



# **Call to Artists:**

**Request for Qualifications for Public Art for the  
MAPS 4 South May Trail**



**Deadline for responses: August 26, 2026 @ 4:00 PM (CT)**

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## Project: Public Art for MAPS 4 South May Trail

**Total art award:** \$50,000  
**Bid published:** July 29, 2026  
**Bid deadline:** 4:00 PM CT Wednesday, August 26, 2026

### I. Summary

The City of Oklahoma City announces a call to artists for a work of public art for the MAPS 4 South May Avenue Trail. The art award is \$50,000 and the deadline for responses to the RFQ is Wednesday August 26, 2026, at 4 pm CT.

MAPS (Metropolitan Area Projects) is an Oklahoma City capital improvement program which began in 1993. The program, approved by City voters, is funded by a one-cent sales tax. After the success of the initial MAPS program, a public-school improvement program known as “MAPS for Kids” was implemented. In 2009, the city approved a third program – MAPS 3, which included \$50 million for sidewalk and trail improvement/construction. In September 2021, the city approved a fourth program - MAPS 4.

MAPS 4 is an 8-year, \$1.07 billion construction project program dedicated to neighborhood and human needs in Oklahoma City, as well as improving quality of life and job creating initiatives. It is funded by a limited term, one-cent sales tax initiative that began in April 2020 and ends in December 2028. The “MAPS 4 Implementation Plan,” published initially in September 2021, and was revised in August 2022, details the projects to be constructed. \$96.5 million of the MAPS 4 budget has been allotted to Sidewalks, Bike Lanes, Trails and Streetlights, overseen by the “Connectivity” Subcommittee.

The Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs invites artists and artist teams to respond to this RFQ to be considered for the design, fabrication, and installation of a sculptural work of art that will be located along the trail, near its entrance into Earlywine Park at the intersection of South May Avenue and SW 112<sup>th</sup> Street. The artwork should create a visually compelling focal point along the trail. It must be durable, low-maintenance, and designed for long-term outdoor exposure. In addition, the sculpture should engage trail users of all ages through artistic expression or interpretive storytelling. Artists may consider the use of non-traditional mediums and materials, including approaches that integrate sound, landscape, or other unique architectural elements.

### II. Budget

The total Art Award of \$50,000 includes all costs for designing, creating, and installing the artwork, including but not limited to materials, engineering, research, fabrication, travel, transportation, and required insurance (see Section IX for “Public Art Agreement Summary”).

### III. Eligibility

This opportunity is open to all practicing artists who are at least 18 years of age. All Artists and Artist Teams selected as finalists must attend all required information sessions and site visits. Artist Teams may include Artist Apprentices younger than 18, as long as written permission is provided from the Artist Apprentice's Parent or Guardian.

The Artist or Team that is selected for the Award must identify a locally based (living within a 120-mile radius of the Project site) Project Representative, who is the main Project contact, and who can be on site or react on 24 hours' notice as needed for construction meetings and other contingencies. Artists may designate themselves, if locally based.

### IV. How to Submit

To fully respond to this RFQ, artists are required to complete the forms that accompany the RFQ. Instructions are on each form. The Selection Committee will review all submissions blindly, so please do not include your name, or the name of your business, in anything other than Section XII. Submit all forms to [leondre.lattimore@okc.gov](mailto:leondre.lattimore@okc.gov) by **4:00:00 pm CT Wednesday, August 26, 2026**.

### V. What to Submit

We recommend that all submission materials, except for the eight (8) images, be combined into a single .pdf file then submitted as one file. Upon submission, if you discover that the total file size exceeds our limits, you may submit more than one email.

**Required materials (forms located in Sections XII - XV at the end of the RFQ):**

1. Artist Information and References
2. Artist Statement
3. Instead of a Resume Part 1
4. Instead of a Resume Part 2
5. Image List
6. Submit up to eight (8) images of representative work.

