

2014

Community Commissions

Request for Proposals



El Centro del Inmigrante and Lina Montoya
Las Mariposas Amarillas
Richmond Terrace and Jewett Avenue, Staten Island

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

Since the launch of the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) Art Program in October 2008, DOT Art has installed over 180 engaging temporary art installations throughout New York City. The Program partners with community-based organizations and artists to present murals, sculptures, projections and performances on public property. These temporary art installations create attractive corridors and activate public space for passersby. Projects are presented within five program tracks: Community Commissions, Barrier Beautification, Site to Site, Arterventions and Art Display Case Exhibits.

Additionally, DOT Art produces special projects, such as: reNEWable Times Square, Curbside Haiku, Summer Streets Interventions and Asphalt Art Activations.

COMMUNITY COMMISSIONS BACKGROUND

As part of the Community Commissions program, DOT Art **commissions artists to produce temporary site-responsive art** in collaboration with community-based organizations. Twice a year in fall and spring, NYCDOT owned plazas, fences, medians, triangles, sidewalks and step streets in all five boroughs are announced as priority sites for art. The NYCDOT Borough Offices and Operating Units identify sites that are: 1) in need of beautification; 2) large enough to accommodate artwork; and 3) accessible to a diverse audience. (Appendix A: Fall Priority Site List.)

Organizations are invited to submit proposals in response to the priority site list by a set deadline. Artwork commissioned through this program may remain installed for up to 11 months. Not-for-profit organizations are eligible to **receive up to \$5,000** toward direct project costs. Also, NYCDOT arranges for an engineering review by a NYS licensed engineer for all sculptural works and provides the necessary permits to install on City-owned property. NYCDOT may also provide additional services on a case-by-case basis to assist with project implementation; i.e. material donation and installation assistance.

Recent examples of successful Community Commissions projects include: Kew Gardens Improvement Association and John Chadwell, *Eastbound, Westbound*, 82nd Avenue Bridge between Grenfell Street and Austin Street, Queens; ISCP and Mohamed Sharkawi, *Birds*, Vernon Boulevard and Queens Plaza South, Queens; DUMBO BID and gilf!, *Trust Your Vision*, Front Street Fence, Brooklyn; El Centro del Inmigrante and Lina Montoya, *Las Mariposas Amarillas*, Richmond Terrace and Jewett Avenue, Staten Island; and the Lower East Side BID and Kim Sillen, *Modern Tapestry*, Canal Street, Division Street and Ludlow Street, Manhattan. (Appendix B: Recent Community Commissions.) For additional photos of past Community Commissions, visit www.flickr.com/photos/nycstreets.

PROGRAM PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

NYCDOT works closely with selected applicants to implement projects within six months of approval. The DOT Art Program Director, the artist, a representative from the partner organization and other NYCDOT staff make up the project team. Throughout implementation, the project team meets to review design, confer on budget, develop a project schedule, assess the engineering documentation and sign the legal agreement. The artist is responsible for design and fabrication of the artwork. The partner organization is responsible for: 1) overseeing artwork fabrication and installation; 2) maintaining artwork during the display period; 3) removing artwork upon completion of the display period; 4) restoring the site to its original condition; and 5) processing funds from NYCDOT to the artist.

All selected applicants must sign a legal agreement with NYCDOT and provide a certificate of insurance naming the City as an additional insured. As per the agreement, the artist receives credit, sole ownership, and copyright of the final design and artwork, but is required to extend to the City the right to a royalty-free, perpetual license to use any depiction of the artwork for non-commercial purposes.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Organizations are invited to submit proposals for the listed priority sites by **Friday, November 28, 2014**. Applicants are notified of selection within two months of the submission deadline. Funding is not guaranteed with project selection.

Interested organizations and artists are required to submit a joint application. Organizations are permitted to receive multiple commissions per fiscal year when applying with different artists. However, artists are only eligible to receive one commission per fiscal year. All applicants must select a priority site and provide a conceptual design for consideration.

For submission specifications, review the Community Commissions Application Cover Sheet.

SELECTION PROCESS

The Art Advisory Committee, a panel of appointed arts professionals from varying disciplines, reviews all proposals based on the following selection criteria:

Public Safety

- Proposal does not present any public safety hazards.

Artistic Merit

- Proposed artwork is aesthetically pleasing and appropriate for the public realm.
- Artist's past work demonstrates proficiency in the proposed medium.
- Artist has exhibited in the public or private realm and participated in team and/or community-based art projects.

Site Suitability

- Artwork is suitable for the site based on size, scale, and form.
- Proposal considers the variety of audiences at the site.
- Proposal considers the social, historical, architectural, geographical and/or cultural context of the site.
- Proposal illustrates community involvement during design, fabrication, and/or installation.

Organizational Capacity

- Organization has experience planning public programs and/or public art projects.
- Organization agrees to monitor and maintain the artwork.
- Organization has secured additional funding to cover the total budget.

Artwork Durability

- Artwork will be made of durable materials to withstand outdoor weather conditions.
- Artwork is carefully planned ensuring sound fabrication and installation.

