



Culture For All.

# CALL FOR ARTISTS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

ASC PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

## City of Charlotte Comprehensive Neighborhood Improvement Program (CNIP) Prosperity Village: Craven Thomas Rd. and Robert Helms Rd. Streetscape Charlotte, NC

An Arts & Science Council project  
for the City of Charlotte

### Submission Deadline

**March 24, 2017 by 11:59 p.m. E.S.T.** Applications will be received via (<https://asc.slideroom.com>), an online application system. There is no fee to submit qualifications.

### Project Background

The Arts & Science Council (ASC) is accepting qualifications from professional artists or teams of artists in response to a public art opportunity for the City of Charlotte's Comprehensive Neighborhood Improvement Program (CNIP).

The City of Charlotte's Comprehensive Neighborhood Improvement Program (CNIP) makes strategic investments in larger, multi-neighborhood geographies to more comprehensively address a broad array of community needs, consistent with the goals of the City's Community Investment Plan (CIP). What is unique about CNIP is its comprehensive or "complete" approach to placemaking by fostering vibrant, diverse, and economically strong communities with a highly connected network of streets around activity nodes that include a mix of office, retail, and residential land uses.

The goals of this comprehensive approach include:

- A well-connected network of streets, sidewalks, greenways, and bike lanes that link and enhance existing community assets;
- Easy accessibility to transit and the larger regional network of streets;
- Better connections between neighborhoods and major employment, institutional, and retail areas
- Successful public/private partnerships that leverage investments and catalyze changes occurring in neighborhoods;
- Greater coordination with public safety, code enforcement, social services, and education; and
- Enhanced engagement with residents in determining which investments meet our collective aspirations

This specific Call for Artists focuses on the Prosperity Village CNIP area and specifically impacts the Craven Thomas Road/Robert Helms Road streetscape project. This project includes the design and installation of streetscape beautification of the frontage road: Craven Thomas Road and Robert Helms Road, off the I-485/Prosperity Church Road exit. The streetscape could include widening of the existing sidewalk to a multiuse trail, trees/shrubs, resting areas and lighting. The project could also include the development and construction of gateway identification monuments/signs/artwork to be installed on the I-485 entrance ramps and/or in some or all of the six roundabouts.

### **Project Description and Scope of Work**

This RFQ represents an opportunity for an artist or team of artists to create artworks that will highlight the rich history and sense of place of Prosperity Village. Although Prosperity Village is a new name for this area, the community has been in existence since the late 1700's. The original settlers named their church Prosperity, and over two centuries the community evolved from a primarily agrarian environment to an urban center with diverse populations. The last 5 years have brought dramatic growth and change.

Artistic approaches to this opportunity could focus on, but are not limited to, sculptural gateways, roundabout features, non-verbal forms of wayfinding, and artistically designed functional items such as benches, railing, hardscaping, signage, etc. The commissioned artist or artist team will be responsible for working with the project team to determine the appropriate approach and sites for the artwork within the overall project.

The selected artist or team of artists will be invited to 1) design and create artworks that will enhance the City of Charlotte's placemaking goals for the Craven Thomas Rd. and Robert Helms Rd. Streetscape Project and 2) collaborate with the project team to design aesthetic enhancements that can be incorporated into the City's infrastructure improvements for the project.

The commissioned artist or artist team will be collaborating with a design team consisting of City of Charlotte staff, Arts & Science Council staff, and Woolpert design consultants. Exemplary communication and time management skills will be essential to the success of this project. The location and scope of artwork will be determined by the project design team in concert with input from the selected artist or artist team.

*Please review the attached renderings at the end of this RFQ for a better understanding of the project location and scope of work before applying.*

### **Art Goals and Criteria**

- The artwork should reflect the history and character of Prosperity Village while referencing the various communities that comprise it.
- The artwork should contribute to the overall streetscape project to create a unified and striking visual experience for both pedestrians and vehicular traffic with a focus on creative placemaking and wayfinding
- The artworks must adhere to all safety standards required by the Charlotte Department of Transportation, including breakaway supports for all objects placed within roundabouts.
- The artworks must be designed for permanency with a lifespan of at least 20 years.

## **Project Budget**

**\$102,000** USD—to cover all artist fees, design, testing, fabrication and installation, including but not limited to travel, public meeting presentations, administration, taxes and insurance relating to the development of the artwork.

## **Artist Eligibility**

This call is open to professional artists or team of professional artists. Artists who have received a commission or purchase for over \$25,000 from the Arts & Science Council cannot be considered for another commission or purchase for 3 years after the date of a signed contract or letter of agreement. ASC staff, County or City staff, Public Art Commission members or their immediate families, are not eligible to apply for this project.

