

Request for Qualifications for  
Springfield-Sangamon County Transportation Center  
10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Street Murals  
Springfield, Ill.

Call to Artists

Sangamon County is pleased to announce a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to professional artists or firms to create permanent original art or installations for one or two public murals that will be located outdoors at the new Springfield Sangamon County Transportation Center in Springfield, Illinois. The project timeline will begin later this summer with final installation in summer of 2022.

Application Deadline: Friday, June 11, 2021

4:30 p.m.

\*Application before the deadline is encouraged.

Eligibility

These public art commissions and potential purchases are open to all professional artists, artisans, artist-led teams and firms.

- An artist/artisan/firm is defined as a skilled practitioner who generates designs and concepts for creative works that reflect form, beauty and aesthetic perception.
- Subcontractors may be used and are defined as those providing technical implementation such as construction, fabrication and/or assembly for portions or all of a finished product under direct supervision and control of an artist.
- No county employees, city employees, elected officials or members of their immediate families who are living in their households are eligible to apply.

Project Summary

It has long been a goal of the Sangamon County community to have a centralized transportation hub serving various forms of public transportation needs in the County including Sangamon Mass Transit District (SMTD) buses and Amtrak trains.

The Springfield Sangamon County Transportation Center Project is planned to create ADA-compliant platforms and station facilities for loading, unloading, and transfer of Amtrak train and SMTD bus passengers. The project will also plan for convenient access to the city's downtown district and beyond.

The Transportation Center will be located on two blocks along the 10th Street Rail Corridor. The site is bounded by 9th and 11th Streets and by Adams and Washington Streets. It is located immediately north of the Sangamon County Complex and east of the BOS Center, a multi-purpose facility that host various large events including concerts, conventions and sports tournaments.

This centralized transportation hub will reduce travel time, relieve congestion, encourage use of public transportation and provide improved service to those who depend on public transportation in Illinois' capital city. The current public transportation facilities are scattered around the community resulting in inefficiency, discontinuity and a disincentive to use public

transportation. Many of these current systems do not have any interconnection. A unified system will streamline interchange and improve access. In addition, combining the systems in one location will hopefully stimulate transit-based development around the proposed site and enhance growth along the Tenth Street corridor.

Well-planned transportation infrastructure is a proven source of civic pride. The planned transportation center may be the first and last impression that the transit customer has of the city, and therefore, it is important that those impressions are memorable in the best possible way. Well-designed bus and rail transit stations can significantly contribute to one's comfort, ease of navigation and overall impression of a place. A pleasant passenger experience is deeply rooted in function and efficiency. Transit is a time-sensitive operation where systems must operate seamlessly. However, thoughtful design can elevate the utilitarian, purely functional and efficient transit station to be a new, iconic architectural element in the ever-changing fabric of the city and serve as a catalyst for redevelopment of the east side of Springfield's Central Business District. To accomplish this, the bus and Amtrak station needs to be beautiful, functional and long-lasting to serve the needs of the passengers and transit agencies for generations into the future.

### Project Site

There are two large spaces that are available for public outdoor artwork or displays that will be located near the center of the transportation center project.

