

CALL TO ARTISTS

City of Grand Prairie Traffic Signal Box Public Art Project

Submission Deadline: 5 p.m., Friday, September 22, 2017

THE PROJECT AND THEMES

The City of Grand Prairie Public Art Program invites artists to compete for a public art commission to create art on Traffic Signal Boxes (TSBs) located throughout the city. This project will brighten city streetscapes, enhance community pride and create new, paid opportunities for Texas-based artists.

This project includes up to 20 TSBs and is open to concepts for direct painting on the TSBs or for high-resolution, digitally-printed wraps to be applied to the TSBs.

Ten of the TSBs are sponsored by our Public Art Program and proposals will be accepted based on a "Celebrate the Environment in General" theme. Artists' proposals for that theme can include scenes depicting fresh vegetables and/or fruit, the Grand Prairie Farmer's Market, nature, animals, prairies, wildflowers or other landscaping scenes, hiking, gardening, Purple Martins, Monarch butterflies or other butterflies and insects, energy-related topics, litter prevention and more.

The other 10 TSBs are sponsored by the City of Grand Prairie Public Works Department and will be selected based on themes of "Water Conservation/Water Quality." Artists' proposals for that theme should focus on water-related scenes that help the public appreciate the value and beauty of water and can include quotes about the importance of water, water conservation, protecting water quality, fish, creeks, the Trinity River and more.

The sample boxes depicted in this call were specifically chosen to give examples of the type of scenes and quality of work we hope to see on the TSBs.

Each artist may submit one entry per category and may win once per category for this Call.

THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL BOXES (TSBs)

Grand Prairie has various types and sizes of TSBs located at intersections with traffic lights. Most TSBs selected for this project include an Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) unit attached to the side of the box. However some of our boxes have not yet been upgraded to include the UPS units. Our UPS unit upgrade program is active and may result in a box being painted and a UPS unit being added later. Thus, for this project, we have included a Proposal Concept Template for our most typical TSBs with UPS units attached.

Once the winners are chosen, each artist will be assigned a specific box that may, or may not, have a UPS unit and may, or may not, match the exact measurements of the template. Our budget includes funds for the winning artists to develop final concepts based on their assigned box and preliminary concept.

Art should cover all exposed sides and top of the TSB and UPS unit. The fiberglass and concrete bases must also be painted in a solid color or colors complimentary to the design. The undersides of the TSB and UPS units do not need to be painted.

Example of a Typical Grand Prairie TSB and UPS Unit



Artist - Wayne Smith
Photo Courtesy of
Urban Smart Projects

www.urbansmartprojects.com



Artist - John Thurston

www.jthurstonphoto.com



Artist - Jessica Fittock
Photo Courtesy of
Urban Smart Projects

www.urbansmartprojects.com



Artist
Lyndon Stone



Artist
Kay Lam-MacLeod



Artist
Bronwyn Holm

Photos Courtesy of
Urban Smart Projects
www.urbansmartprojects.com

LOCATIONS

The Public Art Program, in conjunction with the Traffic Signals Division has identified 20 TSBs for this Call. The TSB locations are in safe environments for artists to work and provide maximum visibility for pedestrians and drivers.

City staff will assign the selected artworks to specific TSB and UPS unit locations throughout the city.

ARTIST'S AWARD

The total budget for each TSB is \$2,000 and includes the following based on whether the artist will paint the box or if it will be wrapped. Each winning artist must sign an Artist Contract and complete required vendor paperwork.

