



PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMO

Meeting Date: 1/26/2026

To: Public Art Advisory Committee

From: Noreen Leek, Parks & Recreation Director

Subject: Review the proposals received for the pilot Artful Bench Program and rank artists

Recommendation

Review the artist proposals received in response to the City's pilot Artful Bench Program Request For Proposals (RFP) and provide direction to staff regarding next steps.

Background &

The Public Art Advisory Committee aspired to establish an artfully designed bench program that would combine public seating with site-specific artwork, enhancing both the functional and aesthetic value of public spaces throughout the community. This program provides opportunities for local artists, increases civic engagement, complements the City's age-friendly goals, and contributes to a more vibrant and welcoming streetscape. The Committee considered the City's existing Donation Policy as well as the Memorial Bench and Plaque policy. They also explored budget ranges for comparable projects nationwide and considered prospective locations for new benches in Brisbane as well as opportunities to refurbish existing benches. After solidifying the locations (Mission Blue Center, Dog Park, Community Center, and Marina) and the project budget, the Committee directed staff to draft an RFP and solicit prospective artists. The RFP was published in November 2025 and the deadline for proposal submissions was 1/9/2026.

Discussion

A total of 61 proposals were received (Attachment 1). Of those received, 52 were deemed responsive. Nine were deemed non-responsive for various reasons including incomplete proposals, they were received after the deadline, or their proposed fee exceeds the budget allocated for individual site locations but falls within the total not-to-exceed amount. It is the discretion of the Committee if they would like to review the non-responsive proposals for consideration, however, this is a qualifications-based selection process which requires a public agency to hire art professionals based on their qualifications and competence. Therefore, cost estimates and fee proposals are not to be considered as part of the selection process.

Responsive artist proposals can be found on Hightail and can be reviewed using the following link:

<https://spaces.hightail.com/space/j8iYPpLPOd>

Committee members are encouraged to review proposals prior to the meeting on Monday, January 26th, and to come prepared to share feedback. Evaluation of proposals should be grounded in whether the artist's proposal aligns with Brisbane's public art mission:

The mission for public art in the City of Brisbane is to support community identity, unity, and pride through diverse artwork that grabs attention and distinguishes a unique sense of place.

Proposal evaluation should also consider the six Brisbane-specific public art criteria that were developed with community feedback during the master planning process:

Unexpected: Artwork should promote excitement and support moments of discovery, characterized by being experiential, playful, fun, and/or interactive.

Integrated: Artwork should be contextually grounded, connecting people to the specific location of the installation, to one another, and to the city at large.

Diverse: Artwork should pull from a diverse pool of artists and be diverse in medium, subject matter, and application that resonates with the city's diverse cultural population.

Culturally Relevant (Brisbane Certified): Artwork should reflect values and characteristics that are significant to Brisbane in order to reflect and enhance the city's unique identity.

Educational: Artwork should offer new perspectives, thereby enhancing public perception and understanding.

Vibrant: Artwork should grab attention and enrich the audience experience.

The Committee is being provided with the RFP scorecard (Attachment 2) and an excel file ranking sheet (Attachment 3) will be sent to all committee members to assist in the tracking and evaluation of proposals. The Committee should rank their top proposals and be prepared to discuss with the Committee at the meeting. The Committee will be responsible for determining next steps and providing direction to staff accordingly.

NOTE: The City of Brisbane reserves the right to reject any or all proposal(s), to waive technicalities, and to accept whichever proposal(s) that may be in the best interest of the City, at its sole discretion.

Fiscal Impact

The project budget was outlined in the RFP as follows:

Location 1 (NEW) Not to exceed \$25,000

Location 2 (NEW) Not to exceed \$25,000

Location 3 (NEW) Not to exceed \$25,000

Location 4 (REFURBISH) \$10,000-\$50,000 (*Contingent on total number of benches refurbished*)

The City Council approved a not to exceed budget of \$125,000 for this project, however, the Committee reserves the right to make an additional budgetary request to the Council if necessary. The Committee may choose to recommend dividing the budget between multiple successful applicants. Funds to support this are available within the Public Art Fund (Fund 275). RFP respondents have provided their cost proposals in a separate document which will be shared with the Committee only after selections have been made.

Attachments

1. List of responsive and non-responsive artists
2. RFP scorecard
3. Ranking sheet template (SAMPLE)

Noreen Leek

Noreen Leek, Parks & Recreation Director

List of Artist Proposals Received

RESPONSIVE:

Adrian Litman
 Adrien Segal
 Aesthetics
 Alexander Schofield
 Alexis Gregg
 Angelina Duckett
 Anjola Ayodele
 Carrie Lederer
 Charles Gadeken
 Cheyenne Concepcion
 Chris Granillo
 Colin Selig
 Craig Gray
 Daniel Borup
 David Moore
 David Roberts
 Derrick Monk
 Di Wu
 Eric Lynn
 Gina Tyler
 Haiying Wu
 Heilweil & Spitler
 Huelani Fogelman
 Jada Schumacher
 James Dinh
 James Naish
 Jessica Bell
 Jesus Magana
 Kat Lam
 Katbing
 Kirk Seese
 Kirsten Kainz
 KT Hancock
 Matthew Duffy
 McGrath Arts
 Michael DiCarlo
 Mitch Hoffman

My Ly
 Oleg Lobykin
 Pamela Edwards
 Rebecca Bird
 Rude Calderon
 Rymie
 Samantha Chang
 Scott Goss
 Stephen Callender
 Todd Frahm
 Tony Stallard
 Valerie Theberge
 Vickie Jo Sowell
 Will Jewett
 Zoe Caron