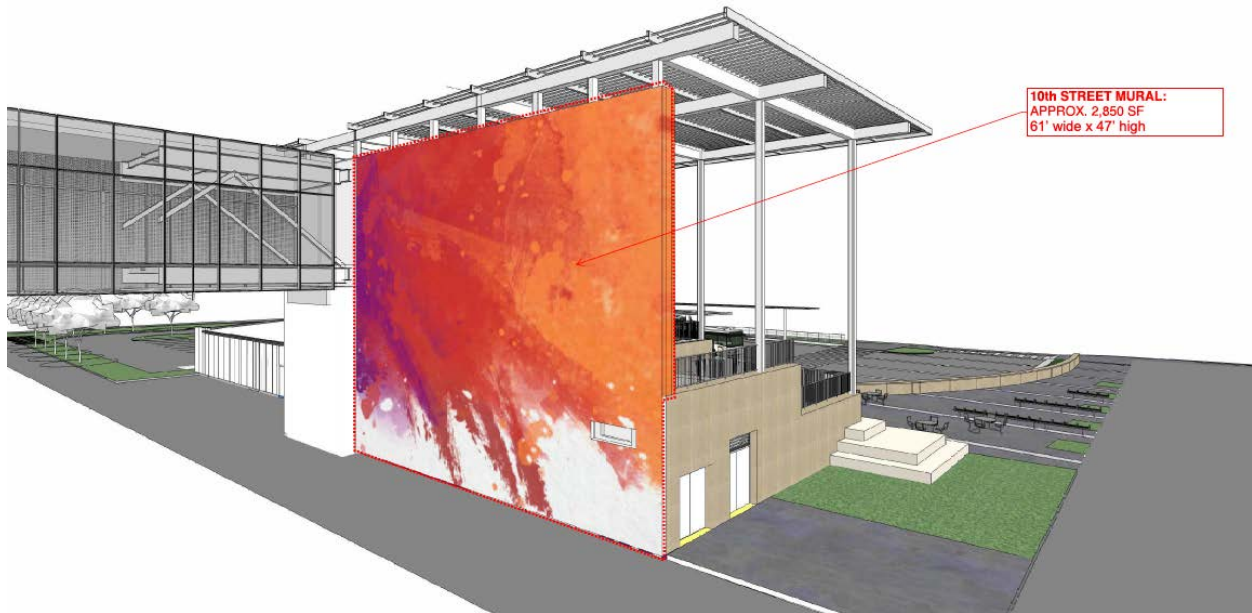
1. 11<sup>th</sup> Street Mural: this mural will be visible from 11<sup>th</sup> Street and the primary space that is directly next to this mural space will be the bus transfer center (See concept A on next page). The primary audiences who will be able to view this will be bus riders/drivers, neighborhood residents, businesses and automobile and pedestrian traffic along 11<sup>th</sup> street. It will be approximately 1970 ft<sup>2</sup> (61' 5" wide X 31'6" high).
2. 10<sup>th</sup> Street Mural: this mural will be located on the other side of the mural listed above and will face the railroad tracks (See concept B on the next page). The primary audience will be people arriving and leaving on the Amtrak train as well as people walking across the pedestrian bridge to board the train. It will be approximately 2,850 ft<sup>2</sup> (61' wide X 47' high).

Concept A – 11<sup>th</sup> Street Mural



SPRINGFIELD SANGAMON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION CENTER  
Hanson Project No. 19L0116A  
Muller2 Project No. 20-1003  
February 23, 2021

Concept B – 10<sup>th</sup> Street Mural (along railroad tracks)



## Artist Objectives & Goals

At this time, the committee has no preferred theme, media or format and does not wish artists to be limited to content that relates explicitly to the function or programming of the building.

The architects on this project prefer for the artist to create their work on panels that will then be affixed to the walls described. The work must be durable, safe and cost effective to maintain with limited annual maintenance.

If an artist or firm would like to include digital components in its design, the applicant would need to include applicable engineers to review the building after constructed and propose necessary modifications to be completed as a part of the mural installation. Potential engineering disciplines could include electrical, IT, sound, structural, but would be up to the applicant to identify and describe. Any proposed modifications to the building will be reviewed and approved with the client prior to installation.

## Budget Details

Several sources cite that for many murals, the budget should be approximately calculated between \$10 to \$50 per square foot for each mural. The project is prepared to fund these murals in that range based on design, materials, experience of the artist(s)/team and other factors. The final cost of the mural(s) will be agreed upon and included in a written contract before work commences.

However, the budget for each mural should cover all expenses associated with, but not limited to the project design, labor, fabrication, project management, materials, tools, contracted services, operations and meetings and travel required to complete the artwork plus installation, related permits, licenses, taxes and insurance, and transportation and delivery of the work to the site, as well as documentation of the completed project. Any expense that exceeds the contracted amount will be the artists' responsibility.

The artist is responsible for working with the project manager, the using agency and other relevant partners to oversee all aspects of the art installation.

## Artist(s) Scope of Work and Timeline

The artist will be expected to work throughout this project with a mural advisory committee who will be making final recommendations to a steering committee for the whole transportation project.

- RFQ due June 11, 2021.
- The advisory committee will select a limited number of finalists by end of July 2021.
- Preproposal phone call with finalists in early August 2021.
- Design proposals created August-September 2021.
- Final selection in October 2021.
- Winner notified by November 2021.
- Work can begin after contract(s) are finalized.
- Final installation in summer 2022.
- Artist(s) to attend the opening event in summer 2022.

\*Timeline subject to change.

## Selection Process

Sangamon County is utilizing an advisory committee comprised of community members, stakeholders and artists to make recommendations to the steering committee for the final selection of the artist(s) for these spaces. One artist may be selected for both murals or one artist might be selected for each mural. The committee will consider all of the elements that are included in the application packet when forming its recommendations.

The committee will select a limited number of artists/teams from the pool of eligible artists/teams established by this RFQ. Each artist/team selected will be paid a total stipend of \$2,500 for each concept he/she/team is asked to submit and present to the committee later this year.