If Painting:

- \$250 Preliminary Concept Award for Winning Design – To be eligible to receive the \$250 award, the artist must sign a contract committing to finalize the concept based on the assigned TSB and to agree to paint the TSB with the approved final design.
- \$250 Optional Pay to Artist or Other (city contractor), includes:
 - Preliminary cleaning the TSB and UPS Unit
 - Priming the TSB and UPS Unit
- \$1,500 Final Product, including:
 - Final approved design based on assigned box size
 - Supplies
 - Painting (including Isolation Coat)
 - Cleaning fiberglass pedestal and concrete base
 - Painting fiberglass pedestal and concrete base
 - Clear coating TSB & UPS Unit, fiberglass pedestal & concrete base

If Wrapping:

- \$250 Preliminary Concept Award for Winning Design – To be eligible to receive the \$250 award, the artist must sign a contract committing to finalize the concept based on the assigned TSB and to agree to work with the City's Public Art Coordinator and wrapping vendor to finalize the concept and submit the required files for the vendor to print.
- \$825 Final design based on assigned box size, includes
 - Working the Public Art Coordinator and wrapping vendor for image sizing and approval of final design.
 - Final files in approved high-resolution format (format depends on whether it's a photograph or graphic design).
- \$675 Paid to Others (City contractor) for wrapping services, including
 - Working with artist for sizing and final format
 - 4-Color process digital printing of the design on vinyl wrap
 - Cleaning TSB and UPS Unit
 - Wrapping TSB and UPS Unit
 - Heat sealing wrapping
 - UV laminate clear coat wrap
- \$250 Optional Pay to Artist or Others (City contractor) for
 - Cleaning fiberglass pedestal and concrete base
 - Painting fiberglass pedestal and concrete base
 - Clear coating fiberglass pedestal & concrete base



Artist
David Houghton



Artist
Brian Tisdall



Artist
Mark Robinson

Photos Courtesy of
Urban Smart Projects
www.urbansmartprojects.com

REQUIREMENTS / MATERIALS FOR WINNING ARTISTS

Additional information, beyond that listed below, will be provided to the winners.

For Wrapping TSB and UPS Units: The City of Grand Prairie Public Art Program has specified the following steps when wrapping:

1. **For Photographs:** Send minimum 300 DPI Files
2. **For Graphic Designs:** Send Vector Files

For Painted TSB and UPS Units: Due to the outdoor exposure and the functioning electrical components located inside the TSBs and UPS units, the City of Grand Prairie Public Art Program has specified the following steps and products for use when painting. Variations from the steps and specifications listed below will be considered, but must be approved by, and coordinated with, the Public Art Coordinator prior to application on the TSBs, UPS, Fiberglass Pedestal and Concrete Base.

1. Cleaning TSP and UPS Unit:

Step 1: Water Soap Mix: 24 oz. spray bottle. Filled with water and 2 drops dawn soap or equal. Spray on rag and wipe down.

Step 2: Water & Isopropyl Alcohol: 24 oz. spray bottle add 1 part alcohol to 7 parts water. Spray on rag and wipe down.

Fiberglass Base: Soap and water and rags.

Concrete Base: Sweep, use soap and water and scraper if needed.

2. PRIMER for TSB and UPS Unit: TSBs and UPS Units must be inspected by the Public Art Coordinator prior to priming.

BULLS EYE 1-2-3 (Zinsser) (water-based) - Two undercoats are required. This product is available at paint & hardware stores.

<http://www.rustoleum.com/product-catalog/consumer-brands/zinsser/primer-sealers/bulls-eye-1-2-3-water-base-primer>

3. PAINT for TSB and UPS Unit:

a. GOLDEN PAINT HEAVY BODY ACRYLICS (water-based)

<http://www.goldenpaints.com/products/colors/heavy-body>

Available at Asel Art and other paint stores

b. Air-Brush Acrylics or Aerosol Spray Paint (Must be approved by, and coordinated with, the Public Art Coordinator.)

c. Other Paint (Must be approved by, and coordinated with, the Public Art Coordinator)

4. ISOLATION COAT (layer between paint & protective clear coat):

GOLDEN SOFT GEL GLOSS (Diluted with water at a 2:1 ratio to make a liquid medium.)

<http://www.goldenpaints.com/products/medium-gels-pastes/gel>

5. PROTECTIVE VARNISH / CLEAR COAT (mineral spirit based – brush on)

GOLDEN VARNISH: MSA Varnish With UVLS (Gloss)

<http://www.goldenpaints.com/products/varnish-top-coat/msa-varnish>

6. Painting, Isolation Coat and Clear Coat of Fiberglass Pedestal

a. Bulls Eye 1-2-3 (Zinsser) Paint Primer (water based)

b. Same as listed above in items 2-4 above.