## **Selection Process**

This solicitation process is being undertaken to enable the Public Art Commission to identify the most highly qualified artist(s) for this opportunity. An artist selection panel of local and national arts professionals and community stakeholders appointed by the Public Art Commission will review eligible artists' applications, determine a shortlist of finalists, interview three to five finalists and select one artist or team of artists. The selected artist or team of artists will be recommended to the Public Art Commission and the Board of the Arts & Science Council for final approval and to enter into contractual agreement for this project.

## **Selection Criteria**

The artist will be selected on the basis of the following criteria, as evidenced in application materials and conversations with listed references: artistic merit in concept and fabrication; experience incorporating artwork into the architectural elements of a construction project; demonstrated ability to collaborate in the early phases of a project with design teams and community stakeholders; demonstrated ability to complete projects on time and within budget.

## **Projected Timeline**

February 27, 2017	Artist applications released
March 24, 2017	Artist application submission deadline
April 2017	Artist selection panel reviews applications and selects 3-5 finalists
May 2017	Artist selection panel interviews finalists and selects one artist/team
Summer 2017	Begin conceptual planning work with project team
Fall 2017	CNIP project community meeting/finalization of planning results
2020	Substantial project construction completed

## **To Apply**

Applications must be received via SlideRoom (<https://asc.slideroom.com>) by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on March 24, 2017. There is no application fee to apply or use the SlideRoom online application system. The following materials will be required to be uploaded to SlideRoom:

- A letter of interest (1000 character max) outlining the artist's interest in this project, and addressing selection criteria with references to previous artworks in public places. Applicant(s) may apply as a single artist or team. If applying as a team, identify all team members and each proposed project role (i.e.: lead artist, technical consultant, fabricator, etc.) in the statement.
- A current professional resume or CV (two pages maximum). If applying as a team, submit a one-to-two page résumé for each team member.

- Three professional references who can speak to the artist's ability to meet deadlines, work with community, and create innovative work as part of a design team. Include name, organization, phone number, and email.
- Eight (8) images of related artwork completed within the past fifteen (15) years. Please provide the following (if applicable) for each image: the name of the artist(s), title of work, date, media, dimensions of work, description of site, client, and budget. This information may be submitted as a separate document or may be inserted into each image caption on SlideRoom.

For further information, please contact Todd Stewart, Program Director, Public Art, at (704) 335-3273 or email at [todd.stewart@artsandscience.org](mailto:todd.stewart@artsandscience.org)

### **About the Arts & Science Council**

Since 1995, the Arts and Science Council has managed the public art programs for the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. The Public Art Commission is responsible for the community-based artist selection and design review process for each public artwork. The commission is an appointed board of volunteer citizens from the arts, education and business sectors. In 2003, Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners and the Charlotte City Council adopted ordinances that appropriate one percent of eligible capital improvement project funds for public art. The ordinance helps ensure that artworks enhance our public spaces and become an integral part of urban and economic development efforts. See more at: <http://www.artsandscience.org/>

### **Arts & Science Council Nondiscrimination Policy**

The Arts & Science Council (ASC) is committed to serving a diverse range of individuals and organizations through its programs and services and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or any characteristic protected by law.

### **About the City of Charlotte**

Charlotte is one of the 25 largest cities in the U.S. and the largest city in North Carolina. Nicknamed the Queen City, Charlotte and its resident county are named in honor of Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the queen consort of British King George III during the time of the city's founding. Nearly 800,000 live and work in the Charlotte community and the City provides services to much of this population. The City's focus areas are Housing and Neighborhood Development, Community Safety, Transportation, Economic Development and the Environment. Charlotte consistently ranks as one of the top growing cities and is the home to more than 10 Fortune 1000 companies, including household names such as Bank of America, Lowe's and Wachovia Corp. Charlotte is also home to the Carolina Panthers of the NFL, the Charlotte Hornets of the NBA, the NASCAR Hall of Fame and the U.S. National Whitewater Center. Other amenities that make Charlotte a great place to live and work include numerous higher learning organizations, cultural centers and health care facilities. See more at: <http://charlottenc.gov/Pages/Home.aspx>

