



# **FREMONT** Michigan

*“NOW AND ALWAYS -- A Fine City • A Great Community”*

## **CALL FOR ARTISTS FREMONT DDA PUBLIC ART PROGRAM**

### **Downtown Fremont – Veterans Memorial Park Public Art Project**

**Proposals due: Monday, March 1, 2021 by 5:00 p.m.**

#### **FREMONT DDA PUBLIC ART PROGRAM**

The City of Fremont’s Downtown Development Authority (DDA) appointed a DDA Public Art Subcommittee. The Committee has established a Public Art Program, which seeks to create a diverse and stimulating cultural environment that enriches the lives of the City’s residents, visitors and employees. The intent is to create a visually appealing downtown through the integration of public art of many kinds and at many levels, from single-artist commissions to artist collaborations.

The goals of the Public Art Program are as follows:

1. To contribute to the quality of life of our citizens by increasing their access to visual arts and to create a more aesthetically pleasing urban environment
2. To invest in the local arts community and to integrate the work of artists into public spaces
3. To enhance our social, physical and economic environments by displaying art in public places
4. To promote the economic vitality of the City by using public art to brand Fremont as a destination for regional tourism

To date the City has at least eighteen public art pieces in and around Downtown Fremont. While the DDA Public Art Committee does spearhead many of these public art projects, they do not head up each project. Other entities (Fremont Rotary Club, Fremont-Yahaba Friendship City program, etc.) are involved as well in creating public art within Fremont. The City is very serious about partnering with or involving many groups to create an inventory of public art pieces to continue the Fremont Public Art Walking Tour; and thus, consideration of Fremont as a destination for regional tourism. This *Call for Artists* is an opportunity for us to include one more piece of public art in Fremont’s collection.

## **PROJECT BACKGROUND, DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION**

Fremont's Veterans Memorial Park, located in downtown Fremont, is surrounded by the streets of West Main Street, North Weaver Street, West Dayton Street, and North Mechanic Street. Veterans Memorial Park is located in the heart of downtown and is designed to be actively used for a variety of events, festivals and activities. Site features include an amphitheater, playground and picnic areas.

The north central green space area facing Main Street (see site map) is the project site for the city's next selection of public art.

There are several pieces of public art within several blocks of this area: sculptures at Fremont Area District Library, Fremont City Hall, Fremont Post Office, Darling Walkway, and in the northeast public parking lot near the MarketPlace Pavilion along with two mosaic artwork pieces; stained glass windows in the Fremont Area District Library; four large wall murals in the downtown block between Merchant Street and Division and another on North Central Co-op. Sculptures are located at Fremont Skate Park and at Fremont Lake Park, which are just outside of downtown Fremont.

## **PROJECT PURPOSE**

The purposes of the public art projects are as follows:

1. To enhance the experience of being in a public space
2. To create a sense of place
3. To contribute to the visual character of the community
4. To give visual expression to local values and cultural diversity

## **PROJECT PARAMETERS**

The DDA Public Art Committee would like to have art work incorporated in the area of the north central green space area of Veterans Memorial Park facing Main Street. The artist should evaluate the site to determine what type of public art would be appropriate in that area. The Committee suggests that the theme for the art piece to be a "reflection" of the Fremont community and be community/family friendly, touchable, and appreciated by multi-generations of community members. The design should not extend onto the sidewalk, and it should not create vehicle sight line issues.

If landscaping is needed to accentuate the art piece, the cost and type of landscaping should be outlined in the proposal. If the artwork is to be lit at night, the cost and type of lights should be included in the proposal. The intensity of the light should not be so bright as to contribute to "sky glow". Also, the proposal should include the cost of a recognition plaque, which identifies the artist and the major donors. The artist should recommend where the plaque should be placed.

## **PROJECT BUDGET**

The DDA Public Art Committee does not have a budget for the art project; but rather, it will raise funds or seek grant funding for the project. The Committee has indicated that they are willing to work to raise up to \$60,000.00 for the project. We request the artist submit a proposal that outlines the fee to be charged. The artist must understand that it may take the Committee time to raise the funds. The Committee has been very successful at raising money for the City's existing public art collection. No tax dollars have been used for the art pieces provided to the program through the efforts of the DDA Public Art Committee.