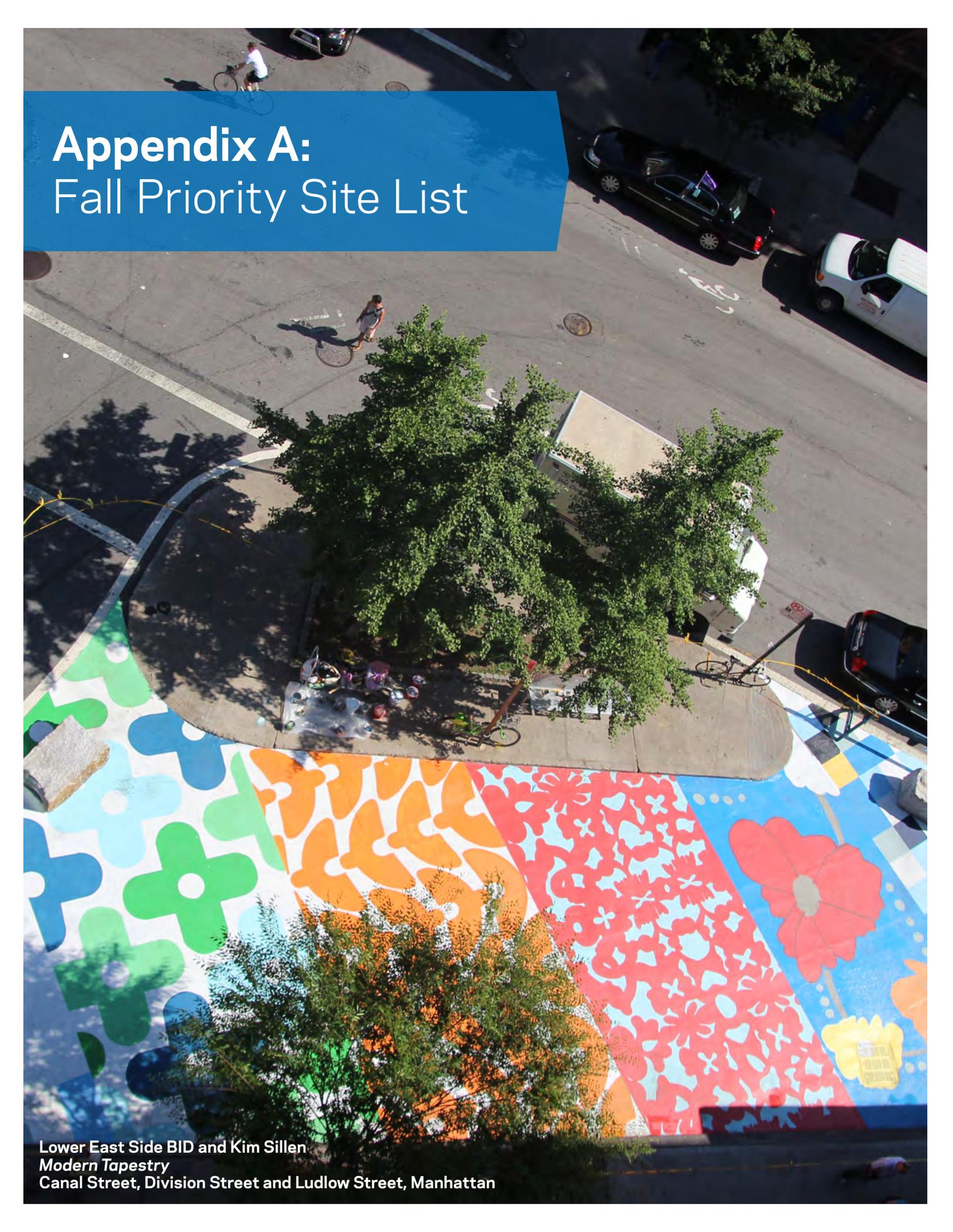
ADDITIONAL LEGAL INFORMATION

Please note the following:

- This RFP is not intended as a formal offering for the award of a contract or for participation in any future solicitation;
- NYCDOT does not intend to grant or issue any additional agreements on the basis of this RFP;
- NYCDOT, the City and their officials, agents and employees make no representation or warranty and assume no responsibility for the accuracy of the information set forth in this RFP;
- No information contained in submissions shall be deemed confidential and such information may be shared with other governmental entities. Therefore, please do not submit any information that may be deemed proprietary in nature;
- Neither NYCDOT nor the City shall be liable for any costs incurred by any respondent in the preparation, submittal, presentation or revision of its submission. Neither NYCDOT nor the City shall be obligated to pay and shall not pay any costs in connection with the preparation of such submissions;
- All submissions shall become the property of NYCDOT and the City and shall not be returned; and
- NYCDOT at its sole discretion reserves, without limitation, the right to;
 - Withdraw the RFP at any time;
 - To discuss various approaches with one or more respondents (including parties not responding to the RFP); and
 - Change any terms of this RFP.

QUESTIONS

All inquiries regarding Community Commissions should be sent to: arts@dot.nyc.gov.



Appendix A: Fall Priority Site List

Lower East Side BID and Kim Sillen
Modern Tapestry
Canal Street, Division Street and Ludlow Street, Manhattan

FALL PRIORITY SITE LIST

BRONX

Sidewalk: Southern Boulevard and E. Fordham Road (adjacent to Bronx Zoo)

Bridge: Barretto Street between Bruckner Boulevard and Garrison Avenue

BROOKLYN

Bridge: Nostrand Avenue between Avenue H and Avenue I

Fence: 3rd Avenue between 3rd Street and 6th Street

MANHATTAN

Sidewalk: 36th Street between 9th Avenue and Dyer Avenue

Sidewalk: E. 125th Street and Park Avenue

QUEENS

Bridge: Thomson Avenue Bridge between Skillman Avenue and 44th Drive

STATEN ISLAND

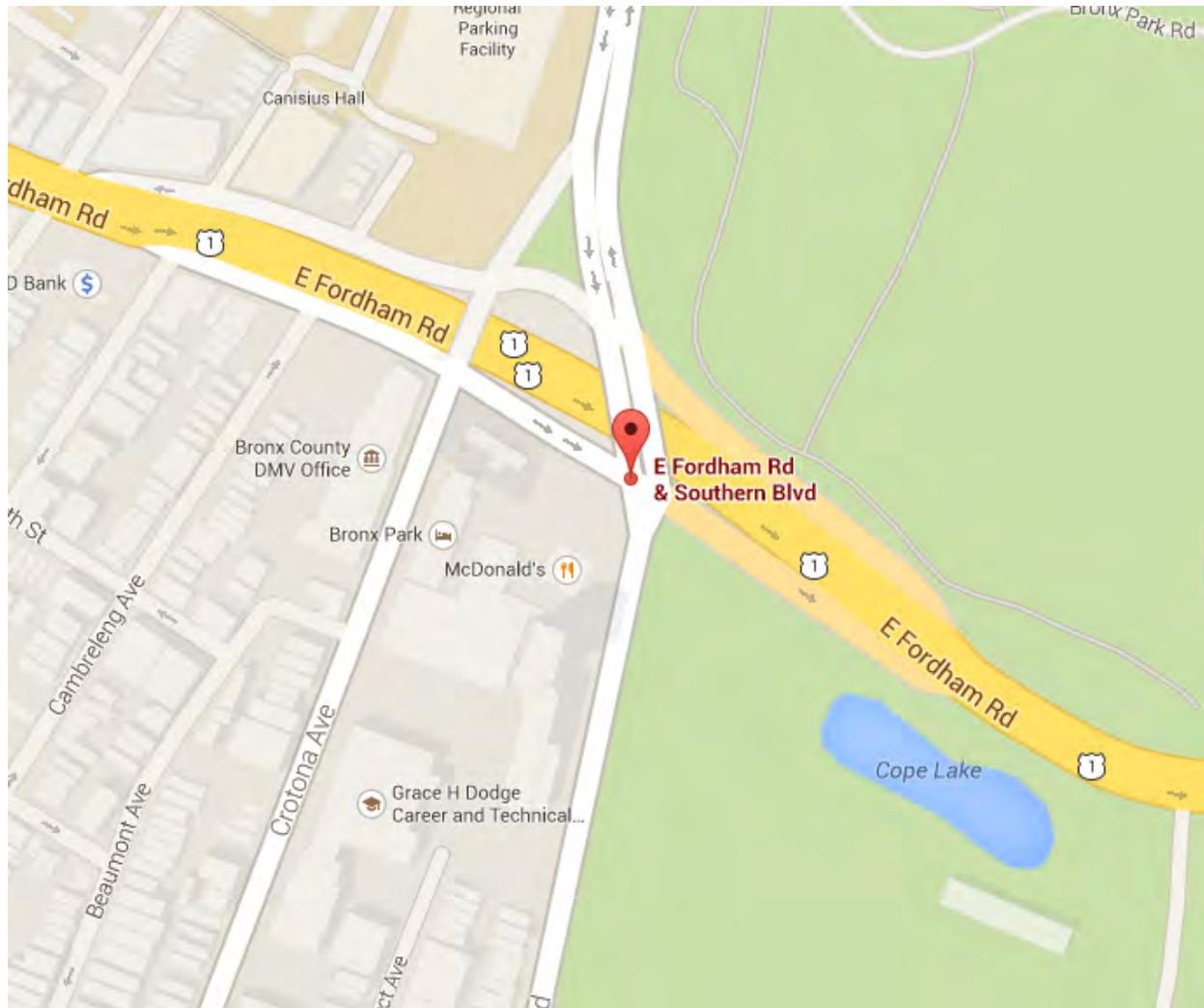
Plaza: St. George Ferry Terminal, Richmond Terrace Exit, 1 Bay Street Landing

Bridge: Richmond Avenue at Richmond Parkway

BRONX

Sidewalk: Southern Boulevard and E. Fordham Road (adjacent to Bronx Zoo)

Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only sculptures will be considered for the sidewalk.
- Painting a mural directly onto the sidewalk is not permitted.
- Artwork must be installed at a minimum of 20' from the zoo.

