



**CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
EP23/24-32
EAST PROVIDENCE BEAUTILITY BOX MURAL PROGRAM
BID OPENING MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024 AT 11:00AM**

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Mayor DaSilva and the Department of Planning and Economic Development, in partnership with the East Providence Arts Council, invite artists to submit design proposals to paint public art murals on municipal utility boxes, with the goal to beautify our neighborhoods, enhance the streetscape, and showcase the talent of local artists.

Process

- Local artists based in Rhode Island or Massachusetts are eligible to apply. Artists who reside in or have permanent office or studio space in East Providence will be given special consideration.
- Artists must be 18 or older.
- Artists may submit up to three (3) designs for consideration.
- Submissions will be reviewed by a selection panel made up of members of the East Providence Arts Council and city staff, with final approval by the Mayor.
- Up to twelve (12) finalists will be selected to participate in the mural painting program. Selected artists will be notified if and when their designs are selected.
- Deadline for submissions is July 15, 2024.

Honoraria

Selected artists will receive a \$900 stipend for labor and the cost of all materials required to complete their artwork. \$300 will be paid upon award of the project and entering a contract with the City. The remaining \$600 will be paid upon completion of the mural.

Design Guidelines

- Artwork must be original design created by the person(s) applying. Creativity is encouraged.
- Avoid dark palettes in order to prevent boxes from overheating in the sun.
- Designs may be representational or abstract but should take into consideration the local context and audience and the goals of beautifying our neighborhoods and enhancing the streetscape.
- Artwork must be suitable for viewers of all ages.
- Artwork cannot include logos or branding; no copyrighted or trademarked images
- No profanity or any content that may be deemed inappropriate, politically divisive or in poor taste

- Utility box size may vary; selected artists must be willing to adjust designs to their particular box.

Additional information:

- There are twelve (12) utility boxes that will be painted for the 2024 program, located in Riverside, Rumford, and Central City.
- The utility boxes must be scraped, cleaned and primed with water based primer before the artist can begin painting.
- The operational use of the boxes cannot be painted over (tape over functional uses before painting). Applied paint must not interfere with the operation of the box’s hinges, vents, locks, and keyholes, in addition to the legibility of any cautionary text on the box.
- Only high quality durable materials may be used in the creation of the artwork. Acrylic or latex water-based primer and then an oil based sign painter’s enamel, such as 1 Shot or Ronan, or high-pigment artist acrylic, such as Nova Color, are recommended for top coat.
- Artists must supply their own water, tools, paint, brushes, and materials.
- Drop cloths should be used at all times while painting.
- A protective coating, such as Mural Shield, may be applied by artist once work is finished (optional).
- Passage on the sidewalk for pedestrians must be maintained at all times. Blocking traffic or lanes of the street may only be done in coordination with project staff and City officials.

The Selection Panel will vote on submissions based on the following criteria:

- Originality and creativity of proposal
- Messaging and theme
- Skill and experience
- Feasibility of completion of work within project timeline

Timeline

June 18, 2024	RFP Advertised
July 2, 2024	Virtual info session from 1:00pm until 2:00pm on Tuesday, July 2, 2024. Join on Zoom using the following link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88625093236
July 15, 2024	Submissions due
July 22, 2024	Winners notified – painting can begin upon acceptance of offer and receiving notice to proceed
September 30, 2024	Paintings must be complete
October (date TBA)	Celebration event

All dates are subject to change.

Disclaimer

Due to the functional nature of these structures, there is no guarantee for how long each mural will remain intact, and if and when future artwork may replace it. Artists must agree that the box can be painted over at any time by the City of East Providence. The artists selected must acknowledge that their original artwork will become property of the City of East Providence and their artwork and likeness in regards to this project may be used in future publications, promotional materials, etc. Selected artists are responsible for providing a materials list and purchasing said materials.

Any questions should be directed to Tristan Jimerson, Business Development and Economic Opportunity Coordinator, at tjimerson@eastprovidenceri.gov , the City of East Providence Planning Department, at planning@eastprovidenceri.gov, and Jessica Lamprey, Procurement Specialist, jlamprey@eastprovidenceri.gov no later than **MONDAY, JULY 1, 2024 AT 4:00PM.**

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Jessica Lamprey

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