

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

This commission opportunity begins with a Request for Qualifications that will expand to a Request for Proposal at a later date for qualified finalists.



LEGACY OF LANDS

Honoring historic land and water for a unique community that values nature.

The Waunakee Area Public Arts Commission, (WAPAC) a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation, is commissioning a public artwork and gathering space in the Town of Westport. This new Placemaking Art will celebrate the Town’s legacy of valuing green space, wetlands, land, and water.

The Town of Westport in Dane County, WI, may appear to passersby on the busy County M Highway as a quaint little township, nestled between the lively City of Madison to its south and the ever expanding Village of Waunakee to its north.

Westport is both a haven and a sweeping oasis of land conservation that encompasses wetland preserves, Lake Mendota, nature trails, parks, and farmland in contrast to the surrounding communities. All people of Westport have preserved and honored the land and water over multiple generations and through a variety of cultures and heritages dating back to the first inhabitants 10,000 years ago.

The Town of Westport has worked extensively to conserve the area landscape along with the State of WI Department of Natural Resources, Dane County’s Department of Natural Resources and Groundswell Conservancy. They hold a common belief that communities thrive in a world filled with green places.

AT A GLANCE

\$500,000 PROJECT

- This opportunity is a \$500,000 project with the artist commission up to \$300,000

COMMISSIONED BY

- Waunakee Area Public Arts Commission (WAPAC) a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation

LOCATION

- Town Center Park, 5387 Mary Lake Road, Town of Westport, WI 53597

DATE

- Deadline to submit: October 31, 2024
- 5 pm CT to: waunakeeareapublicarts@gmail.com



MISSION

To enrich, develop, and advocate for the arts for the common good of our community.

waunakeeareapublicarts@gmail.com

WAUNAKEE AREA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

Both preservation and conservation are evident in how Westport has demonstrated its value of the area landscape. In preserving, the Town has actively kept the land and water valued, alive, and free from damage, decay, or development. In conserving, the Town has maintained access to waterways, created prairie walking trails, and encouraged sustainable farming and historic educational opportunities on the land.

The Waunakee Area Public Arts Commission has a mission to enrich, develop, and advocate for the arts for the common good of our community. WAPAC will utilize new public art to visually recognize that the Town of Westport is a unique oasis in contrast to neighboring residential communities.

It is not an accident that Westport has preserved so much nature. The residents of Westport value the water, land, and continuing the conservation tradition across many generations. There is a rich history of people working hard to keep this land special to create a peaceful home. This should be celebrated.

The residents place a particularly strong value on water, where Westport is home to cherished creeks, lakes, ponds, and wetlands. Extensive Westport land is specifically committed to parkland, conservancy options for additional farmland, and to preserve nature in and around residential developments. It is a deliberate choice by Westport to restrict development and maintain its rural nature. This is the Town of Westport's character and how the Town wants to be identified.

The new public art creation at the Westport Town Center should celebrate the above, as well as point out or give a nod to the expansiveness of the nature in Westport, highlighted in the following links:

[Town of Westport Parks](#)

[Westport Trails Video Tour](#)

[Local Area Parks](#)

[Pedestrian Trails Guide](#)

[Yahara Heights and
Cherokee Marsh](#)

[North Mendota Wildlife Area](#)

[Governor Nelson State Park](#)

[Schumacher Farm Park](#)

[Westport Canoe Trail](#)



GUIDELINES

1. Celebrate Conservation

The artwork must visually convey the Town’s values surrounding nature, particularly land and water conservation. The artwork should reference all the areas of preservation in Westport and give a nod to trees, creeks, lakes, rivers, prairie lands, wetlands, wildlife, and green space.

2. Local Collaboration

Westport has an abundance of skilled, quality craftspeople and suppliers. The commissioning body strongly encourages local collaborations and urges artists to consider these types of collaborations prior to application. Examples are local contractors, engineers, fabricators, architects and landscape architects. Qualifying artists or artist teams that are invited at a later date to present a Request for Proposal will be provided information to be sure the proposed artwork will meet all applicable Town of Westport Ordinances.