7. Primer, Isolation Coat and Clear Coat of Concrete Base

a. Bulls Eye 1-2-3 (Zinsser) Paint Primer (water based)

b. Same as listed above in items 2-4 above.



Artist
Sandra Pearce



Artist
Alicia Lane



Artist
Wayne Smith

Photos Courtesy of
Urban Smart Projects

www.urbansmartprojects.com

DESIGN CRITERIA

- Design proposals for the Water Conservation/Water Quality category should not also be entered into the Celebrate the Environment in General category.
- Use the provided Proposal Concept Template to submit a design concept. Changes to the design may be required to accommodate site requirements.
- Designs must include all visible sides of the TSB including the tops of the TSB and UPS unit. The bottoms of the TSB and UPS unit are not visible.
- TSBs and UPS units contain electrical equipment that can get hot; thus it's recommended that the bulk of the designs be primarily based on lighter colors to prevent overheating of the TSB and UPS unit.
- Whether the TSB and UPS unit will be painted or wrapped, the artist's design must include paint colors for the fiberglass pedestal and concrete bases.
- Designs must not contain representations of traffic lights, signs or signals.
- The design may include text; however TSBs may not be used for advertisement or to promote a business, product or viewpoint.
- Avoid fine detail or text of such a small size that it may cause drivers to lose concentration as they try to read it.
- Designs may not include any breach of intellectual property, trademarks, brands, images of illegal activities or involve the attachment of any object(s).
- All artwork must be the artist's own original work and must not have appeared on TSBs elsewhere.
- The finished artwork will be in the public domain and therefore may be subject to vandalism. Accordingly artists should be thoughtful about having large open areas in the design.
- Avoid "brushy" paint that looks muddy when driving by at road speed.
- Avoid using each face of the TSB for a different image or concept.
- Successful designs will "wrap" the imagery around all faces of the box in a continuous flow.
- Bold forms and vibrant colors that can be easily viewed by motorists stopped at the traffic signal, as well as by passing pedestrians, are encouraged.
- Artists are invited to sign their boxes and include their website and/or a hashtag. Signatures, a website and/or a hashtag cannot occupy more than 1/8th of the area of the side of the TSB on which they are placed. Design proposals should indicate where the signature, website and/or hashtag will be located.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

All artwork to be selected will be major public art commissions. As such, the Grand Prairie Public Art Program expects that it be of the highest quality in both concept and execution, while recognizing public safety and durability. All proposals will be screened for the completeness of the submittal packets and appropriateness of the entries. Finalist for the competition will be selected by the TSB Public Art Selection Committee based on a review of art experience/qualifications, how well the artists captured the vision for the category they selected and artistic merit. The Grand Prairie City Council has final approval on winning TSB designs.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to individual artists (no group entries) residing in the State of Texas. All eligible applicants, regardless of age, race, sex, religion, nationality, origin or disability, will be considered. Artists may submit one proposal per category (Water Conservation/Water Quality and Celebrate the Environment in General) for this competition and may win once per each category for this Call.

ARTIST CONTRACT

Artists whose proposals win the competition will be provided with a public art commission contract with an assigned TSB location and other instructions.



Artist – Nick Sweetman
[@nick_sweetman](https://twitter.com/nick_sweetman)
nsweetman@gmail.com
StreetARToronto



Artist - John Thurston
www.jthurstonphoto.com



Artist - Tom Painter
Photo Courtesy of
Urban Smart Projects
www.urbansmartprojects.com

PAINTING SCHEDULE

Artists may commence painting once the final design has been approved and once the artist's contract and vendor paper work are complete. The Public Art Coordinator will review completed boxes onsite prior to the isolation and final clear coats to ensure proper use of materials and accordance with the approved design. All TSBs and UPS units must be painted or wrapped by Monday, April 30, 2018.

