

Request for Proposal

26-915

Professional Services for: Route 66 Traffic Control Box Art Project – Call to Artists

Department: Office of Public Art & Community and The Tulsa Planning Office

Commodity Code: 961-04



RFP Schedule

EVENT	DATE
RFP Issue Date	06/2/2026
Pre-Proposal Conference <i>Virtual – email buyer for invite to Zoom/Teams link</i>	June 8, 2026, 2:00-3:00 PM June 16, 2026, 9:30-10:30 AM
Deadline for Questions <i>Submit questions to assigned buyer via email.</i>	06/18/2026 <i>10 Days prior to RFP due date</i>
Proposal Due Date <i>Mail or deliver to City Clerk address.</i>	07/01/2026 <i>Proposals open the day after the due date.</i>

If You have any questions or need additional information, contact the Assigned Buyer:

Donny Tiemann | dtiemann@cityoftulsa.org

All questions should be emailed with RFP 26- 915 in the subject line.

Submit proposals (sealed) to:

Office of the City Clerk
City of Tulsa
175 E. 2ND St., Suite 260
Tulsa, OK 74103



OVERVIEW AND GOALS

The City of Tulsa is accepting submissions from professional or emerging artists or teams of artists in response to a public art opportunity relating to the City's traffic control boxes located along the Route 66 corridor in Tulsa. Submissions will be capped at 160 total.

This call seeks to identify artists or teams of artists capable of designing an original work of art using the provided digital template that will be installed on a traffic control box located on Tulsa's Route 66 corridor. There is a total of 34 traffic control boxes. Artists may submit one design or up to four. The digital artwork will serve as an artistic photo-op, beautify Tulsa's Route 66 corridor, and curb graffiti on the boxes. See overview below.

Approximate Locations of Traffic Control Boxes

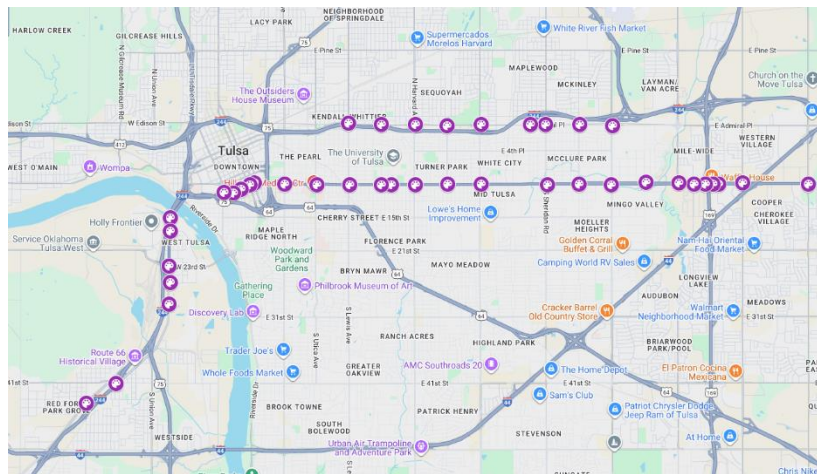


Figure 1: Map of Traffic Control Box Locations

Route 66 is also known as 11th Street, Southwest Boulevard, and Admiral Place. The map above indicates the 34 locations of the traffic control boxes. View the digital map of locations online:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1CtBmZl_F2ZTvHmlm3FUfbyxx6XfrwDA&usp=sharing.

Route 66 Corridor in Tulsa - 34 traffic control boxes along 11th Street, Southwest Boulevard, and Admiral Place

ARTISTIC GOAL

Welcome Route 66 travelers to Tulsa by beautifying the entire corridor, providing another visual cue that travelers are on the Mother Road, and adding to Route 66's varied public art. This project also seeks to eliminate graffiti on traffic control boxes.

While Route 66 iconography, fonts, and artistic elements are encouraged; the artwork is not limited to classic or vintage-inspired Route 66 designs. Artists should feel invited to be creative and submit artwork that is also interpretive, modern, or abstract. Similarly, artwork can contribute to Route 66 storytelling, but storytelling is not a requirement.