3. Project Management

The artist should design and create the main art work with any approved interactive components, including, but not limited to, light or sound or movement of nature. The artist should also design a gathering space near the artwork to establish a theme and synergy with existing seating and structures for a cohesive, overall plan for the public spaces.

The artist should supervise and manage the process as it matches their design and vision.

4. Project Implementation

The artist should prepare a proposed schedule with commencement and completion dates. Additionally the commission will expect the artist to design and fabricate 25 maquettes as gifts for major donors and key stakeholders.

**CELEBRATE
CONSERVATION**

**LOCAL
COLLABORATION**

**PROJECT
MANAGEMENT**

**PROJECT
IMPLEMENTATION**



**PLEASE TAKE THE
VIRTUAL TOUR:**

[LINK TO TOUR](#)

waunakeeareapublicarts@gmail.com

ARTISTIC MEDIUM

The Waunakee Area Public Arts Commission is open to discussing the potential of materials and artwork style with selected artists or artist teams in their medium of expertise.

BUDGET & FUNDING

The budget for the artwork shall not exceed \$300,000 and shall include all artists' fees and expenses, travel costs, design and engineering costs, materials, fabrication, lighting, delivery, transportation, installation, foundation and base.

Engineering fees and all requirements for code shall also be included in this budget.

Discussions may be had and considerations may be made for WAPAC to facilitate in kind contributions of some of the above (i.e. excavation, fabrication, installation, foundation, etc.) WAPAC will separately cover other costs of related areas to possibly include but not limited to landscaping, seating areas, electrical work, etc.) up to \$500,000.

Qualifying finalists will receive a \$1,500 honorarium to develop and present a proposal. A separate stipend will be provided to cover travel expenses for these artists to make an initial site visit.

RFQ GUIDELINES

CONSERVATION

WATER

OASIS

NATURE

GREEN SPACE

LEGACY

SITE PLAN

The location of the artwork will be at the Westport Town Hall - in and/or near the pond, the Town Center Park, playground, and the plaza gathering area.



Visit Westport Trails site for images and a video tour of Westport.

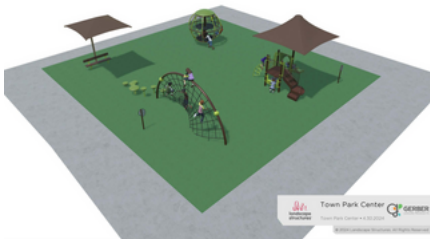
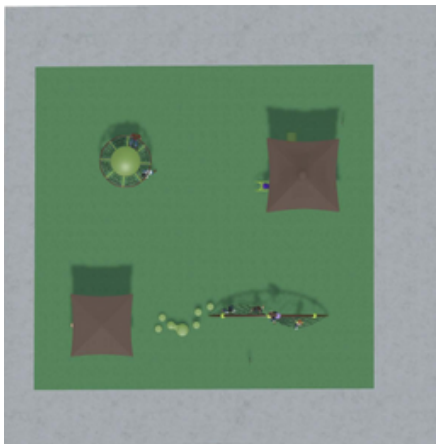
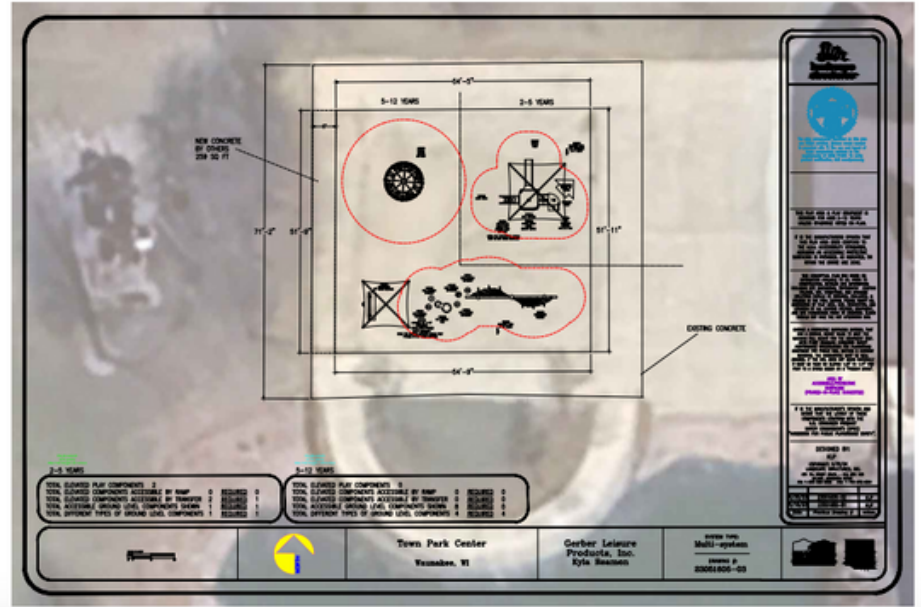
[Video tour link](#)