**Note: Submit digital images in .jpg format, not to exceed 2MB in size. Image file names should be numbered and ordered consecutively, and correlate with the Image List.**

### VI. Selection Process and Criteria

The Art Selection Committee may include but is not limited to:

- Arts Commissioner
- Professional Art Juror
- Parks Department Representative
- Stakeholders

All responses to this Call will be evaluated, and up to three (3) finalists for the Project Award will be chosen. The Finalists must attend a mandatory site tour and prepare a Conceptual Design Report to present to the Selection Committee.

Criteria to be applied and interpreted by the Selection Committee include:

- Artistic excellence and originality, as evidenced by representation of past work in images and other supporting materials
- Consideration for public safety
- Evidence of ability to handle a project of this size and scope
- Appropriateness of Artist's approach and style to the Project's intent and site
- Stated availability to work within Project time frame and to be present for required meetings
- Price and current market value of Artist(s)' work in relation to the scope and value contemplated for this commission

If selected, Finalists will prepare and present to the Selection Committee a Conceptual Design Report. The report must include the following items:

- ☐ Illustrations and/or models of the proposed design
- ☐ A Project budget with sufficient detail to illustrate the Finalist's understanding of the project
- ☐ Installation/production details (surface prep, on-site equipment, proposed timeline)
- ☐ A maintenance plan, with an estimate of annual costs to maintain the proposed work
- ☐ A 500 word or less Statement about the proposed work
- ☐ A Statement about any conflicts in Artist's schedule with the proposed Project schedule
- ☐ For teams, a statement about the agreed-on roles of each individual team member

Each finalist/finalist team will be paid a fee of \$1,000 (only one \$1,000 payment per team) to include all design fees, materials, transportation, and any other costs or fees associated with competing in the Selection Process, attending the site tour, and making a final presentation. These fees are usually processed and paid within three weeks of the Final Selection.

## VII. Schedule of events

The following schedule is proposed for this Call to Artists. All times and dates are tentative; the City reserves the right, as deemed necessary, at its sole discretion, to adjust this schedule by written notice to all the Artists who have timely responded to the RFQ.

|                                                      |                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Call to Artists (RFQ) Announced</b> .....         | <b>Wednesday July 29, 2026</b>                  |
| <b>Deadline for Submissions</b> .....                | <b>4:00:00 pm CDT Wednesday August 26, 2026</b> |
| <b>First Selection Committee meeting</b> .....       | <b>Friday September 4, 2026</b>                 |
| <b>Mandatory Site Tour/Information Meeting</b> ..... | <b>Friday September 18, 2026</b>                |
| <b>Final presentations and selection</b> .....       | <b>Friday October 30, 2026</b>                  |
| <b>Arts Commission review</b> .....                  | <b>4:00pm CST on Monday November 16, 2026</b>   |
| <b>Contracting</b> .....                             | <b>December 2026</b>                            |
| <b>Estimated project completion date</b> .....       | <b>TBD</b>                                      |