All designs will be unified by a Capital of Route 66 graphic and QR code linking to a Route 66 Art StoryMaps with more information about the artworks and artists. This StoryMaps will serve as a digital self-guided tour of all the art along Tulsa's Route 66 corridor, including the 34 wrapped traffic control boxes.

BACKGROUND

THE CITY OF TULSA – CAPITAL OF ROUTE 66

Tulsa is known as the capital of Route 66. Our city boasts more than 28 miles of active and original alignments of the road and spans 8+ commercial districts. Throughout each district, Route 66 is a vibrant, hyperlocal destination where you can find unique dining, shopping, services, lodging, entertainment, and attractions surrounded by historic neighborhoods with lots of charm. Peppered throughout the corridor is public art, new and vintage neon signs, historic markers, and landmarks that celebrate our rich Route 66 history.

That story begins with Cyrus Avery. Avery, an adopted son of Tulsa, is known as the Father of Route 66. His full-throated support of the Good Roads Movement in the early 20th century placed him among a select group of people responsible for designing the Federal Highway System. Because of his influence and support, the future Main Street of America came through Oklahoma and the city of Tulsa. Today, that same spirit of courage, innovation, and entrepreneurship thrives.

TIMELINE

The schedule below provides estimated dates for the RFP and contracting process. The City of Tulsa may adjust this schedule as needed.

EVENT	DATE
RFP Issue Date	06/2/2026
Pre-Proposal Conference (TEAMS)	June 8 th & June 16 th
Deadline for Questions	06/18/2026
PROPOSAL DUE DATE	07/01/2026
RFP Opening Date	07/02/2026
Review and Evaluation	07/06/2026 – 07/10/26
Tulsa Arts Commission Review	07/13/2026
Award Recommendations Approved	07/16/2026
Execute contracts (anticipated)	July / August
Design Revisions	July / August (If Needed)
Fabrication / Installation	August / September
Opening	TBD

PHASE 1 – CALL TO ARTISTS

1. Call to Artists Issued: The City of Tulsa’s Office of Public Art & Community Partnerships and the Tulsa Route 66 Commission is issuing this Call to Artists. The Independent Review Committee will review submissions and administer the artist selection process.
2. Informational Conference (TEAMS) Call: Register via sending an email request for the intended date to the point of contact at least one day before the meeting. One attendance strongly encouraged as conference calls are the artist’s opportunity to ask questions and receive clarification.
 - a. Conference (TEAMS) Call 1 June 8, 2026 – 2:00 pm -3:00 pm
 - b. Conference (TEAMS) Call 2 June 16, 2026 – 9:30 am -10:30 am
3. Deadline: Submissions received after 5 PM CDT Wednesday, July 1, 2026, will not be accepted. All submitted materials will be reviewed by the Steering Committee.

PHASE 2 – REVIEW

1. Evaluation/Scoring: The Steering Committee will evaluate all submissions and will select several artists’ designs for the 34 traffic control boxes. An individual artist or artist team may have more than one design selected, but not more than four.
2. Recommendation: The Steering Committee will formally recommend artists to the Arts Commission and Route 66 Commission, which advises the Mayor of the City of Tulsa on final approval. Award Recommendation Approval will take place on Thursday, July 16, 2026.

PHASE 3 – IMPLEMENTATION

1. Contract Issue Period: Contracts will be issued to all selected artists. Once the final digital design file is received, then the artists fees will be paid.
2. If needed, the selected artists will be expected to work with stakeholders to make any revisions to artwork requested by City staff or the Tulsa Arts Commission into the final digital design. Any revisions requested would be minimal. If needed, the selected artists may also need to coordinate with City staff on edits to their StoryMaps description to ensure accuracy. Any revisions would be implemented before issuing payment.
3. Fabrication: Fabrication and installation will be handled by the City of Tulsa. This is anticipated for August/September of 2026, depending on the weather.
4. Opening: Once all vinyl art wraps are installed, the City of Tulsa will host an opening event and invite all artists to attend.

