



PUBLIC ART COMMISSION OF TRUCKEE STAFF REPORT

Date: January 6, 2025

To: Public Art Commission of Truckee

From: Nola Mitchell, Associate Engineer

Subject: Roundabout Selection for Request for Qualifications

At the December 2, 2025 Public Art Commission of Truckee (PACT) special meeting, the Commissioners reviewed the PACT Work Plan and prioritized initiating a new permanent art installation in the Town of Truckee. At the meeting, several roundabouts were discussed as potential locations for the new installation.

This staff report discusses details for a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the new installation including potential locations, available budget, schedule, installation theme, lessons learned from the previous installation at the Church Street/Truckee Way Roundabout, and feedback on the RFQ template (Attachment A).

Potential Locations

Five potential roundabout locations have been identified by the PACT in either the Work Plan, at previous meetings, or by staff as summarized below.

1) McIver Crossing/Donner Pass Road Roundabout

This roundabout was informally selected as the preferred location for the next art installation by Commissioners at the December 2, 2025 PACT meeting. The location is a gateway to Downtown Truckee and would provide good visibility to locals and visitors. In addition, the pedestrian activity in the area is moderate to high (nearby businesses receive a lot of foot traffic, but less pedestrians actually traverse the roundabout). As noted in the December PACT meeting, there is a large railway structure to the east of the roundabout that may compete visually with artwork installed in the roundabout. Commissioners should also consider that this roundabout has the most mature and decorative landscaping of those within the Town and the PACT may want to consider requiring any artwork to integrate into the existing landscaping.

2) Glenshire Drive/Church Street Roundabout

This roundabout is the gateway into Truckee from Glenshire Drive, with low pedestrian activity. It is a newer roundabout with relatively sparse landscaping. PACT is currently installing artwork at the Church Street/Truckee Way roundabout in close proximity to this roundabout.

3) Donner Pass Road/I-80/Coldstream Road Roundabout

This roundabout has been included in the staff report because the center island, where artwork could be installed, is in the Town of Truckee right of way. Even though a portion of the roundabout is in the Caltrans right of way, a project here could likely be pursued without Caltrans involvement. There is generally less public art on this side of Truckee and a project at this roundabout would help increase artwork on the west side of Town. There is moderate to high pedestrian activity in the area because of the nearby coffee shop, access to Donner Lake, nearby housing, and nearby transit shelter

4) Brockway Road/Martis Valley Road Roundabout

This roundabout is on the PACT Opportunity sites list and is included in this discussion. This location has more mature trees and landscaping in the center area. There is moderate pedestrian traffic at this site.

5) Donner Pass Road/Stockrest Springs Road/E Jibboom Street Roundabout

This roundabout is in the Town of Truckee right of way and includes an area already reserved for artwork. The artwork space is a round area, approximately 10 foot diameter on the on the northwest side of the roundabout, closer to the E Jibboom Street leg. There is moderate pedestrian traffic at this site.

Budget

The Town’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget includes a total of \$400,000 for CIP C2308, Public Art Master Plan Implementation, through Fiscal Year (FY) 25/26 and per the Town Council approved funding strategy, and additional \$100,000 will be budgeted annually in future fiscal years. After completion of the Church Street/Truckee Way art installation and temporary art at the Mobility Hub, staff anticipates there will be approximately \$80,000 remaining in FY 25/26. Assuming the majority of the costs for the next permanent installation do not occur until after June 30, 2026 (in FY 26/27), there is approximately \$180,000 budget for the next permanent art installation, Conservation and Maintenance Plan update, Town Hall exhibit materials, and other miscellaneous needs. A potential roundabout project budget based on funds available and actual costs from the Church Street/Truckee Way roundabout is presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1: New Roundabout Public Art Project

Project Expenditures	Cost
Art Piece and Foundation Design	\$85,000
Artist Concept Designs (3 maximum)	\$6,000
Foundation Installation	\$40,000
~10% Contingency	\$15,000
Total	\$146,000

Schedule

Phase 1: RFQ	
Request for Qualifications Released:	March 6, 2026
Applications Due:	April 24, 2026
Public Art Commission of Truckee Qualification	
Review Workshop and Recommendation:	May 5, 2026, 4:00 PM
Request for Concept Proposals from Top Three Artists:	May 8, 2026
Site Visit if Deemed Necessary	May 15, 2026
Requests for Information from Artists Due:	May 29, 2026
Concept Proposals Due:	July 8, 2026
Final Concept Proposals Due:	August 12, 2026
Phase 2: Artist Selection	
Public Art Commission of Truckee Concept Review Workshop:	September 1, 2026
Town Council Presentation/Approval:	September 22, 2026
Artist Contract Executed:	November 18, 2026
Phase 3: Artwork Development and Installation	
Detailed Design Complete:	December 16, 2026
Design Review Complete:	January 6, 2026
Begin Fabrication:	January 11, 2027
Delivery Deadline:	June 14, 2027
Installation completed:	August 4, 2027

Installation Theme

In the past, PACT has left theme selection up to the artists and has also used some public surveys to get information on artwork themes that appealed to the public. There are many options available for theme selection including possibly selecting a theme that aligns with Town of Truckee 2025-27 Council Goals ([Council Strategic Priorities & Work Plan | Truckee, CA](#)). These goals are bulleted below:

- Actively support the development of workforce housing.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and become a leader in environmental sustainability.
- Enhance communication and public outreach.
- Invest in key infrastructure, community connectivity and economic vitality.
- Enhance partnerships and investment for emergency preparedness including wildfire readiness, mitigation and recovery.

Lessons Learned

There are a few lessons learned from the Church Street/Truckee Way roundabout RFQ (**Attachment A**) selection and installation process that should be discussed, including the following:

- During the first phase of the Church Street/Truckee Way roundabout RFQ, Commissioners offered two rounds of comments to the top three artists and, in retrospect, Commissioners felt that this possibly provided too much direction to the artists and unintentionally encouraged substantial changes to the designs. For this reason, staff is recommending that the second/"Final Concept Proposal" submittal be eliminated from the project schedule. Instead, the PACT would choose an artist based on the first concept submittal.
- The contract negotiation took longer than expected and the schedule above provides an additional month to complete this item (2 months total).

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- Some Commissioners worried that the fabrication schedule was too tight for the Church Street/Truckee Way roundabout and two extra months have been included in the fabrication and installation schedule this time.
 - PACT should discuss if artists that have previously been commissioned to create artwork in the Town of Truckee will be eligible for the next RFQ. If not, PACT should consider adding language to the RFQ regarding this.

Request for Qualifications Template

Attachment A presents an outline of the proposed Request for Qualification (RFQ) for the PACT to review and provide feedback.

Staff Recommendation:

That PACT:

- (1) Identify which roundabout will be selected for the next art installation.
- (2) Establish a proposed budget of \$146,000 for the next roundabout project (\$85,000 for the art piece, \$6,000 for the artist concept designs, \$40,000 for installation, and \$15,000 for ~10% contingency).
- (3) Discuss either not selecting a theme selection or selecting a theme aligned with Council goals.
- (4) Review the summary of the proposed Request for Qualifications and suggest edits.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Request for Qualifications Template