WAUNAKEE AREA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

SITE PLAN

A new playground area was just added behind the Town Hall near where the artwork will reside. As shown in the aerial view below, the new playground exists in the northern section of the red box, indicated here with a green square. This new play area will remain, so the artwork location will be affected by the existing playground, and the artwork should complement what already resides in the vicinity.



QUALIFICATIONS

Professional artists or teams of artists and design professionals who have experience managing, designing and completing site-specific art commissions, or those who can demonstrate equivalent skills and experience.

The artist or artist team should have a willingness to engage with local businesses, local professionals, and, perhaps, educational institutions as collaborators in the process of creation to completion. The artist needs to have experience or an understanding of creating artwork that can withstand Wisconsin's four weather seasons, which can include both extreme, humid heat and subzero temperatures.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Artistic aesthetic
- Quality of previous work
- Demonstrates the ability to work collaboratively with architectural and planning groups
- Demonstrates the ability to design a site-specific work within a thematic concept
- Qualifying finalists will be invited to submit an RFP that captures the grand vision

TIMELINE

- Applications open - August 26, 2024
- Deadline to apply - October 31, 2024
- Semi-Finalists selection - December 15, 2024
- Semi-Finalists interviews (and Finalists Selection)- January 31, 2025
- Proposal deadline - April 30, 2025
- Finalists Site Visits - June 30, 2025
- Final artist selection - July 1, 2025
- Project installation - 2026/2027

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS & MATERIALS

To submit qualifications for this submission, you must email PDF attachments or applicable website links to the Waunakee Area Public Arts Commission at our email: waunakeeareapublicarts@gmail.com

Please refer to the following page to see what is required to apply for this commission:



WAUNAKEE AREA PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION

The following will be required to apply for this commission:

RESUME/CV

Submit a brief, current résumé or CV that includes all contact information, website, previous public art commissions, design team experience, exhibitions, awards, grants and education, if applicable.

If submitting as a team, compile all résumés into a single document. Include 3 references as outlined below in your résumé/CV document.

REFERENCES

Please include at least three (3) art and/or design professionals who have detailed knowledge of the artist's work and working methods, including fulfilling deadlines, working with the community, students, etc. Include contact name, organization, address, telephone, and email for each reference. Please incorporate your references into your résumé/CV document.

LETTER OF INTEREST

This should NOT yet be a site-proposal. Please include the following:

- a. Name, address, telephone, email, and website for all artist/design team members.
- b. Your interest in this project and your experience working on comparable projects, including your experience with architectural and engineering project teams. Include your philosophy on public art, its integration into surrounding environment and how your work and experience will complement this project.
- c. Please describe your eligibility with the multiple criteria for this project from the Selection Criteria section of this RFQ.

ARTWORK IMAGES

Please submit images and information for up to 5 previously commissioned projects. Please include a main image, and specify the title of the artwork, medium, dimensions, budget, and date of creation or installation.

Multiple images to show different views of each artwork are acceptable but not required. Please submit no more than 15 images (up to 3 per 5 projects).

You may submit images included in one PDF, as separate jpeg attachments, with a dropbox link, or as links to your website. Feel free to include videos if applicable.

Slides, prints or any physical submissions of artwork will not be accepted.



**SEND
APPLICATIONS TO:**
waunakeeareapublicarts@gmail.com