SCOPE OF WORK / DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

The selected artists/teams will be responsible for designing digital art that:

1. Serves as a 360 degree “photo-op” art piece wrapping a City of Tulsa traffic control box.
2. Includes a descriptive title and 5-10 sentence description of the artwork to be used in a Route 66 Art StoryMaps.
3. Design to include “Capital of Route 66” Art StoryMaps graphic with QR code on it (in a bottom corner of one side of the design).
4. Design files must be 300 dpi or more. Accepted file types are .pdf, .ai, and .psd.
5. Adheres to Public Works’ policy for wrapping traffic control boxes. No messaging or advertisements are allowed.

BUDGET

The artists fee, paid to the artist upon receipt of digital artwork files, will be \$500 per design selected. The selected artists will be paid artists fees, and the City of Tulsa will handle the purchase of materials, artwork fabrication, site preparation, installation of work, and other miscellaneous fees.

SCORING CRITERIA

Your submission(s) will be judged based upon the creativity and thoughtfulness of the overall design by an independent review committee. The committee will use a rubric scoring artistic merit & visual impact, historical & cultural context, narrative richness & representation, high school student participation, place-based insight into the corridor, and technical feasibility. A full rubric is included at the end of this RFP.

Artists whose studios are located on Route 66 and students who attend school on Route 66 are strongly encouraged to apply (E.g. University of Tulsa, Tulsa Community College, East Central High School, Lindbergh Elementary, Tulsa Street School, Will Rogers High School, Mayo Demonstration School, Bell Elementary, Tulsa Girls Art School, and Daniel Webster High School).

HOW TO APPLY

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL:

- A. Proposals must be received by **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, Central Daylight Time**. Please place proposals in a sealed envelope or box clearly labeled **“RFP 26-15, Route 66 Traffic Control Box Art Project – Call to Artists”**.

Proposals received late will be returned unopened.

- B. Interested Respondents should submit:
One (1) unbound original and (1) digital copy (USB drive). **Note: The unbound original is a printed copy of the digital artwork and NOT the original artwork itself.**

- C. Proposals shall be delivered and sealed to:

Deputy City Clerk
City of Tulsa
175 E. 2nd St.
Suite 260
Tulsa, OK 74103

- D. All interested Respondents (Sellers) are required to register with the Buyer in order to receive updates, addenda or any additional information required. You can learn more about the registration process on the following website:
<https://www.cityoftulsa.org/government/departments/finance/selling-to-the-city/register-as-a-vendor/>.

The City is not responsible for any failure to register.

- E. Inquiries or questions to the Buyer requesting clarification regarding the Request for Proposal must be made via e-mail and must be received prior to the end of the business day on **Friday, June 18, 2026**.

Donny Tiemann, Project Buyer
dtiemann@cityoftulsa.org

Any questions regarding this RFP will be handled as promptly and as directly as possible. If a question requires only minor clarification of instructions or specifications, it will be handled via e-mail. If any question results in a substantive change or addition to the RFP, the change or addition will be forwarded to all registered Respondents as quickly as possible by addendum.

- F. Proposals will be opened on the morning after the due date, at 8:30am, at the:
Standards, Specifications, and Awards Committee Meeting
175 East 2nd Street, 2nd Floor
City Council Chamber
- G. The project is open to all professional and emerging artists, designers, or firms, regardless of residence, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical or mental ability. Artist teams are eligible to apply, including teams of artists from multiple disciplines

SUBMISSION COMPONENTS

The following questions make up the Submittable™ form for this Call To Artists:

YOUR INFORMATION & EXPERIENCE

CONTACT INFORMATION Name, phone, email, mailing address, etc. Not evaluated.

1. If your studio or maker space is located on Route 66, please enter the address below.
2. If your school, college, or university is located on Route 66, please enter the name of your school below.
3. Do you have a personal connection to Route 66?

