

## **-TRANSITIONS-**

### Kinetic Wind Sculptures for Vista Avenue Medians

Spending time in Boise, we were impressed by this growing, vibrant community. As visitors, we were struck by the friendly and welcoming spirit. We were also impressed by the civic pride and lively support for the arts. When thinking about how to approach the parameters of this project, we wanted to capture these feelings. We identified the following seven goals:

- Imagery that is understandable to audiences from all walks of life, both young and old
- Appreciation of nature and the outdoors / Awareness of conserving precious resources
- Create an identifying signature artwork that will welcome visitors to and from the city
- Fun & Entertaining / Energize the surrounding neighborhood and establish a sense of community pride and ownership
- Colorful / Energetic / Vibrant - celebrate a thriving community while looking to the future
- Invite viewers on different levels of visual and conceptual interaction
- Safety issues: not inviting pedestrians for close-up interaction, enjoyable from a distance

To achieve these, we narrowed our ideas down to what the city is known for, "The City of Trees." With its semi-arid climate and four distinct seasons, we decided to celebrate the transitions of a tree through each season. This embraces the fundamental ideas of change and growth.

We will create four colorful kinetic sculptures that are abstracted representations of trees; one for each season of the year. We will place two on each of the designated Vista Avenue medians, thus tying that stretch of the street together, both conceptually and visually.

Each sculpture will be of a distinct design and stand just under 13' high. The base of each sculpture represents a tree trunk. Mounted on top of each will be a colorful kinetic element that moves with the wind, signifying a season of the year.

Our four majestic sculptures are designed to stand out from their surroundings. Bright colors and gentle wind derived movements are intended to attract motorists' and pedestrians' attention from a distance and produce a momentary "wow" reaction of enjoyment and curiosity. Moving elements are purposely placed high up on the sculpture to avoid issues of safety and vandalism. These sculptures will be an identifying signature piece at the gateway to the city of Boise.

A night-time presence is a very important consideration for us as it creates a more festive and exciting visual experience. Although there is currently no access to municipal power, we will install our sculptures on site with pre-installed internal lighting. By integrating low voltage LED lighting into the design of our sculptures, we will give the city the option, if they wish, to bypass using municipal power altogether and become entirely energy independent through solar harvested power. Each sculpture will draw no more than 100 watts to power the internally mounted LED lights that will bring the sculptures alive at night. They will harness energy thru strategically placed solar

panels that will store electricity in the base of the sculpture. This same technology, with light and motion sensors, can be seen in commercially available solar powered outdoor parking lot lights. If municipal power does become available, the city will still have the option of connecting it directly to the sculptures using a step-down transformer (wiring and electrical schematic will be provided). None of the lighting elements will be a distraction to motorists or local residents. Great care will be taken to point lights (where applicable) in an upward direction.

### **DESCRIPTION OF SCULPTURES:**

#### **SPRING: New / Growth**

This will be the first sculpture to be seen coming from the Boise Airport or Interstate 84. Two slender forms that rise from the ground outward and up will support a white 4-petal flower (the state flower: Syringa) that turns with the wind. It welcomes visitors not only to the city of Boise but to the state of Idaho. On the two inside surfaces of the base, there will be cutout circular patterns, representing seeds of new growth, which will illuminate at night in cascading colors. The top flower will be illuminated by two accent lights mounted on top of the 2 base forms and pointing upwards.

#### **SUMMER: Sun / Energy**

This will have two slender forms that rise up and cross each other at the top. Here they support a cluster of open circular forms that turn with the wind and are colored yellow, bright red, light green and blue. On the two inside surfaces of the base, there will be horizontal rectangular cutout patterns, symbolizing the exchange of energy, which will illuminate at night in cascading colors. The upper circles will be illuminated by two accent lights mounted on top of the 2 base forms and pointing upwards.

#### **FALL: Autumn Leaves / Changing Colors**

This sculpture will depict a cluster of triangular open forms in orange, red, yellow and green, which move with the wind and are mounted above a slender 4-sided base. On two sides of this pyramidal base there will be cutout leaf patterns that illuminate at night in cascading colors, animating the falling leaves of Autumn. The upper triangular forms will be illuminated by two accent lights mounted on top of the base and pointing upwards.

#### **WINTER: Snow / Water / River**

This will be a large 6-sided diamond shape with fins that catch the wind, representing a snowflake or ice. Three slender forms make up the base that stretch upwards and out to support it. On the three outer curved surfaces of the base, there will be cutout vertical rectangular patterns that will illuminate at night, mimicking cascading water. The upper diamond shaped form will be translucent blue and illuminated from within.

Our overall approach is to create artwork that is relevant and suitable for the proposed site, considering the scope and parameters of the project. Our sculpture **"TRANSITIONS"** will become an iconic landmark at the door to the city of Boise and revitalize the Vista Neighborhood.

## ARTIST STATEMENT

Our approach is to create artworks that are derived from and specific to the environment where they are located. We seek out elements, local in nature, that have relevance based on an understanding of the historical, cultural, and/or geological significance of the site and its current use by the surrounding community.

Our public sculptures reflect and capture the interactive nature of public art. We accomplish this by using a combination of contemporary forms, kinetic movement and interactive technologies to create a multi layered impact. Utilizing wind derived movement has become an important visual tool for capturing a unique presence for our sculptures. Elements set in motion by the wind give a moment of delightful surprise and heightened effect. It creates an instant bonding with viewers and stimulates what we like to think of as a nonverbal conversation. The artist Duchamp famously described kinetic movements as the enjoyment found when "looking at flames dancing in the fireplace." We also add to this kinetic motion an interplay of color and light. Reflected patterns of color, especially while moving, create a dance of shadows on surrounding surfaces.