BRONX

Sidewalk: Southern Boulevard and E. Fordham Road (adjacent to Bronx Zoo)

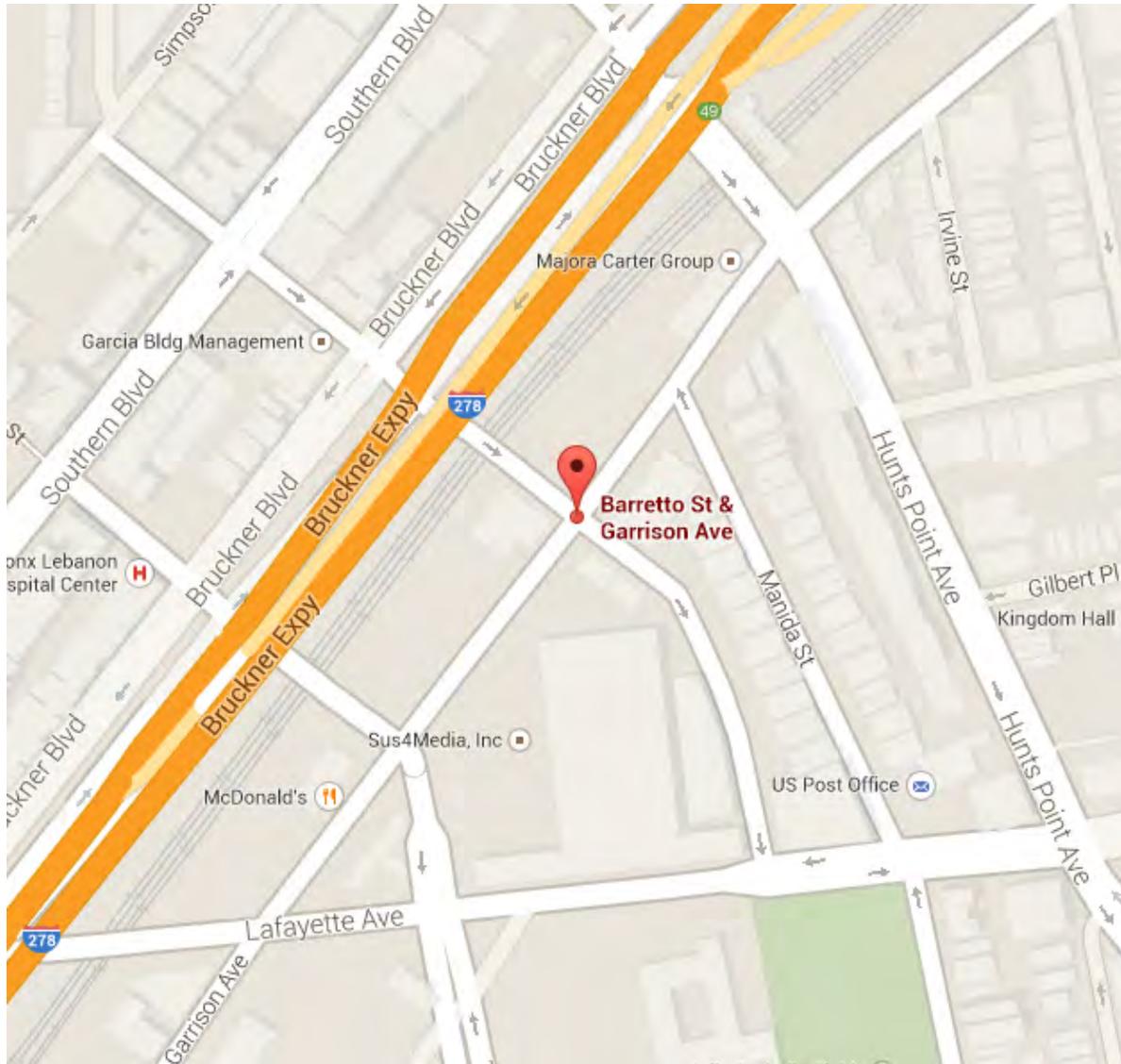
Site Photos



BRONX

Bridge: Barretto Street between Bruckner Boulevard and Garrison Avenue

Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only a mural will be permitted on the concrete section of the bridge below the corrugated metal.
- No two or three dimensional attachments will be permitted on the bridge structure.

BRONX

Bridge: Barretto Street between Bruckner Boulevard and Garrison Avenue

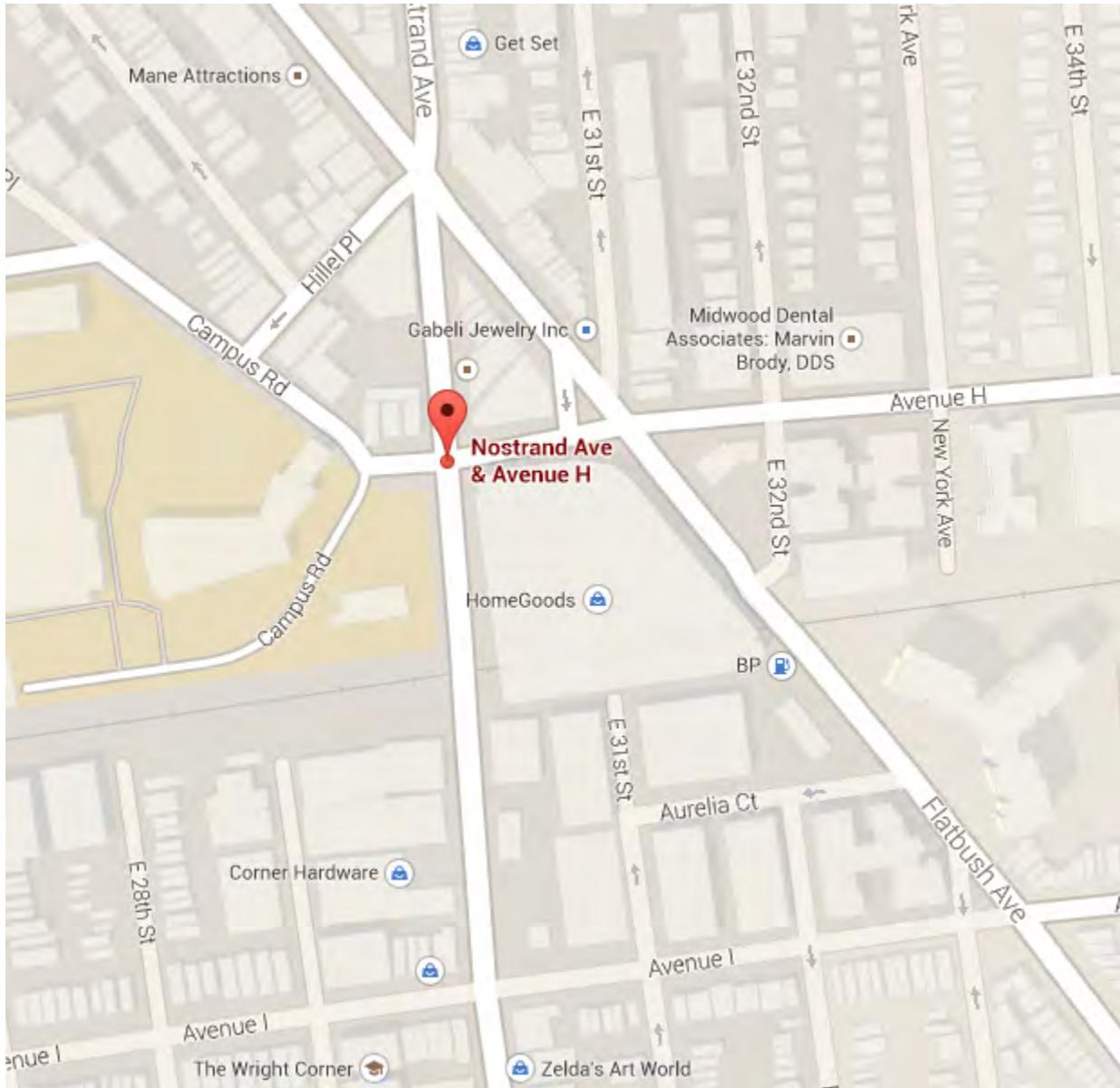
Site Photos



BROOKLYN

Bridge: Nostrand Avenue between Avenue H and Avenue I

Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only murals painted directly onto the concrete bridge walls will be considered.
- Parachute cloth, vinyl decals and/or other forms of canvas may not be installed onto the walls of the bridge.