YOUR CREATIVITY

ARTWORK(S) **.pdf, .ai, or .psd file.** Save a digital file of your design for a traffic control box to a thumb drive. File must be 300 dpi or more. *(You can submit up to four different designs.)*

TITLE OF ARTWORK Tell us the title of your artwork. If it has no title, please type in “Untitled” below. **This title will be used in the public-facing Route 66 Art StoryMaps.**
(Do not exceed 50 words.)

DESCRIPTION OF ARTWORK Explain your design, including any iconography, color choices, history, or themes you explore. Share your inspiration for the work, why do you feel it represents Tulsa’s stretch of Route 66, or what Route 66 means to you. **This will be used in the public-facing Route 66 Art StoryMaps.**
(Do not exceed 250 words.)

ARTIST(S) BIO Tell us about yourself. Provide artist bio. **This will be used in the public-facing Route 66 Art StoryMaps.** *(Do not exceed 250 words.)*

Artist Submission Form

First Name (Required)

⊕ _____

Last Name (Required)

Artist/Studio Name (If different from above)

Are you applying with other artists? (Required)

Yes NO

If yes, please list the names of other artists here. (Required)

Address (Required)

City, State, Zip Code (Required) _____

Email (Required)

Phone (Required)

What is your connection to Route 66? Check all that apply (Not required, but nice to know!)

- My studio or maker space is located on Route 66.
- The school, college, university or trade school I attend/attended is located on Route 66.
- I live on Route 66!

Artist Submission Form

Art Submission Requirements (Each artist may submit up to 4 designs – if you have more than one submission, provide the following information for each submission)

Artwork Title: if it has no title, please type in “Untitled 1, etc.” below.

Description of Artwork: Explain your design, including any iconography, color choices, history or themes you explore. Share your inspiration for the work, why do you feel it represents Tulsa’s stretch of Route 66, or what Route 66 means to you. ***Title and Description will be used in the public-facing Route 66 Art StoryMaps***

Title of Artwork #1 (Required)

(Limit: 50 words)

Description of Artwork #1 (Required)

(Limit: 250 words)

Title of Artwork #2 (Required)

(Limit: 50 words)

Description of Artwork #2 (Required)

(Limit: 250 words)

Artist Submission Form

Title of Artwork #3 (Required)

(Limit: 50 words)

Description of Artwork #3 (Required)

(Limit: 250 words)

Title of Artwork #4 (Required)

(Limit: 50 words)

Description of Artwork #4 (Required)

(Limit: 250 words)

HELPFUL CONTEXT

STAKEHOLDERS

CITY OF TULSA

ARTS COMMISSION

The Arts Commission is charged with assisting the City in matters concerning public artwork, giving guidance in purchases and maintenance of existing artwork, providing a source of respected opinions and advice concerning public matters having aesthetic implications, reviewing public signage issues (including neighborhood signs), stimulating superior aesthetic quality in all phases of physical development within the community and assisting in the procurement of additional works of public art.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC ART & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Office of Public Art & Community Partnership is the steward of Tulsa's public art collection stemming from the city's rich creative culture. Public art serves as a medium for community expression, reflecting the history, diversity and vibrancy of Tulsa. Public art enriches the city's parks, plazas, buildings, and streetscapes, enhancing a sense of pride and place in our shared public realm. Tulsa developed one of the nation's earliest Percent for Art ordinances in the late 1960s, which requires that one percent of all vertical projects are dedicated to art. Accordingly, over 400 individual works of art, both permanent and temporary, are found throughout the city. The Office oversees the selection and maintenance of public art, supports the Tulsa Arts Commission, and guides the long-term cultivation of Tulsa's historic and cultural resources.

PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department is responsible for stormwater and land management, street maintenance and right-of-way inspections, traffic control, building operations and maintenance and refuse and recycling service through the Tulsa Authority for the Recovery of Energy.

ROUTE 66 COMMISSION

The Tulsa Route 66 Commission supports and assists all ongoing efforts locally and statewide with both public and private entities involved in Route 66 matters. It's led by city-appointed volunteers who serve to create and help implement specific strategies and plans to encourage economic development and promotion for Route 66.