All costs associated with the project including labor, materials, shipping, installation, travel, communications, lighting, landscaping, a recognition plaque, miscellaneous expenses, etc. are to be factored in by the artist as part of his/her fee. The artist will be responsible for overseeing the project from start to finish, including working and contracting with any subcontractors, if needed.

NOTE: It is important to note that these projects will only move forward if funding is obtained and DDA and City Council approval is obtained. The Committee is optimistic that funds can be secured, but there is no guarantee. The artist will not be paid for design work provided as part of this submission process.

## **PROPOSED PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Deadline for submissions by artists: Monday, March 1, 2021

DDA Public Art Committee selects design and makes a recommendation to the full DDA: March 24, 2021

The DDA and the Fremont City Council must approve the design. It is anticipated that they will vote on the design in early April. Artists will be notified of artist selection by April 12, 2021.

Once funding is obtained, dates will be set to have the Fremont City Council approve a contract and for the artist to complete the project. The Committee would like the work to be completed by the Summer of 2022, subject, of course, to obtaining funding.

## **SUBMISSIONS**

Interested artist will submit the following:

- Portfolio with a detailed label for each work to include title, dimensions, and materials used
- Small colored sketches or maquette conveying various design concepts for the art project, with dimensions and materials specified
- Proposal including fees for project
- Recommendations for continued maintenance of artwork and any protections that will be made by the artist regarding Michigan weather conditions.
- Biography or resume. Please include any other public artwork completed.
- Note: An artist may submit more than one design to be considered by the DDA Public Art Committee.

**To be considered, submissions must be received at the Fremont City Hall by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 1, 2021.**

Send submissions to: [mayor@cityoffremont.net](mailto:mayor@cityoffremont.net)

City of Fremont  
% Mayor James Rynberg  
101 E. Main Street  
Fremont, MI 49412

Submissions are accepted electronically, USPS or other shipping methods, or can be dropped off in-person to the Fremont City Hall. A self-addressed envelope or shipping box – with proper postage – must be included with the submission packet if the materials are to be returned.

## **SELECTED ARTIST**

The selected artist will be required to do the following:

- Enter into a mutually acceptable contract for services to include the following assurances:
  - The art selected will be unique and an original product of the creative efforts of the artist, and the work will be an edition of one.
  - The City of Fremont will have an exclusive and royalty-free license to use, copy and publish images of the public art piece in advertising and promotional materials.
  - The artist will have to be up-to-date in his/her City of Fremont taxes and utility bills (if applicable).
- Develop detailed final colored drawing or image with precise measurements and provide information on materials to be used and how the art will be installed
- Provide care instructions for the public art piece
- Outline safety precautions to be taken to ensure the artist's safety during the execution of the art work. If contractor is installing the public art, make sure the contractor has insurance.

## **INFORMATION AND DETAILS**

If more information is needed, please direct questions to one of the following individuals:

Marianne Boerigter  
DDA Public Art Chair and Executive Director, Newaygo County Council for the Arts  
231/924-4022  
[mboerigter@gmail.com](mailto:mboerigter@gmail.com)

Mayor James Rynberg  
City of Fremont  
231/924-2101  
[mavor@cityoffremont.net](mailto:mavor@cityoffremont.net)

## **RESOURCES**

Research on the Fremont community may provide the artist a sense of place of the area. Suggested resources include:

[www.cityoffremont.net](http://www.cityoffremont.net) – City of Fremont

[www.terrywanzhistory.com](http://www.terrywanzhistory.com) – Terry Wanz Historical Research Center

[www.newaygocountyhistory.org](http://www.newaygocountyhistory.org) – Newaygo County Museum and Heritage Center

[www.timesindicator.com](http://www.timesindicator.com) – Times Indicator Newspaper

[www.fremontlibrary.net](http://www.fremontlibrary.net) – Fremont Area District Library



**Fremont Veterans Memorial Park**  
Star indicates proposed site.