Animating Infrastructure Full Proposal Preview | FY2021

This is not the application, but a list of the questions you will be expected to answer and the materials you will need to provide. Character limits, when applicable, include spaces and are listed in parentheses. All information must be submitted through the Council’s online granting system.

Organizational Information
Organization name and address; contact person name, email address, and phone number

Type of Grant
Indicate the type of support you would like with this grant program. You will only select one option.
- Design Grant: Artist Design Fees ($5,000 max grant)
- Implementation Grant: Artistic Fabrication and Installation of Art ($15,000 max grant)
- Combination Design and Implementation Grant ($15,000 max grant)

Project Information
Summarize your infrastructure project idea in one sentence. (200)

Provide the physical address of the project site. (500)

Who owns the property where the project will take place? (500)
Include name, address, and contact information if different from the applicant.

Who will own the artwork once completed and be responsible for maintenance/conservation? (200)

Narrative Questions
Define and describe your community and the geographic place, the infrastructure project, and the potential for integration of public art. Indicate how the site is or will be open or visible to the public. (2,000)

When describing your community consider the geographic place and the site, and indicate if the place is in a historic district, designated downtown, village center, neighborhood development, rural community, etc. Describe other relevant details such as building/site names, and important landscape or architectural features.

The geographic place can be a village, a town green, a city block, a vacant building, a town, a main street, two square miles, etc. Infrastructure includes but is not limited to community facilities and services such as buildings, trails, water or sewer systems, roads, bridges, power systems, parks, etc.

The site is a specific component of the infrastructure project such as the public lobby, plaza, park, gazebo, pedestrian walkways, empty lot, etc. Indicate if the infrastructure is existing or proposed. Opportunities for integrated functional public art include such things as bike racks, sidewalks, walls, railings, signs, walls, bridges, lighting, tree grates, fire pits, water fountains, etc.
What are the estimated costs for the infrastructure project and how is it being funded? Do you anticipate that the infrastructure project will require any specific permits or permissions to be completed? If so, indicate if they have been issued. (1,000)

This is not the estimated cost of the art component but the cost for the overall infrastructure project if the art is being integrated into a larger community project. Examples of estimated costs might include: a $500,000 renovation to the town hall funded by local taxpayers; construction of a walking path with estimated costs of $1 million funded 80% with grants and donations and the remaining 20% coming from local resident taxes. Examples of permits or permissions might include environmental, zoning, or Act 250 permits.

Are historic properties involved? Will it require selectboard/city council approval? If this is a standalone art project (e.g., commissioning artful benches or bike racks in the town green) and there are no other infrastructure budget components, please explain that.

Describe the vision for your community. What are specific goals and desired outcomes for this project? (1,000)

What is the long-term picture of what your community will be like in the future? What are the projected results for this project (e.g., safer, more pedestrian friendly streets; enhanced community connections/pride; bringing more people into local businesses; improving community livability/vibrancy, etc.)?

Describe your organization, the leadership in place to carry out the project, and any partners or collaborating organizations. (1,000)

List and describe your project team including roles and responsibilities. Indicate your experience with project management, fundraising, and/or other relevant subject matter.

Identify and describe the qualifications of an artist coordinator who will be responsible for working with the artist. (1,000)

The artist coordinator is someone in your organization or on your team (not the artist) who will facilitate the artist selection process. The coordinator will also have consistent contact with the artist to communicate project needs, timelines, deadlines, etc. They also function as an advocate and help to support the artist(s) through the project by assisting with meeting facilitation, coordination of logistics, and communications regarding meetings, workshops, gatherings, etc.

List the names of people who will serve (or served) on a local review committee to identify an artist for the project. Include their organization affiliations or project roles. If you are not using a local review committee describe how you will select (or selected) the artist for your project. (1,500)

A local review committee generally consists of cross-sector representatives connected with the project and the community. Examples include representatives from the local selectboard, planning commission, school, library, or historical society; a project designer, architect, or engineer; a resident or business owner whose property is adjacent to the site, etc.

The role of the local review committee is to work with the artist coordinator to develop the call to artists, review the artist submissions, identify artist finalists, select an artist, and work with the selected artists to develop the final design. The committee will also aid the coordination and planning of opportunities for community input/participation/engagement. Be sure to include at least one member of the arts community on your committee. This can be an artist, arts administrator, curator, etc. They can help assess artistic quality of the artwork in the context of the project.
How will you ensure artistic merit of the work? (1,000)

The suggested approach is to include qualified, knowledgeable arts professionals such as curators, arts administrators, and/or artists as partners or team members. Provide a brief description of who will serve (or who has served) in the role to help evaluate artistic merit.