TULSA PLANNING OFFICE

The Tulsa Planning Office leads both the community and current planning efforts for the City of Tulsa. Our work helps guide future development and public investments for the city, with a focus on improving the quality of life for local residents, and includes: the development of comprehensive plans, management of the City of Tulsa Zoning Code, small area planning to assist neighborhoods with more specific, contextual strategies, the implementation and tracking of existing plans, the Destination District program, focused on revitalizing commercial districts and creating vibrant destinations throughout Tulsa, and the administration of historic preservation, zoning and other supporting programs.

PROJECT SITE

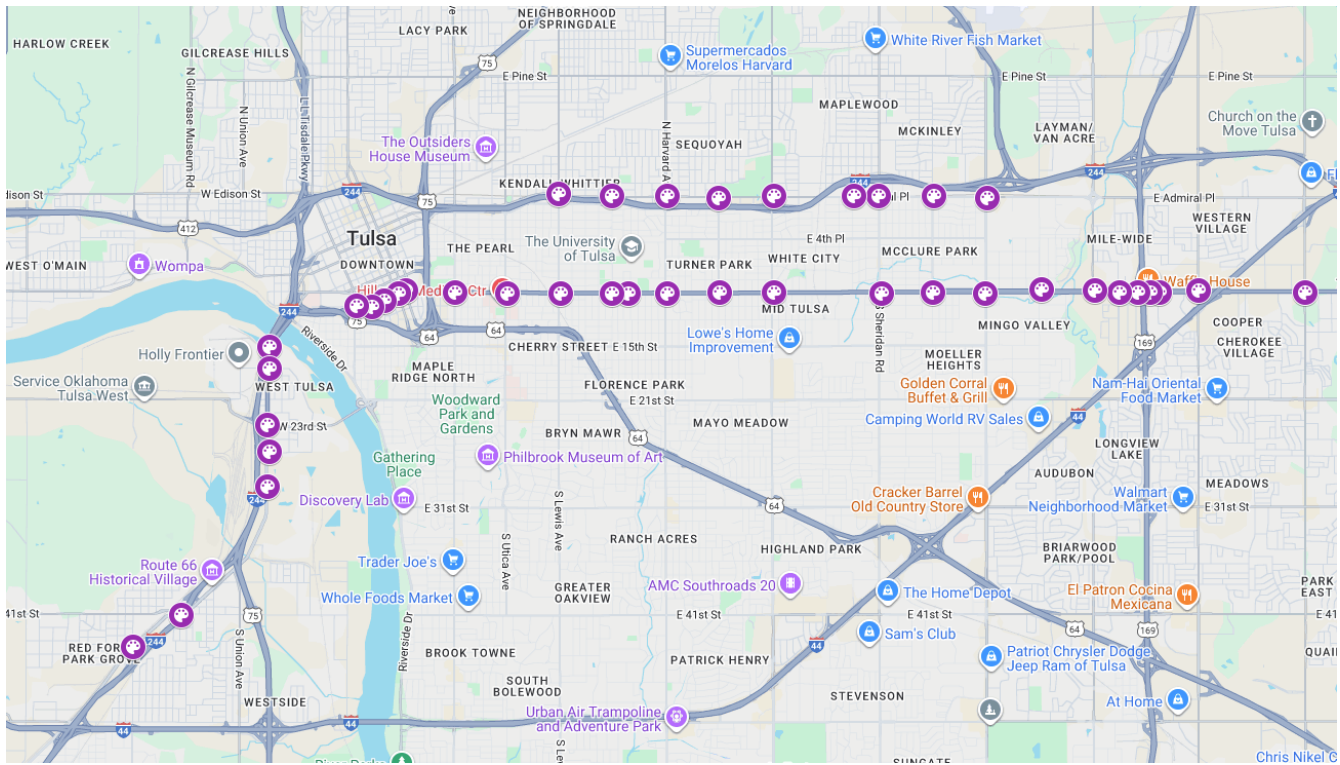


Figure 2: Map of the 34 traffic control box locations on Tulsa’s Route 66 Corridor.

