



THE ARTS COMMISSION
INSPIRING A VIBRANT TOLEDO



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS GLASS CITY METROPARK Public Art Project: Toledo, OH



I. PROJECT INTENT

The Arts Commission of Greater Toledo's Art in Public Places Program has partnered with Metroparks Toledo to commission a new work of public art for the Glass City Metropark.

The theme of the project is a celebration of the unique past, present and future contributions that glass has provided to our local community and to our world. Contributions that are at once historical, environmental, cultural and craftsman and with whom the human hand and commonality of vision, of dignity, and of similarities, not differences, unite us as one.

A Design Review Board (DRB) plans to select three artists to design a site specific public art installation for one of three sites at the park. Finalists will be paid a stipend of \$2000 to participate in the concept proposal process, which will include touring Glass City Metropark, exploring optimal siting, and meeting the Design Review Board and community members prior to developing a proposal. We are looking for artists that have experience with integrating public art into park environments. Submitted qualifications will be judged on a competitive basis.

The artist / team selected for the commission shall collaborate closely with the project management team through in-person meetings and other necessary means of

communication when developing conceptual designs for artwork, including identifying the site(s), content, scale, media and to allow the thorough integration of the artwork into the site.

The artist must be willing to learn in-depth about the community and the relation to surrounding areas of Toledo, participate on the design team with members of the community and utilize this information in the overall conceptual development of the work.

II. BUDGET

Three finalists will be paid \$2,000 to develop proposals for the site.

Up to \$1,000 will be reimbursable for expenses related to site visits, including travel, lodging and food.

The budget for the artwork component is \$400,000, including but not limited to all expenses related to project completion, site preparation, additional design fees, engineering, materials, equipment, fabrication costs, documentation, transportation, installation and travel.

III. ELIGIBILITY

The project is open to all artists in the United States of America, age 18 and over, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical or mental disability. Artist teams are eligible to apply, including teams of artists from multiple disciplines.

IV. TIMELINE

July 21, 2021	Request for Qualifications Launch
August 28, 2021	Deadline for RFQ Submissions
September 9, 2021	Review of Applications
September 28, 2021	Finalists Notified
October 12, 2021	Finalists Site Visits
November 12, 2021	Finalists Present Proposals
November 18, 2021	Winning Proposals Announced
Summer 2022	Installation

The Arts Commission reserves the right to change the project timeline. Dates for site visits are tentative and will be based on the availability of the finalists.

V. HOW TO APPLY

Artists interested in this project must prepare and submit the following:

- Letter of Interest - This letter should be no more than one page and should explain the artist's interest in the project.
- Current Resume - If submitting as a team, a current resume for each team member should be provided.
- Visual Support Materials - Submit 5 digital images of your most recent professional work.
- Annotated image list - The image list must include the artist's name and a brief description of image stating its title, date, medium, size, location and if a commissioned project, the commission budget.
- References - A list of at least three professional references that have an intimate knowledge of their work and working methods. The list must include complete emails and telephone numbers.

All submissions must be received by 11:59 pm EST, August 28, 2021.

Materials must be submitted through CaFÉ at the link below:

https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=9100

VI. SELECTION PROCESS

The Design Review Board for this project will review all submissions and select up to three artists as finalists. The finalists will then be asked to develop a conceptual approach for artwork at the site and make a presentation of their proposal, including concept, materials, size, weight, details of maintenance guidelines, special equipment needs, and budget. The finalists will be compensated two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for their participation in this stage of the selection.

The Design Review Board will be composed of members of The Arts Commission, Metroparks Toledo staff and members of their board, residents, and additional stakeholders.

VII. ABOUT TOLEDO

Toledo is located on the western shore of Lake Erie and is the fourth largest city in Ohio, with a population of approximately 650,000 people in the metropolitan area. Toledo has a storied past in the manufacturing of many well-known icons of industry including The Jeep and Toledo Scale. Toledo is also known as The Glass Capital of the World for glass manufacturing and is the birthplace of the American Studio Glass Movement.

Toledo has an impressive collection of public art, with large-scale sculptures, murals, and functional structures by noted artists from all over the world. Many of these pieces were acquired through the pioneering 1977 ordinance that set aside one percent of Toledo's Capital Improvement Budget for the purchase, conservation, and public education of art. The city also offers a wide array of cultural opportunities including The Toledo Museum of Art, The Toledo Symphony Orchestra and The Toledo Opera.

VIII. ABOUT METROPARKS TOLEDO and the GLASS CITY METROPARK

Voted best in the United States in 2020, Metroparks Toledo will be, in its culture and community engagements, the beacon for conservation of natural resources; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and the activation and promotion of spaces that enhance physical and mental health. The communal pursuit of these aspirations will elevate our region and transform its identity.