NON-RESPONSIVE:

Artist Name	Reason
Reinaldo Correa	Budget
Gillie & Marc	Budget
Dicro Davis	Incomplete Proposal
Doitsha Lexington	Incomplete Proposal
JD Trejo Maya	Incomplete Proposal
Todor Todorov	Incomplete Proposal
Mikey	Received after the Deadline
Patrick Sullivan	Received after the Deadline
Susie Cortez	Received after the Deadline



City of Brisbane RFP Scorecard

The City of Brisbane Public Art Advisory Committee should use this scorecard to select a winning artist and proposal for a public art project. Evaluation is based on whether the artist's proposal aligns with Brisbane's public art mission, three general public art criteria, and six Brisbane-specific public art criteria that were developed in response to community feedback.

Applicant Name: _____

Reviewer Name: _____

Date of Review: _____

Criteria	Evaluation Questions <i>Not all questions have to be answered "yes." These are simply prompts to support discussion and decision making.</i>	Score (low to high)
<p>The mission for public art in the City of Brisbane is to support community identity, unity, and pride through diverse artwork that grabs attention and distinguishes a unique sense of place.</p>	<p>Does the artist's portfolio, experience, and proposed concept support the City of Brisbane's public art mission?</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5</p>
<p>RFP Presentation: Artist's submission should be clearly organized and address all items in the RFP.</p>	<p>Does the artist have demonstrated experience in the kind of public art project described in the RFP? If experience is limited, do they demonstrate the skill, professionalism, and aspiration to successfully complete the project at hand?</p> <p>Does the artists' portfolio demonstrate successful execution of, or potential to execute, similar public art projects?</p> <p>Does the artists' proposal address all requested information from the RFP? Is it presented in a logical order that is easy to follow and clearly communicates the idea for the project?</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5</p>
<p>Long-Lasting (permanent public art only): Artwork should be durable, safe, and easy to maintain in order to encourage the community to continuously engage with it.</p>	<p>Is the artists' work made from durable, high-quality materials? (Consideration should be given to structural and surface integrity and protection against theft, vandalism, weathering, and excessive maintenance and repair costs.)</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5</p>



	<p>Is the artist's work safe for people of all ages and backgrounds to engage with?</p> <p>Can the artist guarantee and/or support the long-term viability of their work?</p> <p>Is there funding available for ongoing maintenance?</p>	
<p>Quality / Aesthetically Relevant: Artwork should be conceptually and aesthetically relevant for the designated public art project.</p>	<p>Does the artist's proposal align with the project at hand?</p> <p>Does the artist demonstrate high aesthetic standards?</p> <p>Does the work showcase the creative and technical abilities of the artist?</p> <p>Is the artist's work appropriate for display in public spaces and viewing by a general audience?</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5</p>
<p>Unexpected: Artwork should promote excitement and support moments of discovery, characterized by being experiential, playful, fun, and/or interactive.</p>	<p>Is the proposal concept original in concept and execution?</p> <p>Does the art incorporate innovative techniques or mediums?</p> <p>Does the art excite people, promote curiosity, and/or create a sense of awe?</p> <p>Is the art temporary/rotating to invoke anticipation? (applicable for temporary art)</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5</p>
<p>Integrated: Artwork should be contextually grounded, connecting people to the specific location of the installation, to one another, and to the city at large.</p>	<p>Does the art feel integrated into its environment and to the surrounding city?</p> <p>Is the artwork cohesive with the rest of the collection?</p> <p>Does the art encourage community gathering and connection?</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5</p>
<p>Diverse: Artwork should pull from a diverse pool of artists and be diverse in medium, subject matter, and application that resonates with the city's diverse cultural population.</p>	<p>Does the art vary in medium, subject matter, and application from previous works?</p> <p>Is the art made by a local or regional artist?</p> <p>Is the art made by an underrepresented, and/or emerging artist?</p>	<p>1 2 3 4 5</p>



	Does the art embrace inclusivity and represent a range of perspectives?	
<p>Culturally Relevant (Brisbane Certified): Artwork should reflect values and characteristics that are significant to Brisbane in order to reflect and enhance the city's unique identity.</p>	<p>Does the artist's proposal reflect at least one of Brisbane's core themes? (small-town charm, natural environment, artistic spirit, and connected/inclusive/active community?)</p> <p>Does the artist's work feel cohesive with the overall aesthetic of the city?</p> <p>Does the artwork help people feel proud of/connected to their city?</p>	1 2 3 4 5
<p>Educational: Artwork should offer new perspectives, thereby enhancing public perception and understanding.</p>	<p>Does the art communicate a clear message that can be understood by as many people as possible?</p> <p>Does the art align with the city's values and identity? (i.e. does it teach something about small-town charm, natural environment, artistic spirit, and connected/inclusive/active community?)</p> <p>Does the art support ongoing community engagement and educational activities?</p>	1 2 3 4 5
<p>Vibrant: Artwork should grab attention and enrich the audience experience.</p>	<p>Is the art bright, eye-catching, and/or striking to captivate onlookers?</p> <p>Does the art promote audience engagement?</p> <p>Does the art foster interaction and allow for social sharing (in-person by sparking conversation and online via social media sharing)?</p>	1 2 3 4 5
<p>TOTAL SCORE OUT OF 50 (add selected numbers):</p>		

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