BROOKLYN

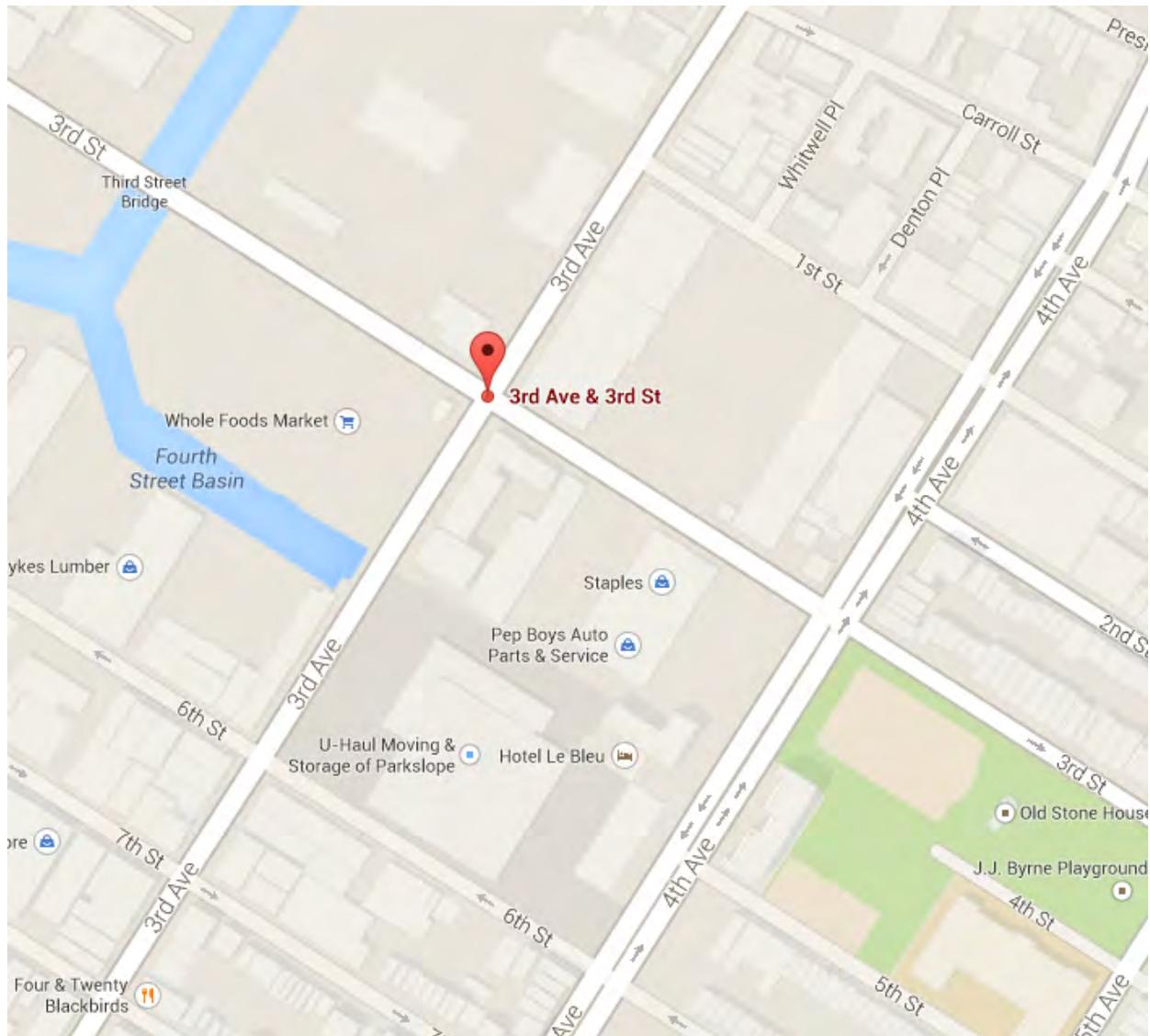
Bridge: Nostrand Avenue between Avenue H and Avenue I
Site Photos



BROOKLYN

Fence: 3rd Avenue between 3rd Street and 6th Street

Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only two dimensional light weight durable material proposals (yarn, plastic bags, zip ties, etc.) will be considered for the chain link fence.
- The fence may not be punctured or defaced during the installation. The DOT Art Program will work with partners to devise a clamping method to display the artwork on the bridge structure.
- Painting a mural directly onto the chain link fence is not permitted.

BROOKLYN

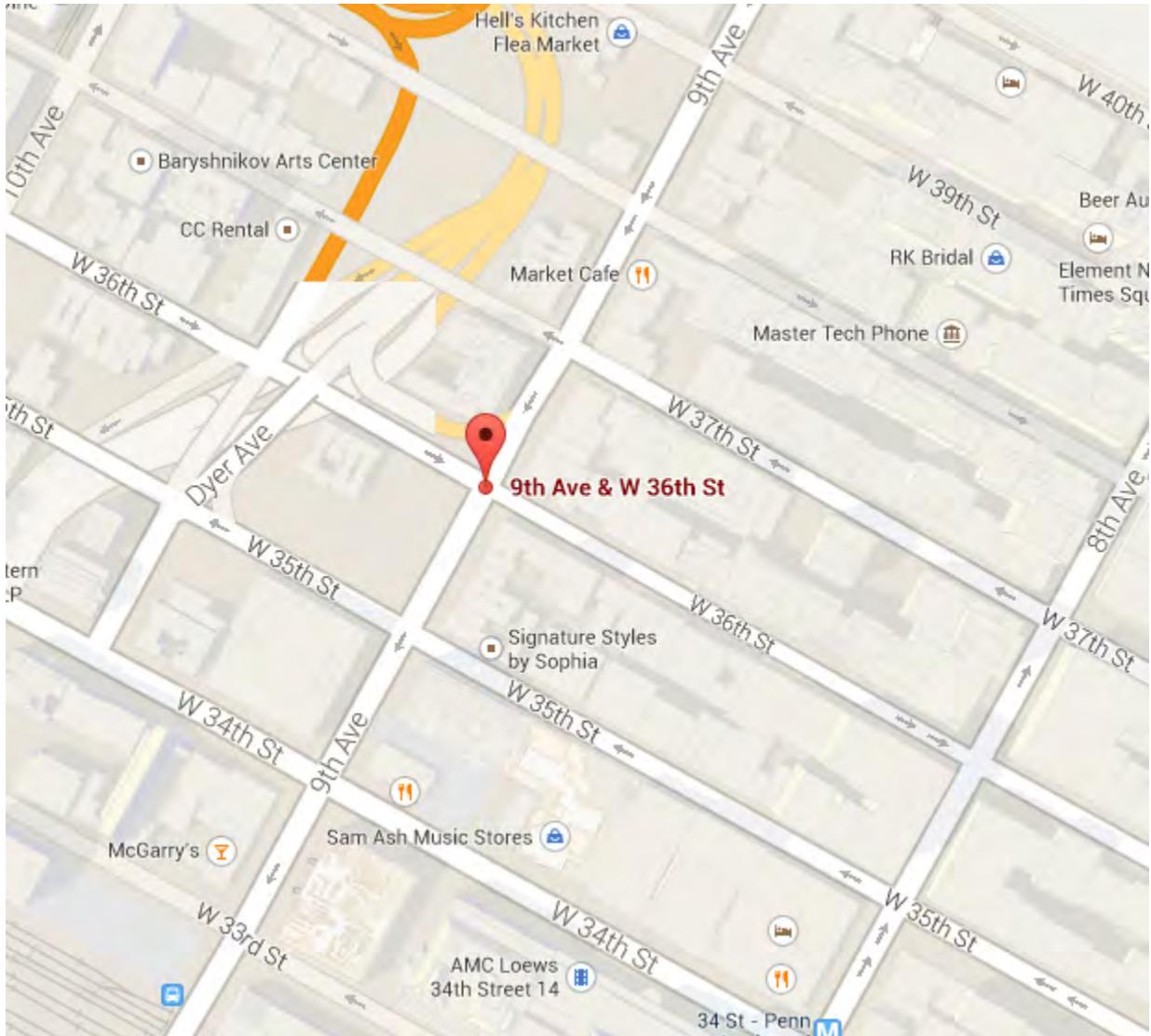
**Fence: 3rd Avenue between 3rd Street and 6th Street
Site Photo**



