facilities, public gathering spaces, high-performance landscapes, and new streetscape fixtures.



In collaboration with the streetscape project consultants, Barton & Loguidice, the City of Geneva Public Art Committee has developed a strategy to incorporate public art into the functional streetscape elements, which include bicycle parking shelters, waste receptacles, seat walls, and selected areas on the sidewalk. This Request for Proposals specifically calls for designs for the back panels of these bicycle parking shelters, which are illustrated on the first page; please note that the back panels currently shown on these drawings are only examples.

Throughout the project area, there will be three (3) bicycle parking shelters, which are part of a series of improvements designed to encourage active modes of transportation throughout downtown. These shelters will also serve as micro-illustrations of Green Infrastructure practices, as the rain garden planters will collect and filter precipitation that falls on the roof of the shelters. These shelters will be located in the following locations:

- Outside of the City Hall Parking Lot alongside Castle Street
- At the North-East corner of the Castle Street & Exchange Street intersection (outside of Lake City Hobby)
- Outside of the Farmers' Market Parking Lot alongside Exchange Street

Design Considerations

- *Themes:* Through community outreach and collaboration with the Geneva Historical Society, the following themes have been outlined to guide the designs for each Bicycle Parking Shelter back panel. Each theme correlates to the respective locations of the shelters:
 - o The design of the City Hall Parking Lot Shelter panel will highlight the work of engaged residents throughout our history and stories of social/political change. (An accompanying public art project called Agents of Change will portray individuals and groups who have effected change; their names and images will be integrated into 7-10 seat walls within a block of City Hall, so the theme is meant to connect to that and the location of the city's government building. Please see accompanying document for more details about the [Agents of Change project](#).)
 - o The design of the Castle & Exchange Street Intersection Shelter panel will illustrate the City's economic and entrepreneurial history. Main Street business, city life, and commercial enterprise are the themes. (This shelter is placed at one of Geneva's main commercial intersections in the heart of the downtown business area. Resources on the evolution of Geneva's commercial core can be found [here](#), and also [here](#). Some historical resources on the City of Geneva can be found at the [following](#).)
 - o The design of the Farmers' Market Parking Lot Shelter panel will depict the region's – and City's – agricultural history, which may include the 'three sisters' of corn, beans, and squash. (This shelter resides at the location of the weekly farmer's market.)
- *Materials:* The back panels will be designed using 12-gauge Stainless Steel with a #4 finish on both sides. Proposed designs will be cut-out



using a laser-cutter; no cutouts may be less than 1/8" thick. The bicycle parking shelters will be constructed with powder-coated aluminum, and will be built and supplied by the project contractor(s).

- *Size:* The back panels will be 71" (5'11") tall and 108" (9') wide. The panels will be attached to the shelters with powder-coated aluminum, as shown in the drawings.
 - *General Considerations:* Designs should account for the structural integrity of the stainless steel panels and the fabrication process needed to create the designs. While creativity is encouraged, designs that would require significant alterations to be structurally sound or practical may not be selected. Please also note that these cutouts will be viewed from both sides.
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Submissions & Application Requirements

- **February 24th, 2020: Deadline for Submissions**
 - o *Three (3) Scaled Drawings*, one (1) for each back panel. These drawings may be in any media or format, but must clearly indicate which areas are to be cut out, and be detailed enough to clearly show the proposed concept. These drawings may be supplemented with renderings, diagrams, or sketches to enhance the understanding of the design.
 - o A brief *Statement of Intent* for the proposed designs, no longer than 250 words
 - o *Artist's Resume* and/or *Curriculum Vitae*
 - o *Relevant Examples* of artist's previous work
 - o *Artist's Contact information*
- **March 2020: Review of Submissions by Project Committee**
 - o Submitted designs will be reviewed by the Public Art Committee, City of Geneva, and the Project Consultants, and will be judged on various criteria, including creativity, visual identity, feasibility of design, and incorporation of project themes.
- **Early April 2020: Notification of Selected Artist(s)**
 - o The number of selected artists will be determined based on the submitted concepts. One artist may be selected to design all three panels, or different artists may be selected to design each individual panel. Selected artist(s) must sign an agreement providing permission for the City of Geneva to use the winning design(s).
- **Late May 2020: Submission of CAD Drawings by Selected Artist(s)**
 - o Selected artist(s) will work with City of Geneva, its Public Art Committee, Barton & Loguidice, and the fabricator to refine the design(s) as needed. Selected artist(s) will be responsible for providing their designs in a file format that is compatible with Computer Assisted Drafting (CAD) software, such as .dxf or .dwg, within (5) weeks of accepting the project.

- **Fall 2020/Spring 2021: Construction of Shelters & Panels**

- o Exact fabrication and installation dates will be determined based on construction schedule of the Downtown Streetscape Retrofit project.
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Project Funding

- Compensation for individual panels will not exceed \$3,000. If selected to design all three panels, an artist will be compensated \$9,000.
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Application Details

- All applications must be submitted by February 24, 2020, to Katie Labbe, at KLabbe@geneva.ny.us. Submissions must be on 8.5"x11" paper or pdf size. Please forward any questions to Katie Labbe.
- Please call 315-828-6585 if you do not receive a confirmation email a few days after sending.

NOTE: The City of Geneva reserves the right to refuse and reject any or all proposals and to waive any and all formalities or technicalities or to accept the proposal who the City of Geneva in its sole discretion determines to be most qualified. The City of Geneva may determine to take no action and reserves the right to do so.