



ARTIST REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Water Conservation & Resiliency Public Art Project

APPLICATION DEADLINE: November 13, 2025, 1:00 PM MST

ARTIST BUDGET: \$165,000

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET: \$330,000

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING: October 22, 2025, 11:00 AM MST [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

LOCATION: Camel's Back Park, 1200 Heron St., Boise, ID 83702

To apply visit the City of Boise's Bids Homepage: [City of Boise Public Bid Site](#)

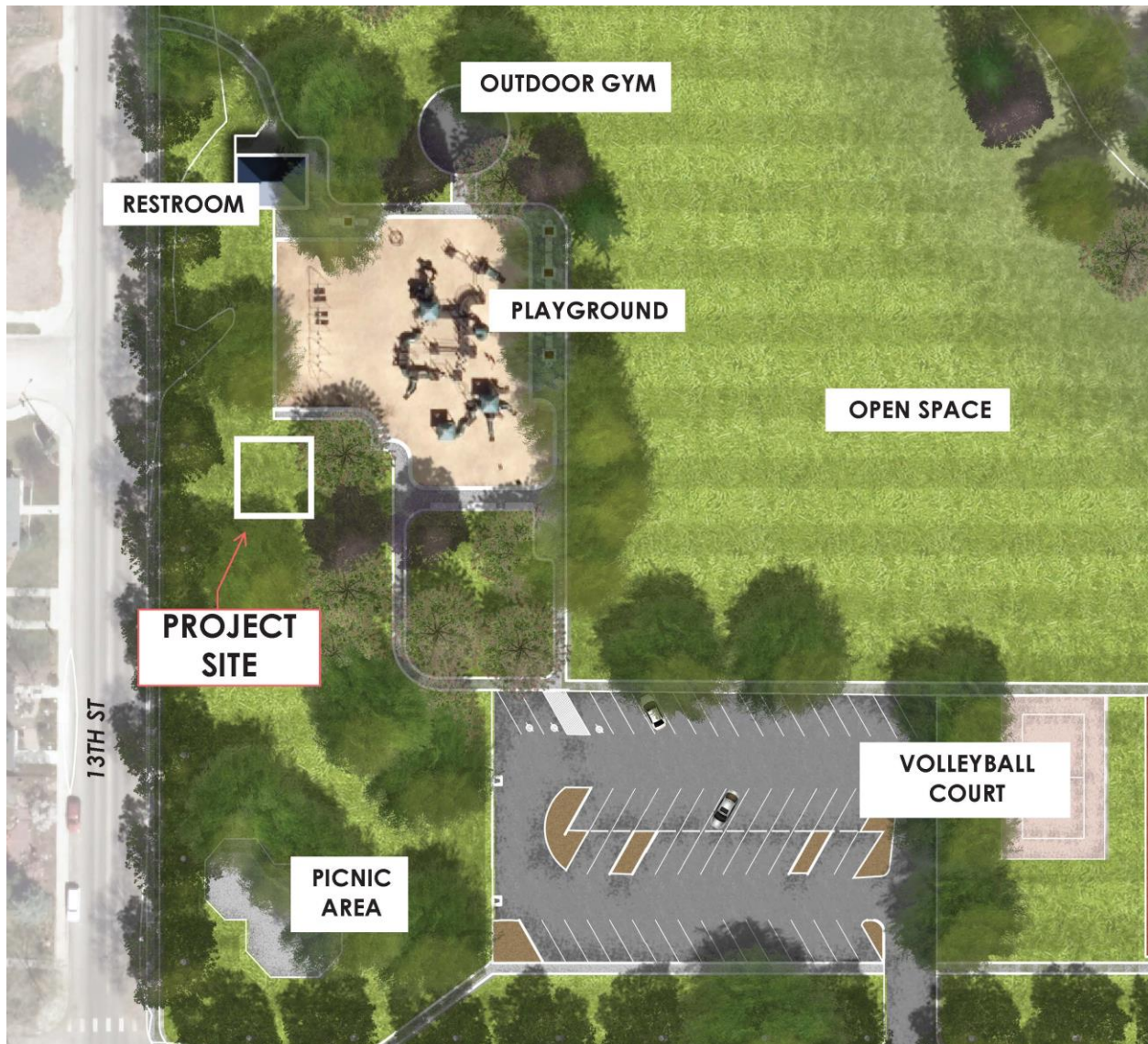
Opportunity

The Boise City Department of Arts & History invites artists or artist teams to submit qualifications for a site-specific public art installation located at Camel's Back Park at the base of the Boise Foothills. As part of the Public Works Public Art Program, the Water Conservation & Resiliency Project's purpose is to integrate a meaningful, educational, and environmentally conscious artwork into Boise's natural landscape. The selected work will reflect the significance of water in our high desert ecosystem and engage viewers in themes of sustainability, conservation, & community connection.