In all our work, we utilize the latest technologies and materials to achieve our goals. State-of-the-art (non-corroding) frictionless bearings respond to the slightest air currents or vibrations. Materials are carefully chosen and engineered to withstand the harshest climates and weather conditions. We ensure a very low maintenance sculpture that will provide many decades of enjoyment.

## VISUAL COMPONENT

- Multiple views of sculptures
- Views of the work in context to the site
- Lighting images (description included in narrative statement)
- Dimensions
- Site plans
- Solution for the anchor/footing of the work

Please see jpeg images and short animation video enclosed in thumb drive.

## **Materials:**

All structural elements of the four sculptures will be entirely fabricated out of 304 stainless-steel.

## **Finishes:**

- All uncoated stainless steel surfaces will be orbital sanded (40-grit).
- All colored elements of the sculptures will be powdercoated. This is weatherproof, durable and requires little to no maintenance.
- For these upper colored coated sections of each sculpture, we use stainless steel as the substrate to provide extra protection against corrosion if the surface coating somehow gets chipped or scratched.

**Pivot Points:** The pivot point on each sculpture is the bearing housing. Here we machine a stainless-steel tube that contains ceramic insert bearings. These ceramic bearings are both lighter and harder than traditional steel bearings and do not suffer from pitting. The ceramic material does not rust, unlike steel, meaning exposure to moisture is not a concern. They provide reduced levels of friction, are virtually maintenance free and last between 5 to 20 times longer than steel bearings as well as being impervious to extreme temperatures. We will supply the size, make and model numbers of these bearings and they are readily available in the unlikely event that replacement is needed.

**Shaft:** The bearing shafting used for all the internal shafting that runs through the sculpture will be carbon steel 1050 Chrome plated that has a 100 KSI min yield strength.

**Lexan ¼" Sheet:** translucent backup material for sculpture cut outs as well as the walls of the diamond shape for Winter. This material was chosen for its high impact performance and stiffness over a wide temperature range. It is UV resistant and has long-term color stability.

## **Lighting** (for 1 sculpture):

- Waterproof RGB XL PixelControl LED Strip Light
- 10 AWG cables
- RGB LED controller
- 12 Volt DC - Dusk-To-Dawn Photo Cell
- Inset LED accent light

## MAINTENANCE AND PRESERVATION

### Routine Maintenance:

The sculpture does not require any routine maintenance.

### Cleaning:

If the sculpture needs cleaning, use soft cloth and water to wipe off any dirt.

### Graffiti Cleaning:

Use conventional graffiti remover. If needed, use orbital sander with 40-grit sandpaper to clean off any markings. While sanding the surface, make sure to clean off the fine dust produced since this gets ground back into the surface, creating unnecessary markings.

### Surface Protection:

All the materials used are stainless steel so there's no need for any protection; however, we recommend wiping off the surface of the base of the sculpture with **Walter X-Force Universal Cleaner/Lubricant** (see photo below) occasionally or when using the 40-grit orbital sander. This cleaner will ensure to remove any dust, protects the surface and gives a great fresh look.

### Mechanical Maintenance:

The bearings used in this sculpture are all ceramic bearings and they do not need any lubrication or cleaning.



**Walter X-Force Universal Cleaner/Lubricant**

# Vista Avenue Medians Public Art Project

## Preliminary Budget Proposal

Descriptions		Cost	Total
<b>Materials</b>			<b>35,000.00</b>
	All Materials	32,000.00	
	LED Lighting	3,000.00	
<b>Design Fee</b>			<b>5,000.00</b>
	Artists Design Fees (Final Design Phase: Schematic and Mechanical Drawings / Presentation / Meetings)		
<b>Licenses and Permits</b>			<b>400.00</b>
	City Permits	250.00	
	Business License	150.00	
<b>Professional Fees</b>			<b>11,200.00</b>
	Structural Engineer Service	2,000.00	
	Lighting Design Service	8,000.00	
	Lawyer Fees	1,200.00	
<b>Insurance</b>			<b>1,600.00</b>
	Liability	1,600.00	
<b>Subcontractors</b>			<b>8,000.00</b>
	Waterjet cutting	4,500.00	
	Powdercoating	3,500.00	
<b>Fabrication</b>			<b>55,000.00</b>
	Labor	55,000.00	
<b>Transportation</b>			<b>4,000.00</b>
	Drayage	4,000.00	
<b>Overhead Expenses</b>			<b>7,300.00</b>
	Studio Rent	3,000.00	
	Utilities	800.00	
	Consumable Supplies	1,200.00	
	Travel Expenses	1,500.00	
	Office Expenses	800.00	
<b>Artists' Fee (15%)</b>			<b>22,500.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$ 150,000.00</b>

# Vista Avenue Medians Public Art Project

## Proposed Schedule

DESCRIPTION	TIME FRAME
Contract Execution	1 month after the award of project
Design Phase: Submit final design packet - including detail schematic, mechanical and electrical drawings. Submit final budget proposal	1 month
Receive a Notice to Proceed from Boise City Department of Arts and History	2 weeks
Order Materials	2 weeks
Begin Fabrication: 50% of Fabrication	3 months
100% of Fabrication	3 months
Packing and Crating Artwork	1 week
Shipping Artwork to the City of Boise	2 weeks
Site Preparation done by the City of Boise	to be determined
Installation of Artwork by the City of Boise	2-3 days
<b>Total Time Frame: Approx. 10 months</b>	