



Request for Proposals

Renton Utility Box Wraps

Introduction

The City of Renton Municipal Arts Commission (City) is seeking design proposals from local artists for vinyl graphics wraps on (6) utility control boxes in Renton. Designs should relate to the culture, history, and/or landscape of Renton. It is encouraged but not required to make a design relating to the location of the specific utility control box that it is to be applied to. This project is intended to transform dull utility cabinets into visually appealing, enjoyable additions to the public right of way.

Eligibility

This request is open to all artists in the greater Seattle area, but artists living or working in Renton are especially encouraged to submit their qualifications. This program is not intended to support advertising or other signage.

Artwork submitted MUST NOT currently appear (nor have been previously used) as utility box art in Western WA.

Services

The City intends to select one or more artists to create the utility box art for the program. The selected artist(s) will need to submit a design in a high resolution, digital format for each utility box chosen. The City will then provide the design(s) to a contractor for fabrication and installation. Artist(s) will receive \$800 for each selected design.

Available Utility Box Wrap Locations

- [NE 4th St & Duvall Ave NE](#)
- [NE 4th St & Nile Ave NE](#)
- [Rainier Ave & S 4th Pl](#)
- [Rainier Ave & Grady Way](#)
- [Rainier Ave & S 7th St](#)
- [SE 128th & 156th Ave SE](#)

Utility Box Program Timeline

Complete submissions must be received by **Friday, January 28, 2023** to be considered for this program. Submissions should follow the submission guidelines below.

December 28, 2022: Call posted

January 28, 2023: Artist submissions due

February 14, 2023: Artist selections notified

Submission Guidelines/Requirements

Please email the following materials to arts@rentonwa.gov with the subject line “Renton Utility Box Art” followed by your name.

- 1.) **Statement of Interest (500 words or less).** Please send as a .pdf and include your name, mailing address, phone number, email address and a website portfolio link. This .pdf should be titled with your full name followed by “_interest”. Example: *JaneDoe_interest.pdf*
- 2.) **Resume or CV (not exceeding two pages).** This should be in .pdf format, titled with your full name followed by “_resume”. Example: *JaneDoe_resume.pdf*
- 3.) **Proposed wrap artwork images, in .jpg format only (do not send .png, .gif, .tif, etc.).** Each artist or artist team can submit a maximum of *two* designs for consideration with a limit of two images of each proposed design (resulting in a maximum of four images overall). The .jpg file dimensions should be no larger than 2050 pixels on the longest side and should be under 5MB maximum. Files should be titled with your full name followed by “_art” and a number indicating the viewing order. Examples of file names for someone sending two art submissions and two images of each submission (meeting the maximum of four images), in the order they should be viewed: (first art submission) *JaneDoe_art1.jpg*, *JaneDoe_art2.jpg*, (second art submission) *JaneDoe_art3.jpg*, *JaneDoe_art4.jpg*.

PLEASE NOTE! The .jpg image files dimensions above are for the *call selection process only*. If your artwork is chosen, your final artwork *must* be a high enough resolution to print correctly on the final box wrap at full size (either vector files *or* raster image files approximately 150 inches wide x 70 inches high at no less than 100dpi). Please do not submit artwork that cannot meet these requirements if selected.

- 4.) **Image list.** Please provide a detailed description and explanation for each design .jpg describing: themes, significance, inspirations, symbols, etc. If any design is for a certain location, please specify which location it is for and explain why it is best suited at that location.

Any inquires related to this call are directed to:

Renton Municipal Arts Commission
Renton City Hall, 6th Floor
1055 S Grady Way, Renton WA 98057
Telephone: (425) 430-7271
Email: arts@rentonwa.gov

Vinyl Wrap Process

Designs selected by the City will be printed on a vinyl wrap and applied to a city utility control box. The City is responsible for procedures and costs involving contracting a vendor to properly apply the vinyl wrap. Vinyl wraps may be made with graffiti-resistant materials to help prevent vandalism and make the cleaning process easier. Please note that vents, windows, meters and occasionally other features of the utility control box cannot be wrapped so artists should take this into account when designing or even incorporate those features into their designs.

Evaluation Criteria and Selection

The City will consider the following criteria in selecting an artist(s) for this program:

- Artistic quality as exemplified in previous work
- Ability to think and work in a scale appropriate for outdoor public art
- Ability to convey the identity of a community through art
- Ability to relate to multiple audiences (pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, drivers)

The City reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to select one or more artists from the respondents for the utility box art wrap program, or to accept no artists and to solicit additional respondents.

Conflict of Interest

The City reserves the right to disqualify a respondent from the Utility Art Wrap Program or for a specific utility box art wrap project if the City believes that the respondent has a potential or apparent conflict of interest.