Up to three finalists may be selected, with each compensated \$1,000 to submit concept proposals and interview with the selection panel. One artist or artist team will then be awarded a \$165,000 contract to collaborate with project stakeholders in developing a final proposal. Artists will respond to and reflect on the research and resources provided by the Arts & History Department, Parks & Recreation, and Public Works Department, develop and formalize artwork design, respond to feedback, fabricate the work, and transport the artwork to the site for delivery. Construction of the footing/anchor system and installation of the work will be coordinated with and managed by the City of Boise and this cost should not exceed \$114,000. This cost is separate from and in addition to the Artist Budget.

The City intends to award the contract to one artist or artist team; however, the City reserves the right to award to more than one Applicant, or no Applicants if none of the applicants are deemed acceptable.

Camel's Back Park Layout and Artwork Site Location



The selected artist(s) will work with the Boise Arts & History team and project stakeholders to integrate their artwork design into the existing outdoor space. The selected artist(s) shall respond to all of the following goals within their design (detailed below):

PROJECT GOALS

1. Educational Impact - Inspire thought, provoke discussion, and elicit action. The artwork should offer accessible and foundational education about Boise's water systems. Artists are encouraged to highlight the "ripple effect" of personal choices and promote mindfulness in water use. The intent is to inspire small, meaningful actions.
2. Environmental Integration - Designs must harmonize with the natural environment of the surrounding foothills. Integration of native and drought-tolerant plantings is encouraged. The work should embody water-conscious values and feel like a natural extension of the landscape.
3. Community Connection - The project should visually explore the interdependence between the community and Boise's water resources. It should reflect shared responsibility and collective impact, connecting viewers to the idea that everyday choices influence our water systems. Take into consideration this space is next to a playground, accounting for families and small children.
4. Accessibility & Inclusion - The piece must be accessible and meaningful to a broad audience, including diverse ages, languages, abilities, and backgrounds. The artist should consider physical accessibility and include experiential design features such as kinetic or haptic elements.

Project Information

Camel's Back Park is located at the base of the Boise Foothills. The park serves as both a beloved community gathering space and a gateway to the foothills. The area sees significant use by parkgoers, hikers, bikers, and nature lovers. The site for the artwork offers open visibility and direct engagement with the trail system, providing a dynamic setting for interpretation and interaction.

As stated in the City of Boise's [Climate Action Roadmap](#), **pg. 59**, the City of Boise is navigating growing challenges to water availability and resilience, driven by population growth and climate change. As part of its climate priorities, the city is placing strong focus on water conservation to help reduce overall demand.

This project's purpose is to raise public awareness about the region's contemporary water challenges as well as conservation and resiliency efforts. We are seeking dynamic, experiential public art that will inspire thought, provoke discussion, and elicit action. Artists with experience in environmental design, kinetic, or haptic outdoor installation are especially encouraged to apply.



Budget

The selected artist(s) will be awarded a \$165,000 contract to design, fabricate, and oversee the installation of the public artwork in collaboration with project stakeholders. This budget must cover all artist-related expenses, including materials, fabrication, transportation of the work to the site, travel, fees, incidentals, and engineering. Artists are also responsible for installation and coordinating with the city all installation needs and must design their work to remain within the city's allocated installation budget of \$114,000. Project administration, site preparation, and installation will be managed and funded separately by the City of Boise, bringing the total project budget to \$330,000.

Artist Budget	\$165,000
Administration Costs	\$51,000
Installation Costs	\$114,000
Total	\$330,000

Anticipated Project Timeline

Call to Artists Released	October 1, 2025
Pre-Application Meeting	October 22, 2025, 11:00 AM MST CLICK HERE TO REGISTER
Questions/Clarifications	November 6, 2025, 5:00 PM MST
Application Deadline (<i>late applications will NOT be accepted</i>)	November 13, 2025, 1:00 PM MST
Top Finalists Selected and Notified	Week of December 8, 2025
Finalist Concept Proposal and Interview	Week of January 12, 2026
Final Artist Selection and Contract Execution	March – April 2026
Design Proposal Submitted for Approval	August 5, 2026
Design Modification and Refinement	August – November 2026
Final Design Submitted for Final Approval	November 4, 2026
Permitting/Construction Bidding	November 2026 – March 2027
Fabrication of Artwork	November 2026 – July 2027
Installation of Artwork	August – September 2027
Project closeout	October 2027

This timeline is intended to provide applicants a loose framework for project phase expectations. The timeline is subject to change based on the approval process and needs of the overall project.

Eligibility

This opportunity is open to established artists residing in the United States. Idaho artists are strongly encouraged to apply. Artists must be at least 18 years of age. Boise City Department of Arts & History does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or disability.

Accessibility

In our commitment to engaging everyone, the City of Boise is actively removing barriers to participation, including for our residents with disabilities and those who prefer a language other than English. If you need an accommodation to access City of Boise's services, programs, or activities, please contact us at artsandhistory@cityofboise.org or 208-972-8500 (TTY 711).

En nuestro compromiso por lograr la participación de todos, la Ciudad de Boise está eliminando activamente las barreras a la participación, incluso para nuestros residentes con discapacidades y aquellos que prefieren un idioma distinto del inglés. Si necesita una adaptación para acceder a los servicios, programas o actividades de la Ciudad de Boise, póngase en contacto con nosotros en artsandhistory@cityofboise.org o en el 208-972-8500 (TTY 711).