Describe how the community and partners will have (or had) an opportunity for input into the selection of the artist and/or art design in an inclusive process connecting people of diverse socioeconomic groups, abilities, races, cultures, genders, and ages. (1,500)

The ways in which the community may engage in the process will vary according to the artist selected and how they approach their work. If you do not yet have an artist selected for this project, describe preliminary ideas for engaging the community in the project planning, design, and/or creation of the work. Are there community groups, existing events, or communication systems that you could utilize to broaden your reach? How will you intentionally work to break down barriers and inequities and provide more opportunities for participation?

Tell us the story of your community as it relates to this project. What makes your community unique? (1,000)

Is your community known for particular people, events, geography, activities, etc.? What are some unique qualities, characteristics, attributes, themes, or historic facts about the community, the site, or the people that might be reflected in the final artistic process or product?

How do you plan to raise funds to implement the public art project if the expenses are expected to be more than the grant amount? (1,000)

For example: utilizing aspects of a construction budget that are already allocated for functional elements, such as an existing budget for sidewalks, benches, tree grates, fences, etc. Other potential sources may include crowdfunding, grants, private or corporate donations, in-kind contributions, etc.

How do you anticipate that this project will inspire community attraction to, interaction with, and/or engagement with the space, structure, or to the community? (1,500)

Is there functional artwork that people can interact with and meet goals of community vibrancy? Is the artwork representing a gateway to the downtown that will attract people and help create economic vitality? Will an artistic lighting project provide light in an underutilized space in the evening and create a safer well-lit environment? Will temporary artworks integrated into the space during a month-long festival draw people to the site and create experiential elements that attract people to food, artisan, and other vendors at the site?

Explain why this project is important to your community at this time. (1,000)

This might include timing of infrastructure projects (for example, the town is about to undergo a reconstruction of the main street and now is the time to integrate functional artistic components). Are there particular challenges such as loss of businesses, declining populations, or the desire to build social or community connections?
Narrative Questions (continued)

(Implementation Grants only)
If the artwork has been already designed, you will also need to answer the following questions.

Identify the selected artist (or artist team) for this project. Provide the name(s), brief bio(s), artist website(s), and a summary of their work to date relative to this project. (2,000)

Speak to why the artist was chosen, their background, and their ability to successfully manage and implement the proposed project on time and on budget.

Describe the concept behind the design and provide a specific timeline for the fabrication, installation, and completion of the art project. (1,500)

Be sure to include information about the durability and safety of the proposed artwork, its resistance to theft, vandalism, and how it will respond to exposure to weather, etc. The timelines should include information about when and where the work will be fabricated, when it will be installed, and when the project will be completed.

Describe the maintenance plan for the artwork and include who is responsible for its upkeep. (1,000)

Will it require annual treatments? Weekly mowing around it? Who is responsible for this? If this is for a temporary artwork, how long will it be up/visible and remain in the community and who will be responsible for care and removing it from the site?

Attachments

Art Project Budget
Expenses: How much will it cost? Applicants should upload a project budget (using the provided form or in your own format) outlining actual and estimated expenses.

- For Design Grants, include expenses and revenue related to the design phase only.
- For Implementation Grants, include all costs of fabrication, including artist fees, materials, transportation of artwork, insurance, etc.
- For Combination Grants, indicate how much of the total funding will be used for planning and how much will go toward implementation.

Revenue: Where will the funding come from? Applicants should include a specific funding plan (using the provided from or in your own format). Indicate if the funds are projected or committed and include their funding sources. How do you plan to raise necessary funds to make the project happen once it has been designed?

Letters of Commitment
Provide a letter of commitment from partner organizations/groups and/or property owners indicating permissions to implement the project if the owner is not the applicant. You have the option of uploading two additional letters of commitment.

- Letter of Commitment 1 (required) from property owner indicating permissions to implement the project if the owner is not the applicant.
- Letter of Commitment 2 (optional): from partner organizations or community groups expressing their support of the project.
- Letter of Commitment 3 (optional): from partner organizations or community groups expressing support of the project.
**Media**
Include up to ten images that depict the community, potential site(s), maps or designs of the infrastructure project, and any other visuals that might help to identify potential opportunities for artist involvement. Reviewers also find it helpful to have images of potential artistic vision or ideas for the site. If submitting a video or a link to a video, it should be no more than 3 minutes in length.

Allowed media types:
- images (up to 5MB each)
- video (up to 250MB each)
- audio (up to 30MB each)
- PDFs (up to 10MB each)
- links to media from YouTube, Vimeo, and SoundCloud

**(Implementation Grants only)**
**Artwork Plans:** Applicants should have a completed design. Upload a PDF of no more than five pages that includes plans, drawings, and/or renderings that describe the completed artistic designs to be fabricated and installed at the site. Please include information about specific materials, finishes, dimensions, and scale.

**Questions?**
Send an [email to Michele Bailey](mailto:) or call her at 802.402.4614.