



# **City of McKinney, McKinney Public Art Program**

## **Request for Proposal**

### **Dr. Glenn Mitchell Park Public Art Project**

#### **Invitation**

The City of McKinney, Texas is seeking submissions from Galleries, Artists and Artist-teams for a work of art to be installed in the Dr. Glenn Mitchell Park. Submissions can be site-specific commissions or existing works that meet the project description and criteria. The selected Gallery, Artist/Artist-team will work closely with Russell Tether Fine Arts Associates, LLC, the McKinney Public Art Committee and the City of McKinney from submission through installation, to dedication.

#### **Introduction – The City of McKinney**

The elements that made McKinney unique from its beginnings are the same that continue to attract residents, visitors and businesses to our community today. Beautiful tree-lined streets, diverse residential neighborhoods, outstanding educational opportunities, a robust business environment, a charming historic downtown and a strong sense of community make McKinney truly stand out. The city's *Unique by nature* brand is more than a tagline, it embodies the community's willingness to work together to make McKinney a great place to be. As one of the fastest-growing cities in the nation, residents, businesses and visitors show that they strongly embrace the community's vision and strong overall quality of life.

Just 30 miles north of downtown Dallas, McKinney is a picturesque city with a small-town feel that is quite different from the Metroplex's urban sprawl. Our friendly charm, green spaces and comfortable pace belie the fact that McKinney, with a population of more than 168,000, is one of the fastest-growing cities in America.

#### **A Stand-Out Community**

The nation continues to recognize McKinney as a stand-out community. *Money* Magazine ranked McKinney the **#1 Best Place to Live in America** in 2014. Factors considered included employment, schools, crime and safety, as well as overall quality of life aspects including a feeling of community pride. This adds to the accolades the city has already received.

While many factors combine to make McKinney a truly special place in America, it is the people in McKinney who bring these vibrant qualities to life. That community spirit is evident in a friendly, safe and inviting city that holds strong ties to its roots and history while enjoying rapid economic development and continually adding new amenities that compliment and expand our unique quality of life.



## SITE LOCATION AND HISTORY

The Dr. Glenn Mitchell Memorial Park is centrally located between the primary traffic corridors leading in and out of Historic downtown McKinney.

The park measures 200 feet by 200 feet. It is divided into 4 equal quadrants by 2 intersecting walkways. At the junction of the 2 walkways is a large fountain, surrounded by park benches and complimented by 4 live oak trees, one at each interior apex of the 4 quadrants. The Park provides a peaceful respite to citizens and visitors alike.

The land comprising Dr. Glenn Mitchell Park originally housed a church with native pecan trees along the West Virginia side. Several of these mature pecan trees remain, forming a semicircle, roughly the shape of a comma, along the West Virginia/ Church Street corner.