SAFETY AND TRAFFIC CONTROL PLANS

The City, as deemed necessary by the City, may provide and implement traffic control plans for TSB locations. The plans may, or may not, include traffic cones and/or barriers. Artists will be responsible for working in the Traffic Control Zone when applicable. Artists will be loaned safety vests by the City.

LIFE SPAN OF ARTWORK

Artists should understand that the finished works will be on functioning equipment that will need repair or replacing at some point in time. The City can't guarantee the duration of each TSB. While this project requires a clear coat, the City can't guarantee that damaged or graffitied TSBs will be repaired and the artwork restored to its original state. Artists must accept the risk that their artwork may be damaged, altered or removed at any time after completion.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Monday, August 7, 2017 Artist Call Issued

Friday, Sept. 22, 2017 5 p.m. Submission deadline

Friday, October 20, 2017 Winners Announced

Monday, April 30, 2018 Deadline for painting or wrapping.

RESERVATION RIGHTS

The City of Grand Prairie reserves the right to change the project timeline and/or to supplement, amend or otherwise modify this solicitation and to request additional or supplemental information or proposals from any or all participating artists. Any changes to the project will be noted at the TSB Call to Artists website:

www.gptx.org/publicart/trafficsignalboxproject.

While up to 20 TSBs have been identified for this project, the City reserves the right to reduce that number if it's in the best interests of the City. The City reserves the right to accept or reject, at any time prior to the commissioning of a work, any or all proposals or any part thereof submitted in connection with this solicitation and to advertise for new proposals where the acceptance, rejection waiver, or advertisement would be in the best interests of the City. The City reserves the right to negotiate unacceptable provisions incorporated within an otherwise acceptable proposal.

The City also reserves the right to use a design submitted for the Water Conservation/Water Quality category on a box reserved for the Celebrate the Environment in General category.

Since the TSBs are in public locations visible to viewers of all ages, ethnicities and cultural backgrounds, artists shall avoid nudity, suggestive poses, scatological humor, hate speech or imagery that any group might find obscene, offensive or morally shocking. Political, religious or memorial artwork is unacceptable for TSBs. All designs will be subjected to City of Grand Prairie review and approval prior to referral to the TSB Public Art Selection Committee. A proposal which is incomplete, unclear, conditional or which contains objectionable imagery, will be rejected without evaluation. The Grand Prairie City Council has final approval on TSB designs.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Deadline: Delivered (not post-marked) by 5 p.m., Friday, September 22, 2017.

Categories: There are two categories:

- 1) Water Conservation/Water Quality
- 2) Celebrate the Environment in General

Each artist may submit one entry per category and may win once per category for this Call.

A maximum of two winning commissions per artist will be allowed during this Call to Artists.

Design proposals for the Water Conservation/Water Quality category should not also be entered into the Celebrate the Environment in General category.

For each entry, the following forms and documents are required:

1) **Application Form**

2) **Statement of Art-Related Experience:**

Include a statement (250 word maximum) about your art-related experience including any previous commissions to design/paint Traffic Signal Boxes in other communities.

Do not send any materials that are not specifically requested (i.e. resume, transparencies, DVDs/videos, articles, etc.). If such materials are sent, they will not be reviewed by the TSB Public Art Selection Committee. Submissions will not be returned.

3) **Three Samples of Your Previous Artwork**

Attach three (3) images illustrating examples of your artwork.

If you have previous experience designing art for Traffic Signal Boxes, you may want to include some of those images as part of your three examples.

DO NOT provide website addresses or links directing the TSB Public Art Selection Committee to examples of your work. It is the responsibility of each artist to select the three (3) works which best illustrate their capabilities for this project.

4) **Proposal Description Form:** Complete this form to indicate which category you are entering and to explain your proposal concept and materials (one page maximum).

5) **Proposal Concept Template:**

A minimum of one Proposal Concept Template depicting the artist's concept must be submitted per design proposal.

Submitting artists should indicate how their design would be fitted to 4 vertical sides and to the top of a typical TSB, and to the three sides and to the top of the UPS unit.

