

Five Mile Creek Pathway Trailhub Public Art Project
Eileen Gay - Designer, Fabricator, Project Manager
Mosaic Sculptural Proposal – Water Metrics



A gateway into a space or pathway suggests a feeling of arrival. Not only is the place entered being presented to a visitor, but whatever is framing the entry itself is usually of interest to the curious.

“Water Metrics” offers a feeling of entry in sculptural form and mosaic imagery, representing Meridian canals and water scenes.

I’m excited about the idea of creating a concrete sculptural mosaic gateway for this trailhub. Each of the two halves of the gateway will be approximately 8’ tall and 2’ deep making for an approachable, human scale and a feeling of entry. Mosaic on the forms will feature an homage to the local canal system showing glass mosaic waterfalls guided by canal-like walls over two sides. Also featured are circular icons with cattails, flowering potato plants, and local birds – including the Idaho state bird, the Mountain Blue Bird.

My vision is that ‘Water Metrics’ will feel like they’ve always been there, at the trailhead. The materials for the art - steel, concrete, high fire glazed tile and glass, are strong and freeze-thaw resistant making the artwork low maintenance gateway of the trailhub for many years to come.

Water Metrics’ surfaces feature mosaic art created in rich, long lasting colors using porcelain and glass. Hidden surprises such as embedded word stones and bits of color are often a part of my mosaics offering a sense of discovery for those who are drawn to take a closer look.

Bolted to slabs that rise above the surrounding finish grade, the placement enables visitors a good height for viewing and acts as a protective barrier from maintenance work done around the bases. The two pieces can act as an attract to invite visitors into the park for a closer look and as wayfinding devices to meet up with friends and family before enjoying the trail.

Materials: The armature for my sculptural mosaic forms is created using expanded polystyrene (EPS) material. The steel infrastructure inside the sculptures will include necessary pick points and attachments, per engineered specs, for installation.

The sculptural form is then wrapped in fiberglass mesh and coated with an acrylic cement material called Genesis DM made by Drivit. This application will be done in 2-3 successive coats to achieve a strong outer skin over the armature, the perfect substrate for my mosaic installation.

Once the outer shell has cured, I use latex modified thin-set mortar to adhere the mosaic to the forms. My mosaic materials will consist of high fire glazed porcelain tile and glass tesserae rated to weather freeze / thaw conditions which means that my mosaic installations will hold up and retain their rich color for years to come. I use a urethane grout to finish the mosaics.

Many successful examples of my work using this technique are included in my portfolio for your viewing. All of the materials used in this type of construction have held up extremely well. Some of my installations have been successfully in place for more than 15 years. Technical data sheets on materials are available upon request.

Detailed Budget:

WaterMetrics

2 Water Gateways and Falls

Item	Budget
Artist's Fee	4,500.00
Site visit	500.00
Engineering	2,000.00
Forms,steel	9,200.00
Materials/Supplies	4,700.00
Fabrication	18,000.00
Load, transport, crane	2,100.00
Sitework (footings, install)	7,000.00
Contingency	2,000.00
Total Expenses	Budget
	50,000.00

Site work / installation: For site preparation and the final installation I will work with a local contractor and am open to recommendations for in-kind donations, or direct help from the City of Meridian on the installation of “Water Metrics”.

Schedule for project: My fabrication schedule aims to have fabrication and installation completed by June 2023 as requested. If there are delays brought about by supply chain or other issues, I will work with the City of Meridian to assure the best schedule possible for all parties.

This time estimate is also subject to the City of Meridian’s timely issuance of documents, payments, and approvals as needed at various stages of the project. Fabrication time starts at full execution of a contract by all required parties, artist’s receipt of Notice to Proceed, and receipt of first payment by the artist.

Maintenance plan and recommendations: General maintenance is a wipe down of the surfaces with a mild soap and water to brighten and refresh the color. Hand wash the surfaces only. PRESSURE WASHING OR OTHER MECHANICAL WASHING IS NOT RECOMMENDED.

EILEEN GAY

Mosaic Artist – Sculptor

www.MosaicsByEileen.com

MosaicsByEileen@aol.com

775.688.6278

2051 Canal Road

Sparks, NV 89434-6608