## VIII. Notices

- The Artist selected for the project shall retain all rights under 17 U.S.C. §101 et seq. (the Copyright Act of 1976), subject to rights of attribution and certain other specific rights, as well as all other rights in and to the Work, ***except ownership and possession. City shall have ownership and possession of Work pursuant to this Agreement, but shall not own the copyright to the Work, which shall be retained by Artist.*** No Work created by Artist for City, pursuant to this Agreement or any other agreement, shall be considered a “work made for hire” as defined by Title 17, U.S.C §§ 101 and 201(b) (the United States Copyright Act of 1976). 17 U.S.C. §106(a) The Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990, “VARA”)
- The City reserves the right to amend or withdraw this RFQ-Call to Artists at any time and for any or no reason. Receipt of submission entries by City, or submission of an Artist’s entry to City, or selection of an Artist for purposes of negotiating a contract, confers no rights to any Artist nor obligates City in any manner. City reserves the right, at its sole discretion and for any reason, to reject all submission entries and not award any contract, and to solicit additional or different submission entries at any time. City incurs no obligation regarding this Call to Artists, or any contract resulting there from, until a Public Art Commission Agreement is fully negotiated, and all documents have been properly submitted and executed by all parties.
- The costs of developing a submission entry are solely the responsibility of the Artist. City shall not provide reimbursement for such costs. City shall not be liable for any Artist’s preparation costs for any reason, other than the \$1,000 fee paid to an Artist or Artist team invited by the Selection Committee to produce a Conceptual Design Report for the Selection Interview. Submission of an entry shall constitute acceptance of the terms, conditions, criteria, requirements, and evaluations set forth in this Call to Artists, and operates as an offer and a waiver of all objections and Proposer originated modifications to the contents of this Call to Artists.
- All information in submissions to this RFQ, and any resultant Conceptual Design Reports by finalists for this project are considered to be public record by the Oklahoma Open Records Act.
- All entries properly submitted shall be received and reviewed by City. City reserves the right to reject any entry deemed to be non-responsive for failure to comply fully with the terms of the Call to Artists. However, City reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to request clarifications, corrections, or additional information and to waive irregularities in execution or delivery of the entry, provided it is in the best interest of City.
- **Selected artist(s) will be required to provide City with the following: (a.)** A certificate of liability insurance coverage; a certificate of Workers’ Compensation insurance coverage, or a certification of waiver obtained from the State of Oklahoma; **(b.)** Insurance in adequate amount to cover Work or Work components while being transported; **(c.)** A VARA waiver; and **(d.)** an installed art identification marker about the Work.

**Sample VARA waiver Do not include with the application!**

**General VARA Waiver for Works of Visual Art**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, (printed name of Artist) hereby acknowledge the rights of attribution and integrity generally conferred by Section 106A(a) of Title 17 of the U.S. Code, (The Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990, "VARA"), as well as any other rights of the same or similar nature granted by other federal, state, or international laws, that may accrue to me with respect to a certain work of art ("Work" or "artwork"):

Title of Work:

\_\_\_\_\_

Description of Work (dimensions, media/materials):

\_\_\_\_\_

Location/Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Initial the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby acknowledge and attest that I am an author of the Work and I am authorized and fully capable of waiving the rights conferred by VARA, in accordance with the waiver provision of 17 U.S.C. § 106A(e)(1).

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby acknowledge that the Work will be placed in the Location and will be, therefore, accessible to the public and be subject to environmental and other factors, both known and unknown.

\_\_\_\_\_ I further acknowledge that the Work may be destroyed, in whole or in part, for any reason or no reason, including, but not limited to, abuse, vandalism, neglect, property destruction, pestilence, repairs or renovations to the Location, or any other necessity otherwise occasioned, which requires removal of the Work, in whole or in part, from the Location.

Therefore, of my own free act, I hereby waive my VARA rights with respect to the uses specified above and acknowledge that the City of Oklahoma City (City), or anyone duly authorized by the City, may have cause to remove said Work when to do so is determined to be in the best interest of the City. I hereby further acknowledge a requirement for removal of the Work to accomplish the best interests of the City may occur, and the removal requirement on the part of the City may occur without opportunity for prior notice to me.

As such, and of my own free will, I hereby permanently and irrevocably waive any and all VARA rights pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 106(a)(3) to prevent any removal, impairment, distortion, mutilation, modification, or destruction, in whole or in part, of the Work for any reason or no reason, and for any use of the Work that is undertaken that results in the removal, impairment, distortion, mutilation, modification, or destruction, in whole or in part, of the Work. This waiver does not extend to the rights of attribution conferred by 17 U.S.C. § 106A(a)(1) or § 106A(a)(2).

Signature of Artist: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (printed name of purchaser if different than property owner) do hereby acknowledge the VARA rights of attribution and integrity of Artist, including a copyright interest, as set forth above, and hereby commission Artist to create a Work for enhancement of the property at the Location set forth above.