A maximum of three (3) additional views may be submitted from each artist per design proposal. Submitted images may show multiple views from different perspectives of the same design proposal.

DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS

Due to internal systems for mail delivery which can cause internal mail delays, do not submit entries through regular mail.

Deadline: Entries must be delivered (not post-marked) by 5 p.m., Friday, September 22, 2017.

Artists may submit one proposal per category and may win once in each category for this Call.

THERE ARE THREE DELIVERY METHODS...

1) **3rd PARTY UPLOAD:** Entries may be uploaded to a third-party storage/sharing site (like Box, Dropbox or Hightail) and a sharing invitation sent to gppa@gptx.org. Use "(Insert Artist's Name) (Category)" for the subject.

Example: "Joe Smith Water" or "Joe Smith Environment."

Send separate invitations for each category.

2) **E-MAIL:** Entries may be e-mailed gppa@gptx.org. **See formatting instructions for e-mailed entries on next page.**

3) **DELIVERED:** Hard copies and/or entries on Virus-free, PC-compatible CDs, DVDs, or thumb drives may be delivered in person or via a delivery service (no regular mail) to:

Tammy Chan
Public Art Office at the Landfill
1102 MacArthur Blvd.
Grand Prairie, TX 75050

Destination phone number to use with delivery services:
214-212-7958
If delivering in person, please call the number above
for delivery instructions upon arrival at the landfill.

Label the CD, DVD or thumb drive as follows: "(Insert Artist's Name) TSB Entry."

If entering both categories, the file names must include "Water" or "Environment" to let us know in which category each file should go.

No media will be returned. All CDs, DVDs or thumb drives become property of the City of Grand Prairie.

An e-mail will be sent acknowledging delivery of entries. The City of Grand Prairie assumes no responsibility for lost or damaged submissions and application contents will not be returned.

INFORMATION / QUESTIONS

Questions may be directed to:

Tammy Chan, Public Art Coordinator 972-237-8159 Office 214-212-7958 Cell tchan@gptx.org

FORMATTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR E-MAILED ENTRIES

Artists may submit one proposal per category and may win once in each category for this Call.

To manage the entries, we've established the following formatting requirements for e-mailed entries:

- Include your name at the beginning of all e-mail subject lines and at the beginning of all file names.
- If you are entering both categories, send each proposal separately.
- In the subject line for each proposal include "Water" to designate the Water Conservation/Water Quality category or "Environment" to designate the Environment in General category.
- Our e-mail capacity is limited to 8mb per e-mail. All required documents can be combined into one .pdf, provided it is not more than 8mb.
- Organize the documents in the following order:
 - Application Form
 - Statement of Art-related Experience
 - 3 Art Samples
 - Proposal Description Form
 - Proposal Concept Template
 - Additional Views (Up to 3 per proposal)
- If one, or both, of your proposals includes more than 8mb, you'll need to break them up into smaller increments to send them in more than one e-mail.

If, for example, you are entering your first proposal for the Environment category and your proposal fits into two .pdfs, each totaling 8 or less megabytes, include "Environment 1" followed by a series number in the e-mail subject line.

- Example: "Joe Smith Environment 1 of 3." That tells us that artist Joe Smith is entering the Environment category and the e-mail is the first of three e-mails for that proposal.
 - When Joe is ready to send his second proposal for the Water category, he would title it: "Joe Smith Water 1 of 3" and so on.
- If sending each form as a separate file attachment, insert your name before the document titles. Please use the document titles listed above.

City of Grand Traffic Signal Box Public Art Project APPLICATION FORM

DEADLINE, 5 p.m., Friday, September 22, 2017

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE:(____)_____-_____

ALT. PHONE: (____)_____-_____

E-MAIL: _____

CHECKLIST

- Application Form
- Three (3) Art Samples illustrating samples of previous TSB commissions and/or your most representative works
- Statement of Art-related Experience (limit to one page)
- Proposal Description Form (limit to one page)
- Proposal Concept Template with your design (ok to enlarge) and up to 3 additional views

FORMATTING AND DELIVERY METHODS – See page 8.