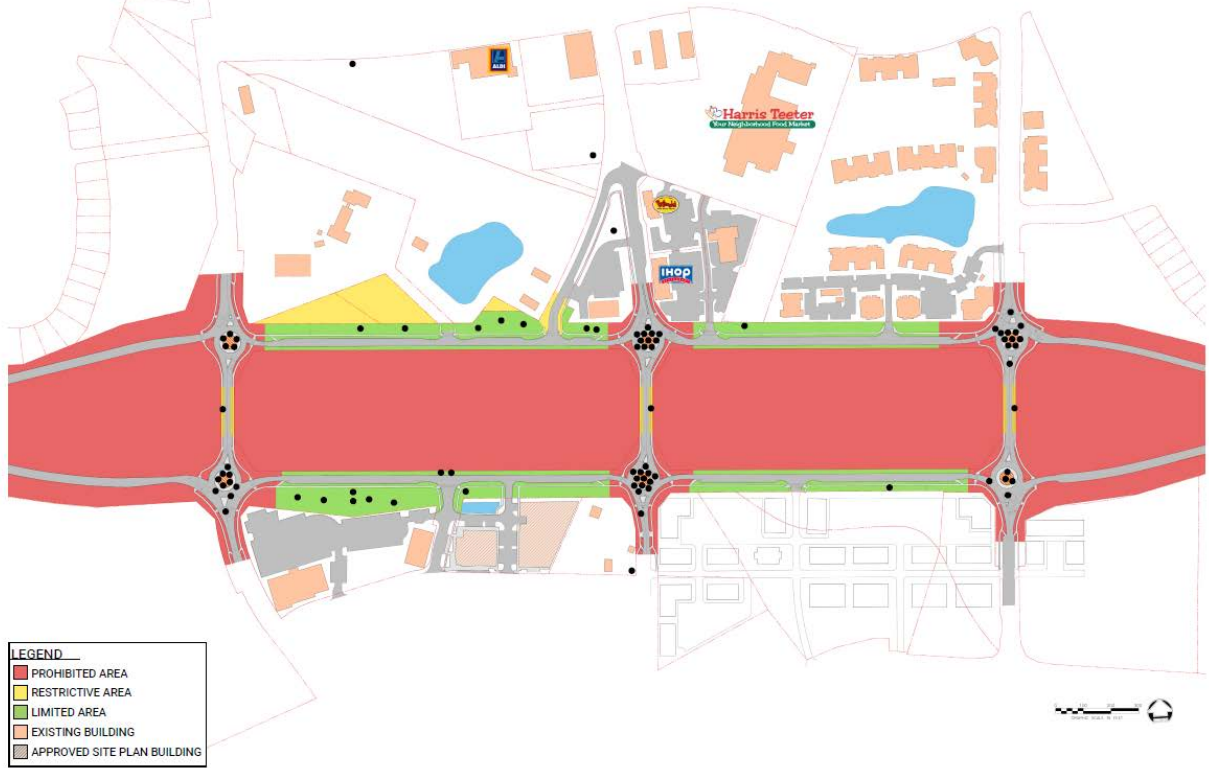




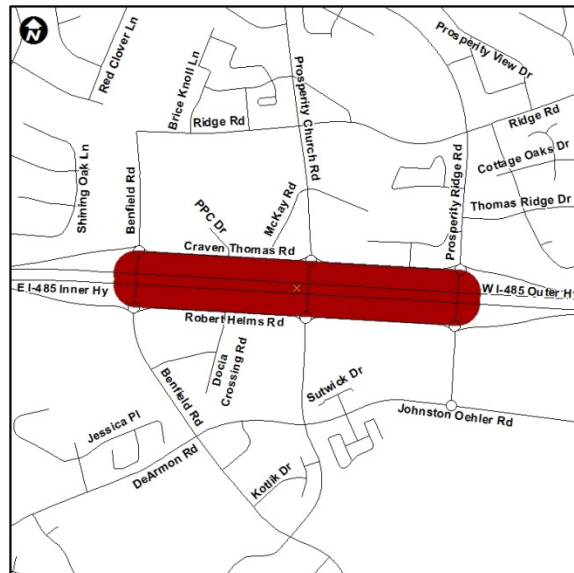
# PUBLIC ART LOCATION MAP

PLACE A PIN IN THE LOCATION YOU FEEL WOULD BE THE BEST LOCATION FOR PUBLIC ART. PLEASE SEE THE LEGEND BELOW FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE MEANINGS FOR EACH COLOR.

CIRH STREETSCAPE DESIGN CHARRETTE



**PROJECT SCOPE VICINITY MAP (Highlighted in Red)**



STREETVIEW OF 1 of 6 ROUNDABOUTS INCLUDING IN CRAVEN THOMAS RD/ROBERT HELMS



CRAVEN THOMAS RD. LOOKING TOWARDS BENFIELD RD.



ROBERT HELMS RD. at PROSPERITY RIDGE