Metroparks Toledo has been working on a transformative project in the heart of Toledo which takes advantage of the region's greatest asset, the Maumee River. The project, known as the Glass City Riverwalk is a completely accessible riverfront that extends both sides of the Maumee. The open space is connected by a network of shared-use - paths, parks, and open corridors. The new riverfront network in downtown Toledo will provide the cornerstone for the region's parks and trail systems.

The first phase of the Glass City River Walk is the Glass City Metropark. The parks location near the mouth of the mighty Maumee has set the stage for a unique blend of nature and history. On a site that once produced electricity for Toledo residents, this transformative Metropark brings a new kind of energy to the banks of the Maumee River.

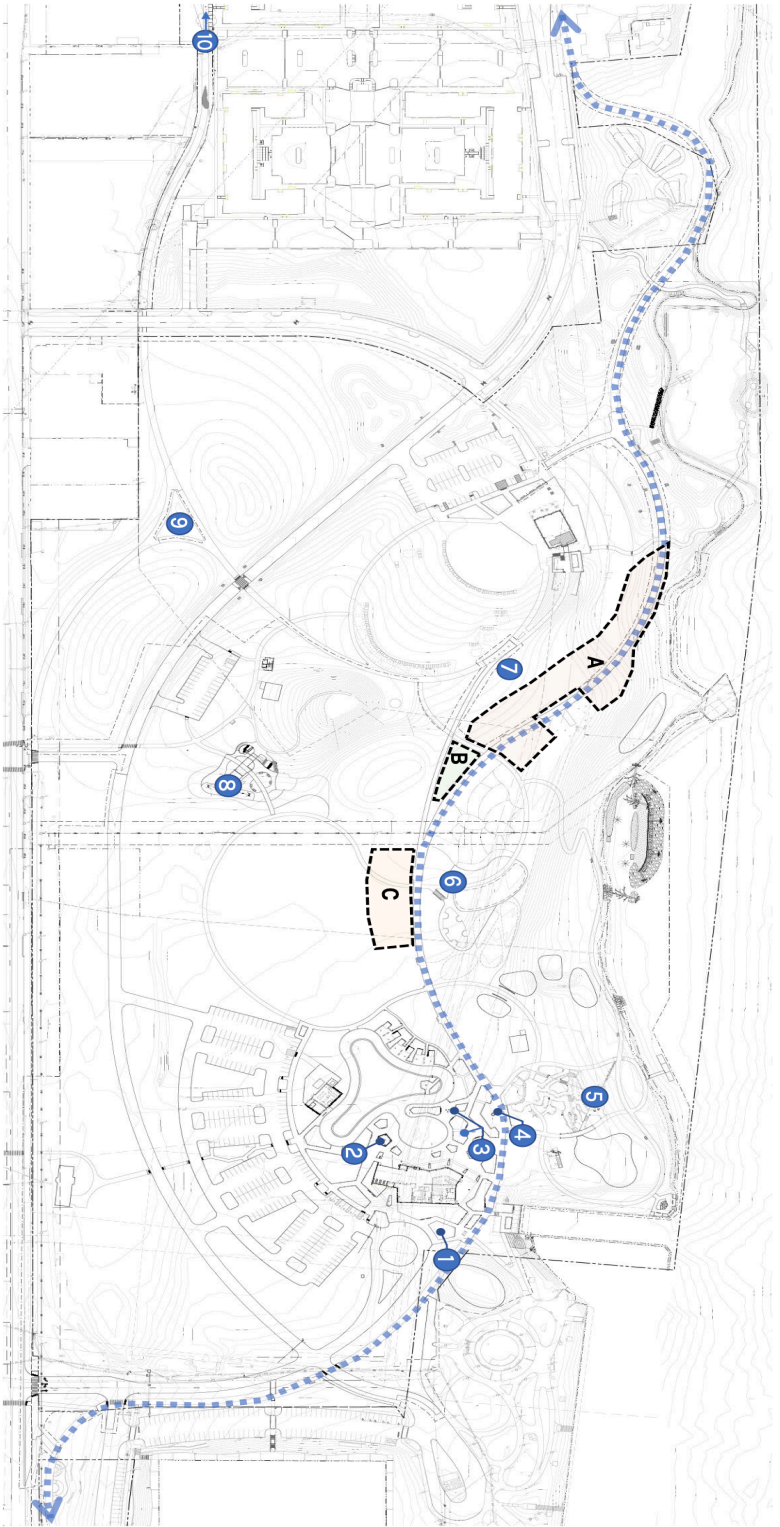
Activated by Toledo's residents and visitors, this recreated natural riverfront park, with its welcoming gathering spaces, connected trails and fun recreation opportunities improve community quality of life, encourage healthy lifestyles, connect youth with nature, and support Toledo's economic vitality.