MANHATTAN

Sidewalk: 36th Street between 9th Avenue and Dyer Avenue

Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only sculptures will be considered for the sidewalk.
- Painting a mural directly onto the sidewalk is not permitted.
- Artwork must be 20' from the curblines.

MANHATTAN

Sidewalk: 36th Street between 9th Avenue and Dyer Avenue

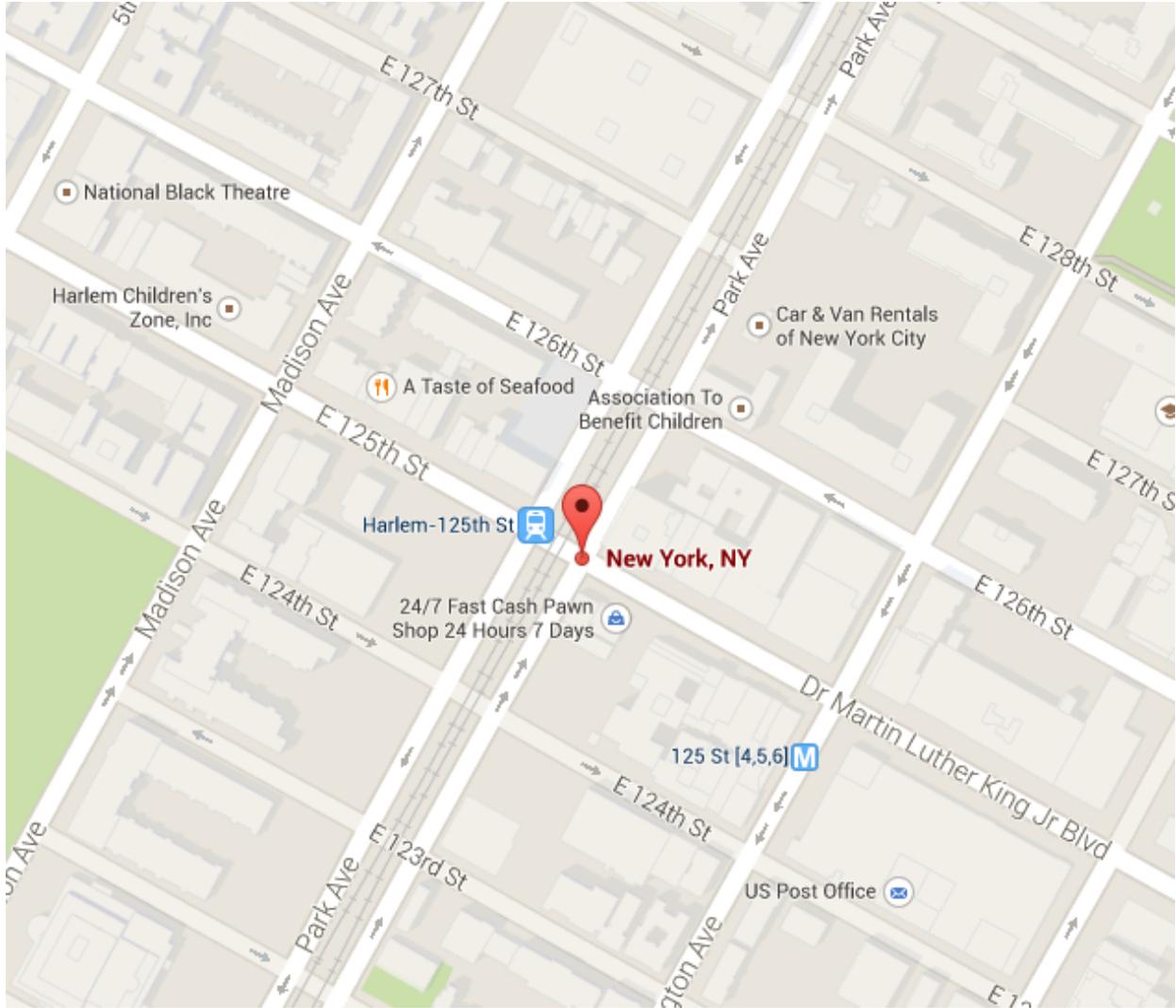
Site Photo



Manhattan

Sidewalk: E. 125th Street and Park Avenue

Site Map



Manhattan

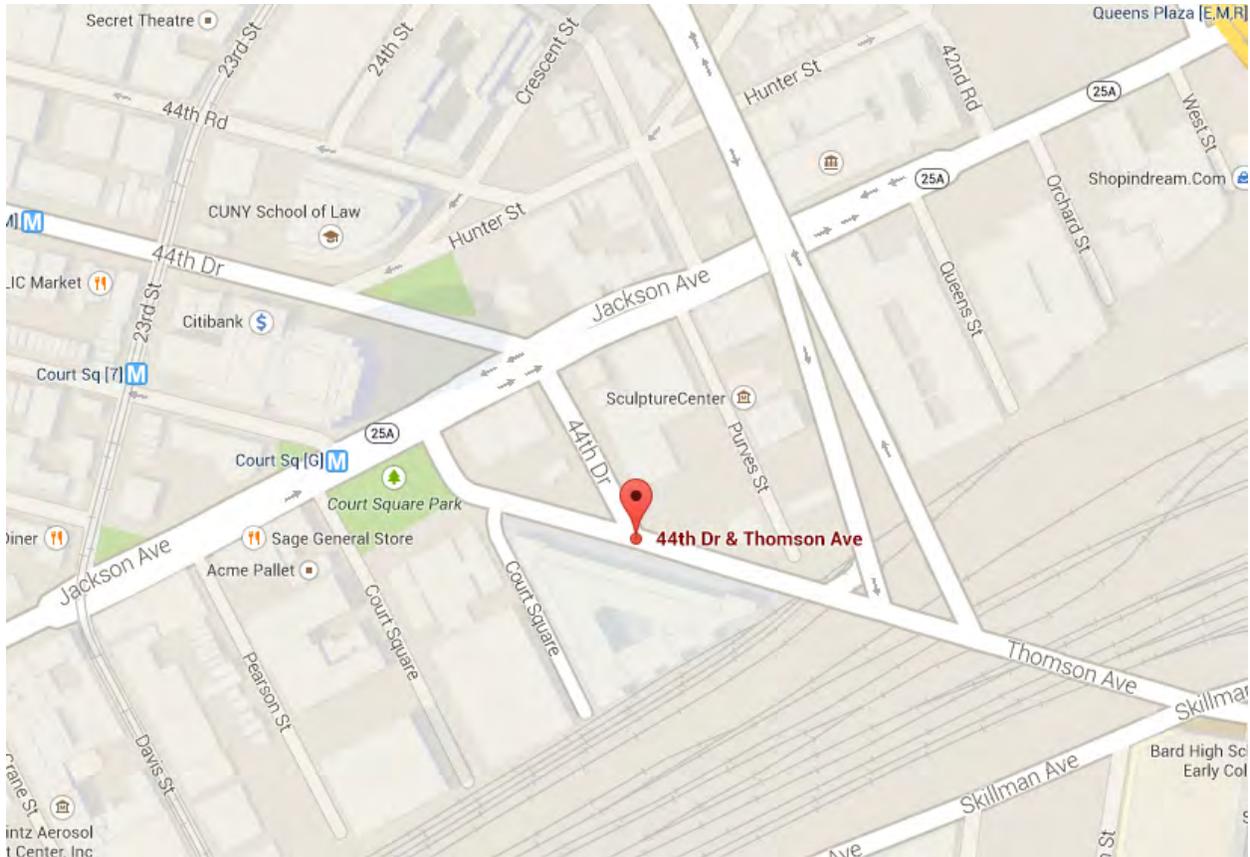
Sidewalk: E. 125th Street and Park Avenue