QUESTIONS: May be directed to Tammy Chan, Public Art Coordinator

972-237-8159 Office 214-212-7958 Cell tchan@gptx.org

City of Grand Prairie Traffic Signal Box Public Art Project
PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION FORM
(Complete one form per submission. Limit one page.)

NAME: _____

CATEGORY (Check one):

Water Conservation/Water Quality

Celebrate the Environment in General

Do you propose to paint or vinyl wrap the TSB and UPS unit? (Check one).

Direct Paint

Vinyl wrap

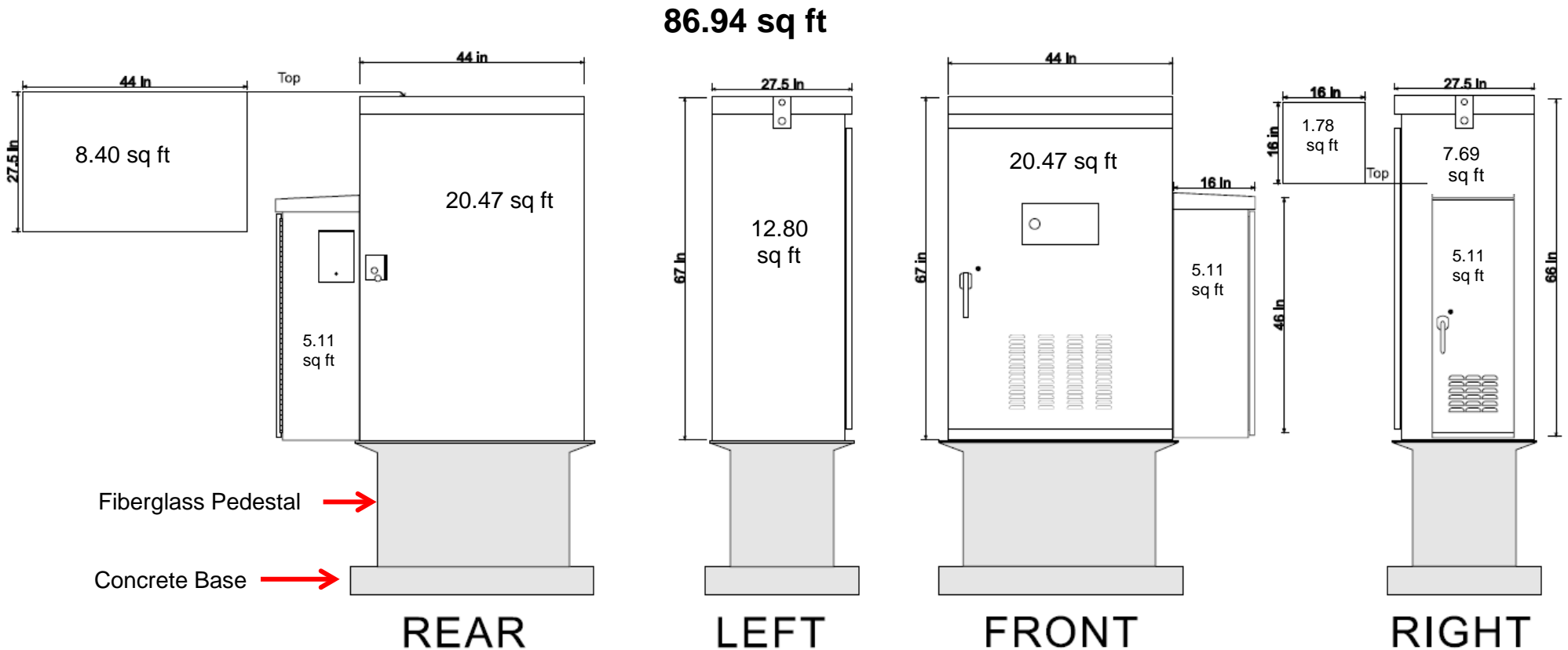
WHAT TITLE WOULD YOU GIVE YOUR PROPOSAL?:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL: Include an explanation of the proposal's relevance to category. If wrapped, note what software you will be using to create your design. If painting, note what type of paint you intend to use. **LIMIT TO ONE PAGE.**