Recently completed, Phase 1 is bordered by the Maumee River, Front Street, the Marina Lofts apartments and E. Broadway.

Phase 2, includes an ice skating ribbon, adventure play areas and a campground, will be under construction in 2021-2022. A bridge over Main Street will connect Glass City with International Park, which will also be renovated as a new Metropark. This project is part of Phase 2.

GLASS CITY METROPARK

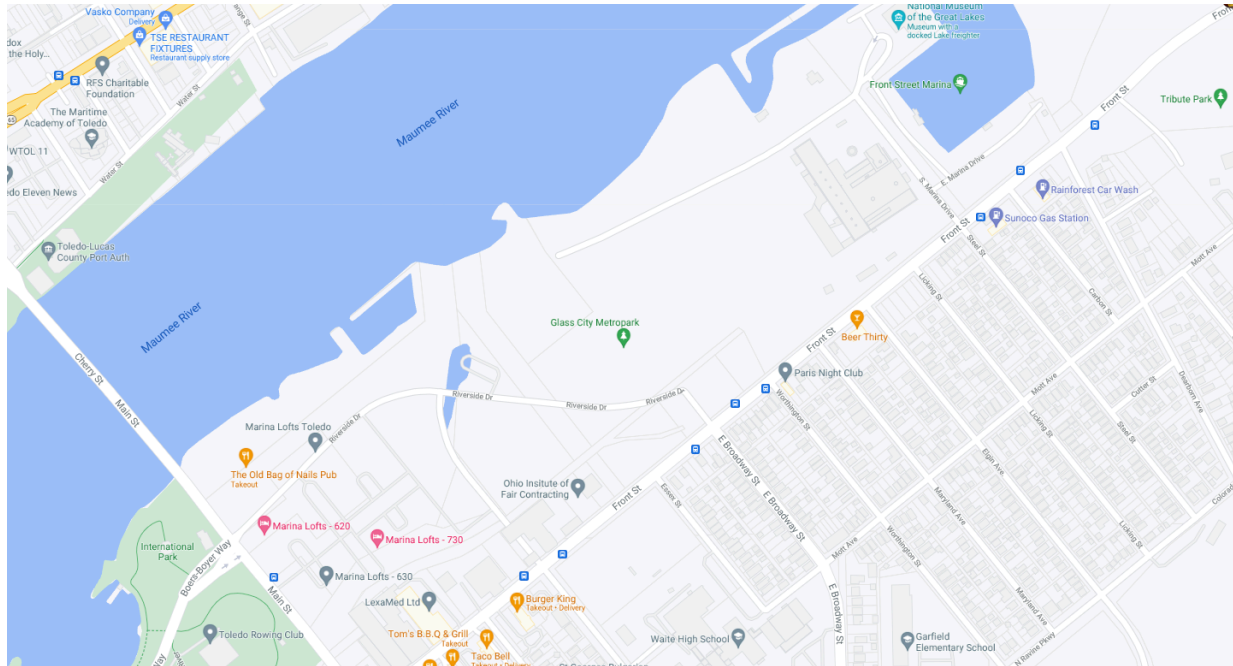
ART FEATURES



- LEGEND**
- 1 Donor Recognition Piece
 - 2 The Raintowers
 - 3 Art Elements (Formerly known as 'Misting Boulders')
 - 4 The Beacon / Ghost Stack
 - 5 Mini Maumee (Frogs, Cairns)
 - 6 Prairie + Pollinator Play Node (willow tunnel, custom play)
 - 7 The Confluence Area (interactive seating? / TBD)
 - 8 Adventure Play Node (Earthscape Tower)
 - 9 The Clinkers
 - 10 Pedestrian Bridge and associated features
- A** AREA A: The south of the Riverwalk slopes gently up towards the pavilion, the north side of trail slopes down toward the river.
B AREA B: A triangle between three main park paths, one being the Riverwalk. This area slopes gently from south to north.
C AREA C: gently sloping, south side of Riverwalk Trail

This map indicates the existing park features. The potential sites for public art are indicated as Areas A, B and C.

A map of the area can be found here: <https://goo.gl/maps/NEUAvx2HFCSiYnhz7>



For further information, please contact Nathan Mattimoe, Director of Art in Public Places: 419-254-2787 ext. 1011.

The Arts Commission is the longest standing arts commission in the state of Ohio, founded in 1959, administering the City of Toledo's One Percent for Art Program since 1977. The Arts Commission is supported in part by the Ohio Arts Council and The National Endowment For The Arts.