Site Photo



QUEENS

Bridge: Thomson Avenue Bridge between Skillman Avenue and 44th Drive Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only a mural on the panels of the structure will be permitted.
- No two dimensional proposals will be permitted on the bridge structure.

QUEENS

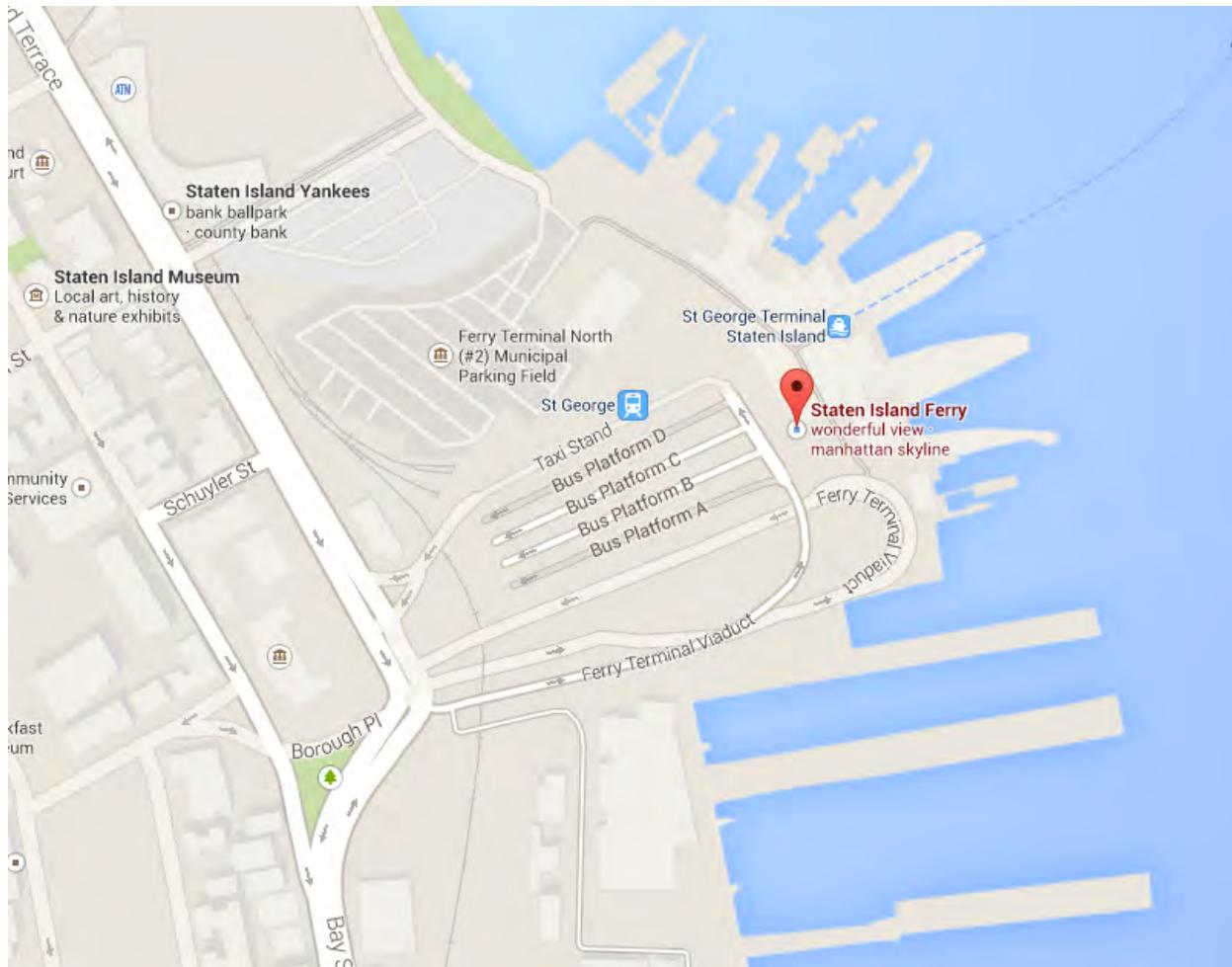
**Bridge: Thomson Avenue Bridge between Skillman Avenue and 44th Drive
Site Photo**



STATEN ISLAND

Plaza: St. George Ferry Terminal, Richmond Terrace Exit, 1 Bay Street Landing

Site Map

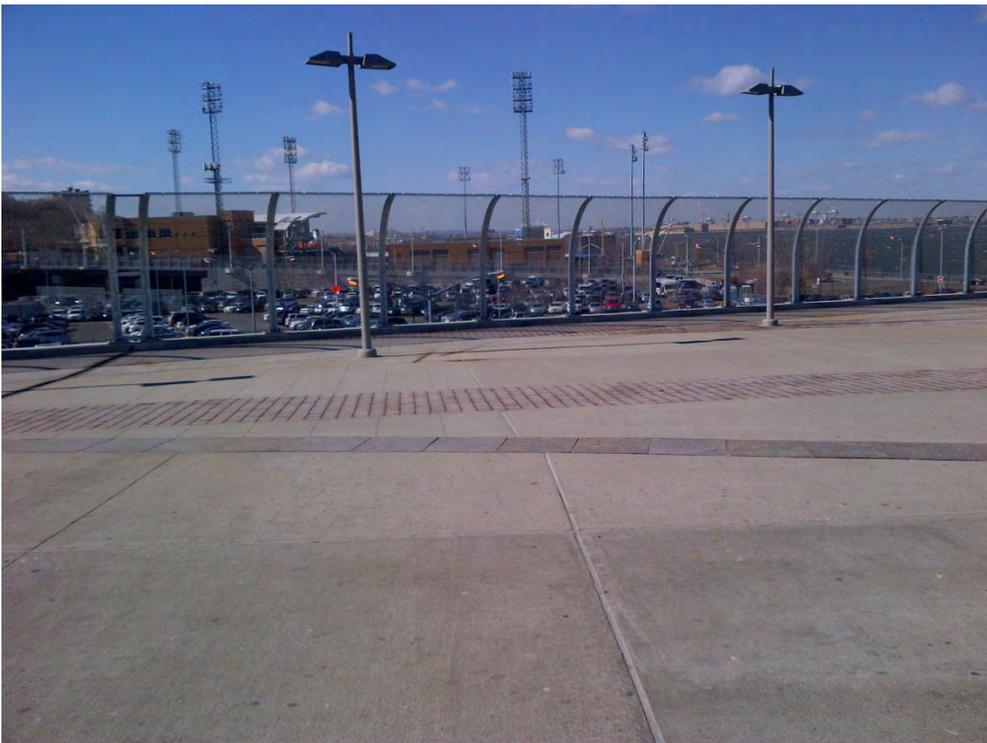


Restrictions/Considerations:

- Artwork is not permitted on the ferry terminal structure (walls, fences, columns, etc.).
- Only sculptures will be considered for the plaza.
- Painting a mural directly onto the pavement is not permitted.
- Artwork may be installed in the center of the plaza or closer to the fence or building line.
- Applicants should consider pedestrian egress points designated by the ramp and adjacent staircase.