List of Traffic Control Box Locations: View locations online at https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1CtBmZI_F2ZTvHmlm3FUfbyxx6XfrwDA&usp=sharing.

“CAPITAL OF ROUTE 66” ART STORYMAPS GRAPHIC

Please include this graphic in the bottom corner on one side of your design.



CITY OF TULSA

ROUTE 66 TRAFFIC CONTROL BOX ART PROJECT

SCORING RUBRIC (120-POINT SCALE)

Reviewer Name: _____

Date: _____

EVALUATION MATRIX

Evaluation Question	Points Possible	Score Awarded
How compelling and visually effective is the design as a 360° traffic control box wrap?	30	_____
How well does the artwork demonstrate awareness of the historical and cultural context of Tulsa’s Route 66 corridor?	25	_____
Does the artwork reflect thoughtful storytelling about the communities, histories, and cultural influences connected to the corridor?	20	_____
To what degree does the submission meaningfully involve high school students?	20	_____
Does the artwork demonstrate place-based insight into the Route 66 corridor?	15	_____
How well does the design meet the technical requirements of project?	10	_____

Total Maximum Possible Score 120:

SCORING GUIDANCE

Reviewers should evaluate submissions based on the provided scoring criteria rather than personal stylistic preference. Both traditional and contemporary perspectives and interpretations of Route 66 are welcome. The goal of this project is to create visually engaging artwork that reflects the richness, history, and evolving identity of Tulsa's Route 66 corridor.

1. Artistic Merit & Visual Impact (0–30 points)

Consider originality, strength of composition, visual clarity, and effectiveness as a 360° design visible from multiple directions. Evaluate how well the artwork contributes to the streetscape and expands the narrative of Tulsa's Route 66 corridor.

25–30

Exceptional design. Highly original, visually compelling from multiple angles, and strongly enhances the streetscape.

18–24

Strong design with clear composition and visual impact.

10–17

Adequate design but may rely on typical imagery or lack strong visual cohesion.

0–9

Weak composition or limited visual impact.

2. Historical & Cultural Context (0–25 points)

Consider whether the artwork reflects awareness of the layered history and cultural context of Tulsa's Route 66 corridor.

Reviewers should consider whether the design demonstrates historically informed interpretation of the corridor rather than relying solely on generalized Route 66 imagery.

21–25

Demonstrates thoughtful engagement with the corridor's history or cultural context and reflects clear awareness of Tulsa-specific stories, places, or influences.

15–20

Shows contextual awareness but interpretation may remain somewhat general or surface-level.

8–14

Limited historical or culturally inclusive grounding; references may rely primarily on typical Route 66 symbolism.

0–7

No meaningful connection to the corridor's history or context.

3. Narrative Richness & Representation (0–20 points)

Consider whether the design reflects the range of communities, histories, and cultural influences connected to Route 66 in Tulsa.

Reviewers should consider whether the artwork expands public understanding of the corridor by reflecting Tulsa-specific histories, communities, or cultural influences, including those that may be less widely represented in traditional Route 66 narratives.

17–20

Artwork presents thoughtful storytelling that reflects the complexity and diversity of Tulsa's Route 66 corridor, including Tulsa-specific histories, communities, or cultural influences.

12–16

Acknowledges community connections but may lack depth or specificity.

6–11

Narrative elements are minimal or rely largely on familiar Route 66 themes without broader context.

0–5

No discernible narrative connection.

4. High School Student Participation (0–20 points)

Consider the degree and quality of student engagement or involvement.

17–20

Student designed or deeply integrated classroom or youth collaboration.

12–16

Clear student contribution supported through professional collaboration.

6–11

Minor or peripheral student involvement.

0–5

No student participation.

5. Place-Based Insight into the Corridor (0–15 points)

Consider whether the artwork reflects a meaningful understanding of the Route 66 corridor.