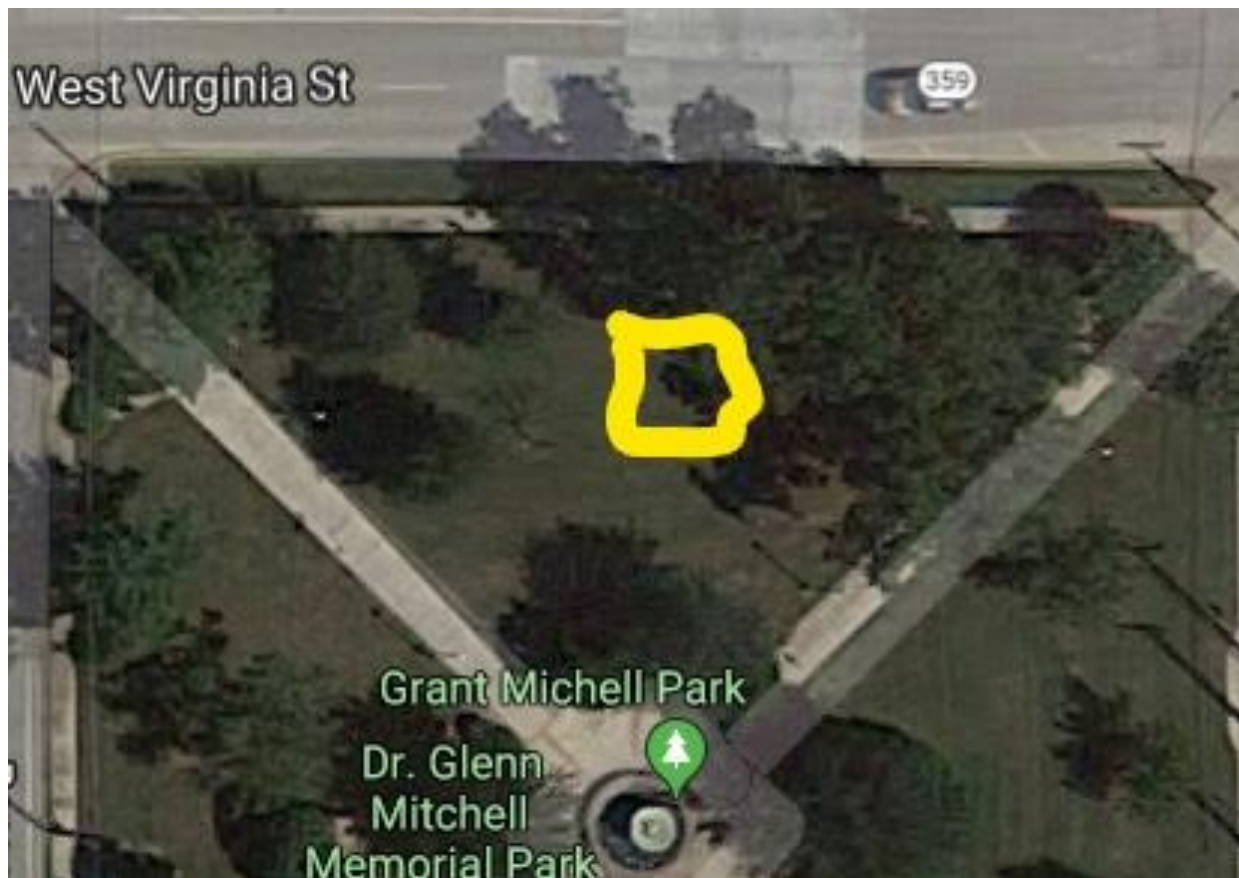


**Aerial view of the Dr. Glenn Mitchell Memorial Park and streets.**



### **PROPOSED PUBLIC ART SITE WITHIN DR. GLENN MITCHELL PARK**

The proposed location for the Public art installation is at the Northeast quadrant of the park. The site is located along the open side of the pecan tree “semicircle”. This location near the pecan trees provides a slight elevation of approximately 24 inches above the rest of the Park, as well as the street grade. In addition, the elevation of the crown of the pecan trees is approximately 25 feet, allowing for an unobstructed view of the installation.



**Aerial view of the Northeast quadrant of Mitchell Park with location for art installation highlighted.**



Symbolic of the history, beauty and contemplative nature of the Park, this particular location presents the artist with the opportunity to integrate these mature pecan trees into the overall scope of the project.



**Street level view of art installation location (highlighted) among historic pecan trees. Distance of the site from the far left and right trees is 25 feet in each direction.**



## **Public Art Mission Statement for Dr. Glenn Mitchell Park**

**“Create an artistic installation that identifies the unique characteristics of McKinney, is appreciated and embraced by generations of citizens and visitors alike, and through this appreciation, becomes a lasting landmark defining the of the City of McKinney.”**

### **Project Description and Scope**

The City of McKinney is seeking a Public Art installation that:

- A. Builds upon the historic, locational, and public importance of this site
- B. Enhances the visual and cultural experience of the citizens of McKinney and it’s visitors
- C. Manifests the site’s exceptional natural characteristics
- D. Reflects the City’s Historic Open Space Core
- E. Embrace public interaction

To achieve these goals and mission, the art installation should interest, engage, resonate and perhaps interact with multiple generations of citizens and visitors.

Artists/galleries, artist-teams may submit proposals for existing works or submit design concepts for site specific works that meet the stated criteria.

The artwork must be constructed of materials that are permanent, low maintenance, and safe for placement in a public environment.

### **Budget description**

The selected Gallery /Artist/Artist- team will be awarded up to \$40,000 which shall include all costs for the design creation, and installation of the artwork, including, but not limited to: design fees, administrative costs, travel expenses, material, engineering, equipment, transportation and insurance.



## **Selection Process and Timeline**

The selection process will be conducted as follows:

1. Submissions: March 1, 2018, by 5:00PM, CST  
All artists are required to submit their proposal submissions by March 1, 2018. Proposals received or postmarked after March 1, 2018 will not be considered.
2. Initial Review: March 6, 2018  
After receipt, an initial review of all submissions received will be made by an independent curatorial team. From this initial review, a selection of up to 3 finalists will be made from the entrants by a panel comprised of independent curators and members of the McKinney Public Arts Council.
3. Notification: March 8, 2018  
Finalists will be notified of their selection and a date established for all selected finalists to make a presentation of their submissions to committee and council members, as well as the participating public.
4. Presentations: May, 2018  
On a date, yet to be established, the finalists will present their submissions in person to the panel of curators and committee members, as well as the attending public.
5. Awarding of contract: May, 2018 (2 days after presentation)  
The Committee will announce the winner of the contract and notify the winner and 2 runner up(s)
6. Installation of art:  
The installation of the artwork will be coordinated with the City engineers and the artist.

## **Selection criteria:**

1. Does the artist/ artist team address the mission and goals of the project?
2. Has the artist/artist team addressed the physical parameters of the location and structural requirements stated in the RFP?
3. References



**Mail submittal materials to:**

City of McKinney  
Housing and Community Development  
P.O. Box 517  
McKinney, TX 75070-8013

**Or deliver material to:**

City of McKinney  
406 N. Tennessee  
McKinney, TX 75069-3937

**ALL SUBMISSION MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN  
5:00PM ON MARCH 1, 2018**