STATEN ISLAND

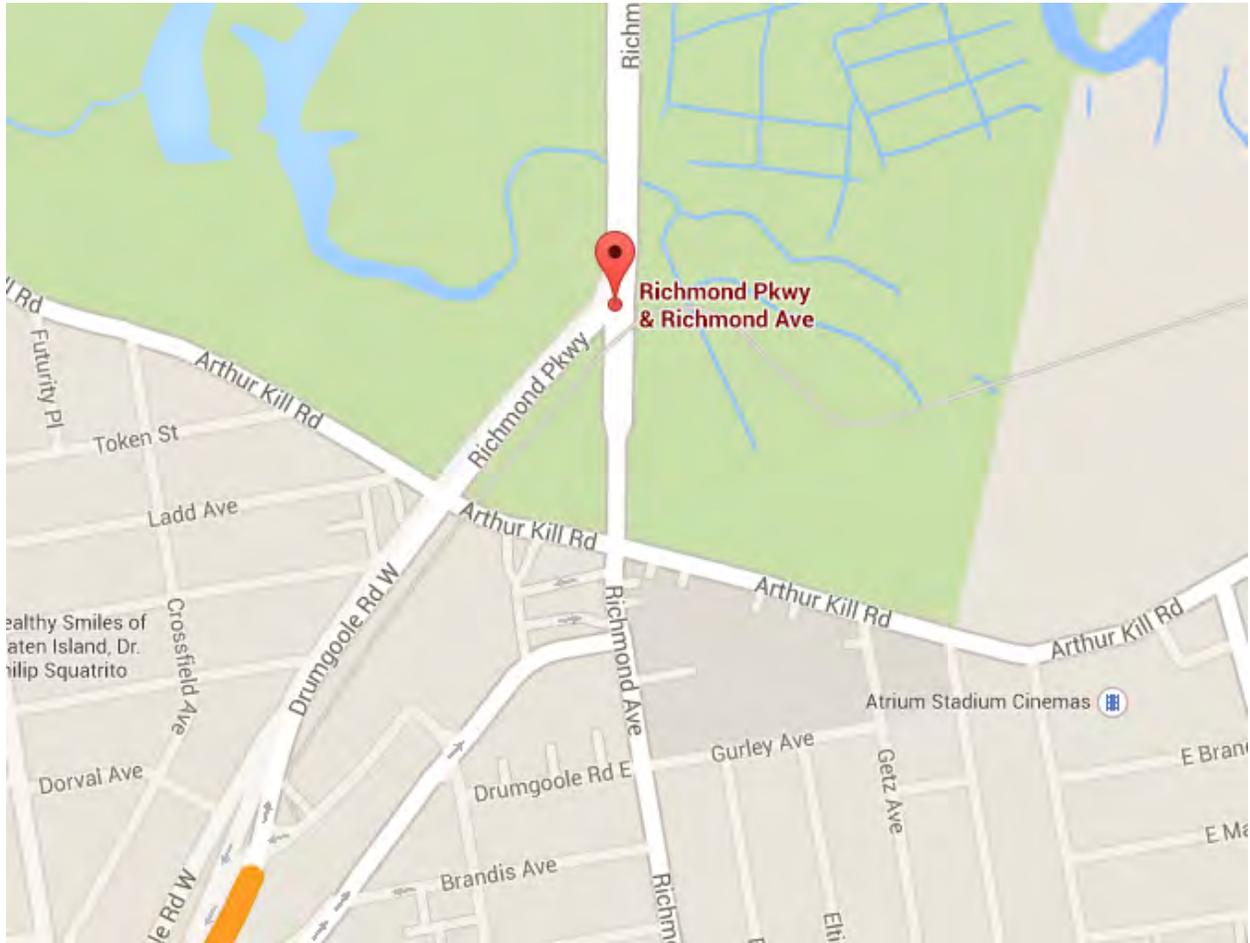
**Plaza: St. George Ferry Terminal, Richmond Terrace Exit, 1 Bay Street Landing
Site Photos**



STATEN ISLAND

Bridge: Richmond Avenue at Richmond Parkway

Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only murals will be considered for the concrete bridge area.
- Parachute cloth, vinyl decals and/or other forms of canvas may not be installed onto the staircase or walls of the bridge.

STATEN ISLAND

Bridge: Richmond Avenue at Richmond Parkway

Site Photos



Appendix B: Recent Community Commissions



Kew Gardens Community Improvement Association, Inc. and John Chadwell
Eastbound, Westbound
Bridge: 82nd Avenue between Grenfell Street and Austin Street (Queens)



ISCP and Mohamed Sharkawi

Birds

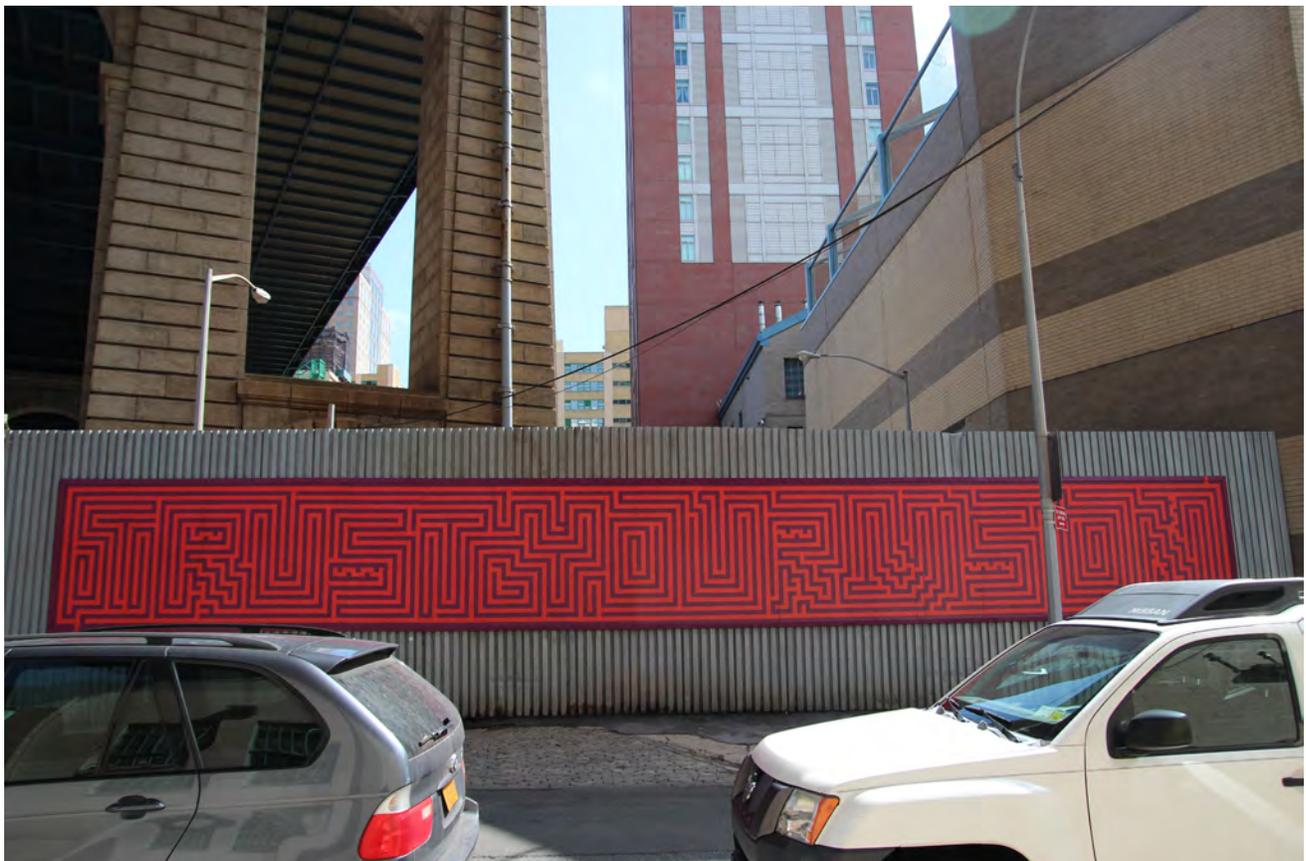
Fence: Vernon Boulevard and Queens Plaza South (Queens)