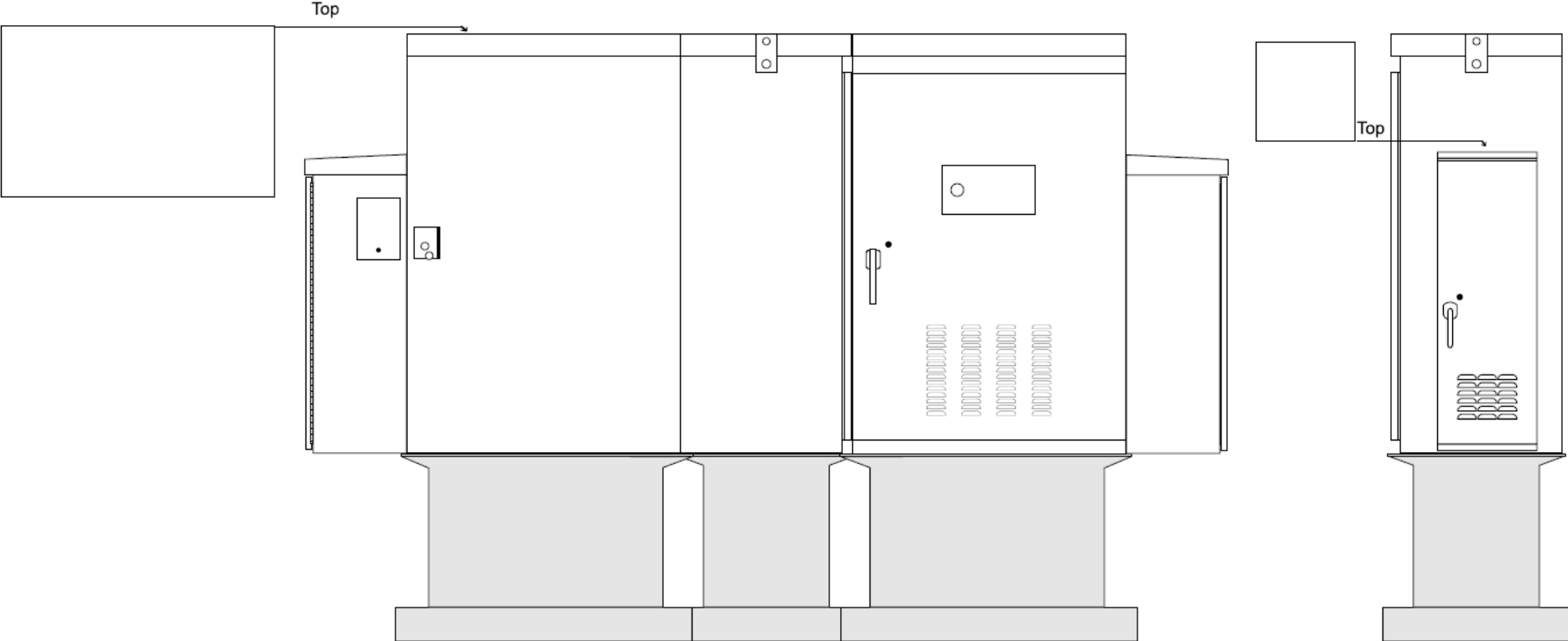
City of Grand Prairie Public Art Program
TSB AND UPS UNIT DIMENSIONS AND CONCEPT INSTRUCTIONS
Use the Proposal Concept Template on the next page
to submit your proposal.

Be sure to include how you would address the fiberglass pedestal and concrete base (designs or single colors are acceptable).

For digital entries, click on downloadable Proposal Concept Template file in the Quick Link section of the Call to Artists webpage.



PROPOSAL CONCEPT TEMPLATE



Photos of Typical City of Grand Prairie Traffic Signal Boxes and UPS Units



REAR



LEFT



FRONT



RIGHT