Signature of Purchaser: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Property Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## IX. Public Art Agreement Summary

The Artist, either personally or through their agent(s), is responsible for project management. The Art Award/Project Budget covers all aspects of the entire project, including but not limited to design, engineering, construction, foundation, footing, installation, rental, liability insurance, workers' compensation insurance, transportation, shipping, travel, lodging, design district review (if required) and other incidental expenses.

The City will provide building permits through its Development Center, based on the completed design documents and engineering documents provided by the Artist.

Artist is required to:

- Verify site conditions and all measurements
- Make regular reports to the Arts Liaison or his designee
- Respond in a timely manner to all requests from the City
- Maintain required insurance throughout the project
- Sign a VARA waiver

Submission of a response to this RFQ signifies that the Artist understands and accepts their general requirements. Project Finalists will be provided a copy of a sample Agreement during the Site Tour. Agreeing to continue as a Finalist signifies that Artist agrees to the general terms of the Agreement.



## **X. Artist information and References**

Legal name of artist, organization, or business: \_\_\_\_\_

(This is the name that will be used on any resulting Agreement, typically the name under which you file taxes.)

List your information, team member's information (if working as a team) and references below.

### **Artists/team members:**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Lead's Name:</b> |  |
| <b>Title/Role:</b>  |  |
| <b>Email:</b>       |  |
| <b>Phone:</b>       |  |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Name:</b>       |  |
| <b>Title/Role:</b> |  |
| <b>Email:</b>      |  |
| <b>Phone:</b>      |  |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Name:</b>       |  |
| <b>Title/Role:</b> |  |
| <b>Email:</b>      |  |
| <b>Phone:</b>      |  |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Name:</b>       |  |
| <b>Title/Role:</b> |  |
| <b>Email:</b>      |  |
| <b>Phone:</b>      |  |

### **References:**

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name:</b>                   |  |
| <b>Position:</b>               |  |
| <b>Relationship to Artist:</b> |  |
| <b>Email:</b>                  |  |
| <b>Phone:</b>                  |  |

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name:</b>                   |  |
| <b>Position:</b>               |  |
| <b>Relationship to Artist:</b> |  |
| <b>Email:</b>                  |  |
| <b>Phone:</b>                  |  |

**XI. Artist Statement**

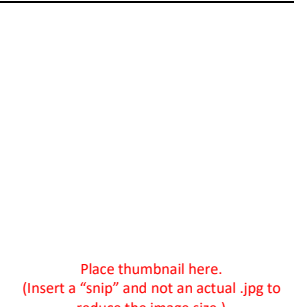
**In 500 words or less** make the case for yourself to be selected as a finalist. Think about what you uniquely bring to this project; how you would approach the design and implementation of the work; what single work in your portfolio gives us the best insight about what you could propose for the sculptures? Do not include your name or identifying business names.

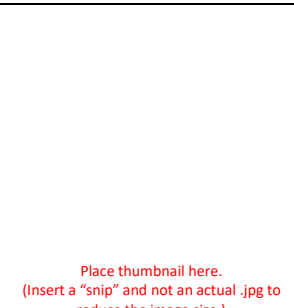
**XII. Instead of a Resume:**

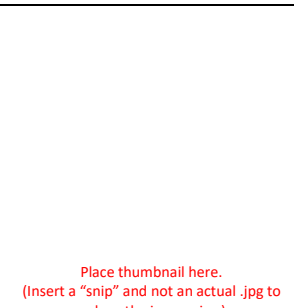
**In 250 words or less** tell us what life experience or educational experience of yours is most relevant to this project and to our understanding of who you are. Name up to three with brief explanations. Do not include your name or identifying business names.

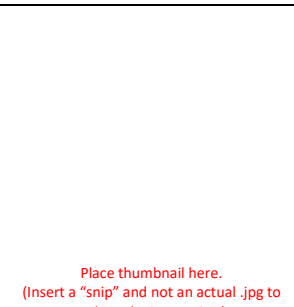
**In 250 words or less** tell us more about at least one but up to three of the works in your image submissions. Give us a backstory, insight into your technique ... whatever gives a richer understanding of what you created and why.