DUMBO BID and gif!

Trust Your Vision

Fence: Front Street between Adams Street and Pearl Street (Brooklyn)



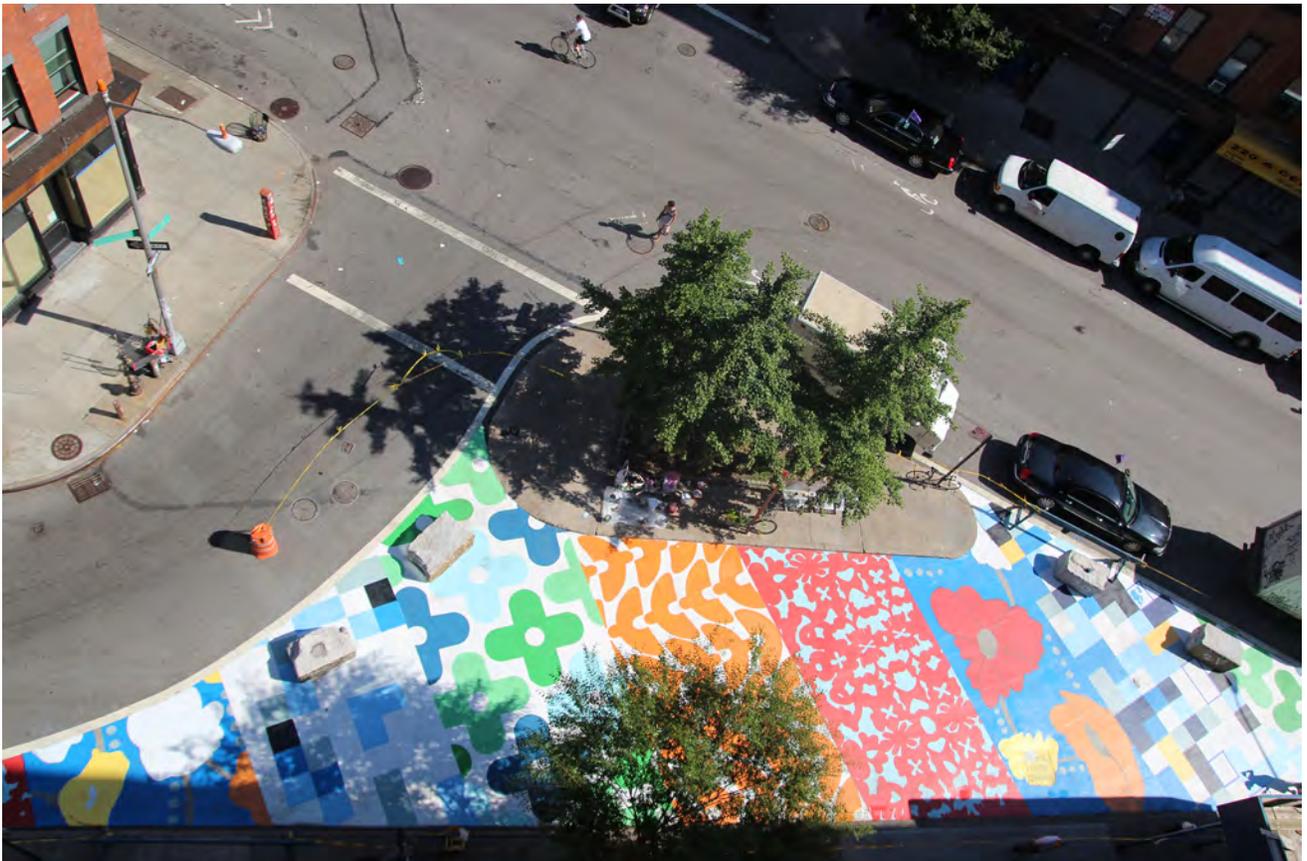
El Centro del Inmigrante and Lina Montoya
Las Marisposas Amarillas
Fence: Richmond Terrace and Jewett Avenue (Staten Island)



Lower East Side BID and Kim Sillen

Modern Tapestry

Asphalt: Canal Street, Division Street and Ludlow Street (Manhattan)



Community Commissions

Application Cover Sheet

GENERAL INFORMATION

Submission Date: _____

Site Selection: _____

Organization Name: _____

Artist Name: _____

Project Title: _____

Artwork Type: Sculpture Mural Lighting Design Intervention Other

Materials: _____

Proposed Installation Date: _____ **Funding Request:** _____

Materials should be submitted as printed hardcopies and included on either a CD-ROM or USB flash drive. Proposals will be reviewed by the Art Advisory Committee. All items must be included as part of the submission package or applications will not be reviewed.

- Community Commissions Application Form;
- No more than 4 project renderings (include: sketches, site plan, and Photoshop renderings);
- No more than 4 photographs of past artwork in jpeg format (resolution of 72 to 150 dpi) and associated image list that includes: title, date of completion, medium, dimensions, location, sale price or commission budget, description of artwork, and list of partners;
- Artist curriculum vitae; and
- Organization support letter.

All application materials should be mailed to:

**Attn: Emily Colasacco, Art Program Director
NYC Department of Transportation, Urban Design and Art
55 Water Street, 9th Fl, NY, NY 10041**

Community Commissions

Application

Organization Name: _____

Executive Director: _____

Contact Name & Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____ **Phone #:** _____

Email: _____ **Website:** _____

Organizational Background Describe your organization's mission and include one strong example of a community-based project.

Site Selection Describe your organization's interest in commissioning an artwork for the selected priority site.

Project Description/Artist Statement Describe the overall concept and approach for the proposed artwork and its consideration for the social, historical, architectural, geographical and/or cultural context of the site.

Community Involvement Describe your community outreach strategy and include a list of local stakeholders you plan to involve during design, fabrication and/or installation.

Artist Bio Describe the artist's past experience in any significant solo or group exhibitions in the public or private realm.

Community Commissions

Application

Project Budget

What is the estimated total project budget? _____

Provide a line item budget (Artist Fee, Materials, Fabrication, Equipment Rental, Transportation, Installation, Maintenance, and Removal):

How much funding is being requested from NYCDOT? _____

How much funding is already committed for the project? _____

Fabrication/Installation Describe the fabrication and installation methods and include a list of relevant materials, hardware and equipment required to produce and install the artwork.

Maintenance Describe the proposed maintenance plan to monitor and maintain the artwork throughout the display period and include any potential maintenance concerns given the proposed materials.

Project Schedule

Provide a tentative schedule for implementation.

Installation _____

Display Period _____

Removal _____