The installation of the art will be complete by the summer of 2022.

Letters or emails will be sent to the selected artists/teams with details of the proposal process and contracts.

**DO NOT SEND A PROPOSAL UNLESS/UNTIL YOU HAVE BEEN CONTACTED BY THE CONSULTANT THAT YOU ARE ONE OF THE FINALISTS.**

## Intellectual Property Rights

Any original work(s) submitted for review by the committee in consideration of payment of the stipend shall become property of Sangamon County together with any related intellectual property rights applicable to the submitted work(s). All such intellectual property rights shall vest with Sangamon County immediately upon submission. All intellectual property rights in the work or works ultimately selected by the committee shall be the exclusive property of Sangamon County.

## Legal Agreement

Sangamon County reserves the right to alter any aspect of the selection process or overall project in any way for its own convenience at any time. This Request for Qualifications does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract and its provisions are subject to change.

## How to Apply

To apply for this project, please submit a Letter of Intent that includes:

- the project name – indicating whether you are interested in providing one mural or both murals
- your name and the name of your team members, if applying as a team
- your most current contact information including address, telephone number and e-mail address
- the reasons you are qualified to be selected for this project
- experience with collaborative projects where community helps paint or work on final product
- experience painting on panels that are later installed to the site, please note if you do not have experience in this area—it is not a disqualifying factor
- any connections to Sangamon County or Illinois

In addition to the Letter of Intent, please email or mail ONE copy of each of the following, labeled with the artist's name as well as the project name.

1. Resume (if a team, one for each member) with current contact information, including:
  - a. Name
  - b. Address
  - c. Phone
  - d. E-mail
  - e. Website
2. Artist Statement (1 page maximum, double spaced)
  - a. If the submission is on behalf of a team, please identify the lead artist and indicate if the individuals have previously collaborated and the nature of the collaboration.
  - b. If the artist or artist team has worked with not-for profit organizations, local governments, state agencies or other similar groups, please indicate which entity you worked with and a short description of the project.
3. Artist Goals and Objectives (1 page maximum, double spaced)
  - a. Indicate what the artists/teams goals and objectives would be for this space(s).
  - b. Include in this item any ideas for themes to be considered for these space(s).
4. Up to 10 JPEG images of relevant past work. Please provide the images in the following format.
  - a. One image per JPEG
  - b. Pixel dimensions per page: approx. 600 X 800
  - c. Image resolution: 72-300 pixels per inch
  - d. Maximum file size per image: 1MB
  - e. Name each image: lastnamefirstnameimagenumber.jpg, for example: jonesjohn01.jpg, jonesjohn2.jpg, jonesjohn3.jpg, etc.
  - f. A corresponding, numbered, annotated image list with title, media, dimensions, location, brief description, date of the work, project budget, and project partners, if applicable.
  - g. When submitting by e-mail, please send images as attachments and not in the body of the email.
5. References of at least three professionals (commissioning agency or organization, design or arts professional, architect, landscape architect, engineer, etc.) who have detailed knowledge of the artist's work and working methods, include contact name, complete address, telephone number and email for each reference.
6. Optional: One PDF file of additional support material, including press clippings or other relevant information on past projects (maximum 1MB file).
7. Digital Submittals
  - a. Email submittals are preferred
  - b. If the information is provided on CD or other drive, include ALL required documents (resume, artist statement, image list, references, etc.) as well as the images and label it clearly with artist or team name and date.
  - c. PowerPoint presentations are not accepted.

Please note:

Send images as JPEG files ONLY. Slides will not be accepted or returned.

Do not send design proposals.

All submittals become property of Sangamon County and will not be returned.

Submissions may be presented for public viewing. The artist retains copyright.

How and Where to Submit:

Interested artists' applications must be received no later than Friday, June 11, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. We will not accept any proposals submitted after this date and time.

Application materials may be delivered by:

1. E-mail to [sara@kindconsulting.org](mailto:sara@kindconsulting.org) **(preferred option)**
2. Hand delivery, USPS or other mailing service to  
Hanson Professional Services  
c/o Sara Jimenez  
1525 South 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Springfield, IL 62703

If you have any questions about this RFQ, please email them to Sara Jimenez at [sara@kindconsulting.org](mailto:sara@kindconsulting.org) by May 21, 2021. She will gather all of the questions from applicants, answer them and post them to the Sangamon County [website](#) no later than May 28, 2021.

Get to know Sangamon County & Springfield, Ill.:

<https://co.sangamon.il.us>

<https://www.visitspringfieldillinois.com>

[Watch latest public virtual meeting on the rail relocation project & transportation center.](#)