### XIII. Image Information Form

|                            |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------------|--|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Title of Work:</b>      |  |                        |  |  <p>Place thumbnail here.<br/>(Insert a "snip" and not an actual .jpg to reduce the image size.)</p> |
| <b>Name of Image File:</b> |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Start name with 1.</b>  |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Media/Medium:</b>       |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Dimensions (WxHxD):</b> |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Location:</b>           |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Cost/value:</b>         |  | <b>Year Completed:</b> |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |

|                            |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------------|--|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Title of Work:</b>      |  |                        |  |  <p>Place thumbnail here.<br/>(Insert a "snip" and not an actual .jpg to reduce the image size.)</p> |
| <b>Name of Image File:</b> |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Start name with 2.</b>  |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Media/Medium:</b>       |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Dimensions (WxHxD):</b> |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Location:</b>           |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Cost/value:</b>         |  | <b>Year Completed:</b> |  |                                                                                                                                                                                         |

|                            |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------|--|------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Title of Work:</b>      |  |                        |  |  <p>Place thumbnail here.<br/>(Insert a "snip" and not an actual .jpg to reduce the image size.)</p> |
| <b>Name of Image File:</b> |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Start name with 3.</b>  |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Media/Medium:</b>       |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Dimensions (WxHxD):</b> |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Location:</b>           |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Cost/value:</b>         |  | <b>Year Completed:</b> |  |                                                                                                                                                                                          |

|                            |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------|--|------------------------|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Title of Work:</b>      |  |                        |  |  <p>Place thumbnail here.<br/>(Insert a "snip" and not an actual .jpg to reduce the image size.)</p> |
| <b>Name of Image File:</b> |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Start name with 4.</b>  |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Media/Medium:</b>       |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Dimensions (WxHxD):</b> |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Location:</b>           |  |                        |  |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Cost/value:</b>         |  | <b>Year Completed:</b> |  |                                                                                                                                                                                           |

|                                                  |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Title of Work:</b>                            |  |                        |  | Place thumbnail here.<br>(Insert a "snip" and not an actual .jpg to<br>reduce the image size.) |
| <b>Name of Image File:</b><br>Start name with 5. |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Media/Medium:</b>                             |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Dimensions (WxHxD):</b>                       |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Location:</b>                                 |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Cost/value:</b>                               |  | <b>Year Completed:</b> |  |                                                                                                |

|                                                  |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Title of Work:</b>                            |  |                        |  | Place thumbnail here.<br>(Insert a "snip" and not an actual .jpg to<br>reduce the image size.) |
| <b>Name of Image File:</b><br>Start name with 6. |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Media/Medium:</b>                             |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Dimensions (WxHxD):</b>                       |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Location:</b>                                 |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Cost/value:</b>                               |  | <b>Year Completed:</b> |  |                                                                                                |

|                                                  |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Title of Work:</b>                            |  |                        |  | Place thumbnail here.<br>(Insert a "snip" and not an actual .jpg to<br>reduce the image size.) |
| <b>Name of Image File:</b><br>Start name with 7. |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Media/Medium:</b>                             |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Dimensions (WxHxD):</b>                       |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Location:</b>                                 |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Cost/value:</b>                               |  | <b>Year Completed:</b> |  |                                                                                                |

|                                                  |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Title of Work:</b>                            |  |                        |  | Place thumbnail here.<br>(Insert a "snip" and not an actual .jpg to<br>reduce the image size.) |
| <b>Name of Image File:</b><br>Start name with 8. |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Media/Medium:</b>                             |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Dimensions (WxHxD):</b>                       |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Location:</b>                                 |  |                        |  |                                                                                                |
| <b>Cost/value:</b>                               |  | <b>Year Completed:</b> |  |                                                                                                |

#### XIV. Image for reference only