Reviewers should look for evidence of lived experience or research-based understanding of the corridor. This may include neighborhood familiarity, community stories, or historically grounded knowledge of the area.

13–15

Artwork and imagery that reflect place-based familiarity with the corridor or well-informed research.

9–12

Moderate connection to the corridor's places or unique stories and perspectives.

4–8

Limited or generalized reference to Route 66.

0–3

No discernible place-based insight.

6. Technical Feasibility (0–10 points)

Consider responsiveness to the project requirements.

8–10

Fully responsive to template and production requirements.

5–7

Minor adjustments needed.

2–4

Significant technical issues.

0–1

Does not meet project requirements.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION SHEET

Respondent's Legal Name: _____

(Must be Respondent's company name as reflected on its organizational documents, filed with the state in which Respondent is organized)

State of Organization: _____

Respondent's Type of Legal Entity: (check one)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Partnership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Partnership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Limited Partnership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Liability Company | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Respondent's Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Respondent's Website Address: _____

Sales Contact:

Name: _____

Title/Position: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Contact for Legal Notice:

Name: _____

Title/Position: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

How did you learn about this business opportunity with the City of Tulsa?

- Email from Assigned Buyer
- City of Tulsa Website
- Tulsa World posting
- Purchasing search engine
- Industry colleague
- Other: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

AFFIDAVIT

NON-COLLUSION, INTEREST, AND CLAIMANT

STATE OF _____)
)ss.
COUNTY OF _____)

I, _____, of lawful age, being first duly sworn, state that:
(Seller's Authorized Agent)

1. I am the Authorized Agent of Seller herein for the purposes of certifying facts pertaining to the existence of collusion between and among Bidders and municipal officials or employees, as well as facts pertaining to the giving or offering of things of value to government personnel in return for special consideration in the letting of any contract pursuant to the proposal to which this statement is attached.
2. I am fully aware of the facts and circumstances surrounding the making of Seller's Bid to which this statement is attached, and I have been personally and directly involved in the proceedings leading to the submission of such Bid; and
3. Neither the Seller nor anyone subject to the Seller's direction or control has been a party:
 - a. to any collusion among Bidders in restraint of freedom of competition by agreement to respond at a fixed price or to refrain from responding,
 - b. to any collusion with any municipal official or employee as to quantity, quality, or price in the prospective contract, or as to any other terms of such prospective contract, nor
 - c. in any discussions between Bidders and any municipal official concerning exchange of money or other thing of value for special consideration in the letting of a contract.
4. No officer or employee of the City of Tulsa either directly or indirectly owns a five percent (5%) interest or more in the Bidders business or such a percentage that constitutes a controlling interest. Affiant further states that the following officers and/or employees of the City of Tulsa own an interest in the Bidders business, which is less than a controlling interest, either direct or indirect.
5. All invoices to be submitted pursuant to this agreement with the City of Tulsa will be true and correct.
6. That the work, services or material furnished will be completed or supplied in accordance with the plans, specifications, orders, requests or contract furnished or executed by the affiant. Affiant further states that (s)he has made no payment directly or indirectly to any elected official, officer or employee of the City of Tulsa, or of any public trust where the City of Tulsa is a beneficiary, of money or any other thing of value to obtain payment of the invoice or procure the contract or purchase order pursuant to which an invoice is submitted. Affiant further certifies that (s)he has complied with all applicable laws regarding equal employment opportunity.

By: _____

Signature

Title: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: _____

Notary Commission Number: _____

The Affidavit must be signed by an authorized agent and notarized

PACKING LABEL

FROM: [Name]

[Respondent's legal name]

[Street Address]

[City, State, Zip Code]

City of Tulsa - City Clerk's Office

175 East 2nd Street, Suite 260

Tulsa, OK, 74103

Respondent Submission For:

RFP# 26-915

**RFP DESCRIPTION: Route 66 Traffic Control Box Art Project –
Call to Artists**

**Please Return Entire completed RFP Packet with Your
Proposal including Required Forms.**

Please Be Sure to Include your USB with Your Proposal