

Request for Proposal

27-903

Professional Services for: Route 66 I-44 Underpass Mural – Call to Artists

Department: Planning & Neighborhoods Department and Tulsa Route 66 Commission

Commodity Code: 961-04

RFP Schedule

EVENT	DATE
RFP Issue Date	07/31/2026
Pre-Proposal Conference <i>Virtual – email buyer for invite to Zoom/Teams link</i>	Aug 5, 2026, 3:00-4:00 PM Aug 10, 2026, 10:00-11:00 AM
Deadline for Questions <i>Submit to assigned buyer via email.</i>	08/14/2026 <i>10 Days prior to RFP due date</i>
Proposal Due Date <i>Mail or deliver to City Clerk address. Proposals are open the day after the due date.</i>	08/26/2026

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 27- 903** 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

The City of Tulsa is accepting submissions from professional or emerging artists or teams of artists in response to a public art opportunity to create a mural as part of the City of Tulsa's year-long Route 66 Centennial celebration!

This call seeks to identify artists or teams of artists capable of designing an original work of art to be installed on an Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) highway underpass located on Tulsa's Route 66 corridor. The goal of this mural is to create an artistic Route 66 "gateway," celebrate the East Tulsa Route 66 corridor and its landmarks, attractions, and history, provide another visual cue that travelers are on Route 66, and beautify the Route 66 corridor. **Artists or teams of artists should submit only one design for consideration for this RFP.**

LOCATION & SITE INFORMATION

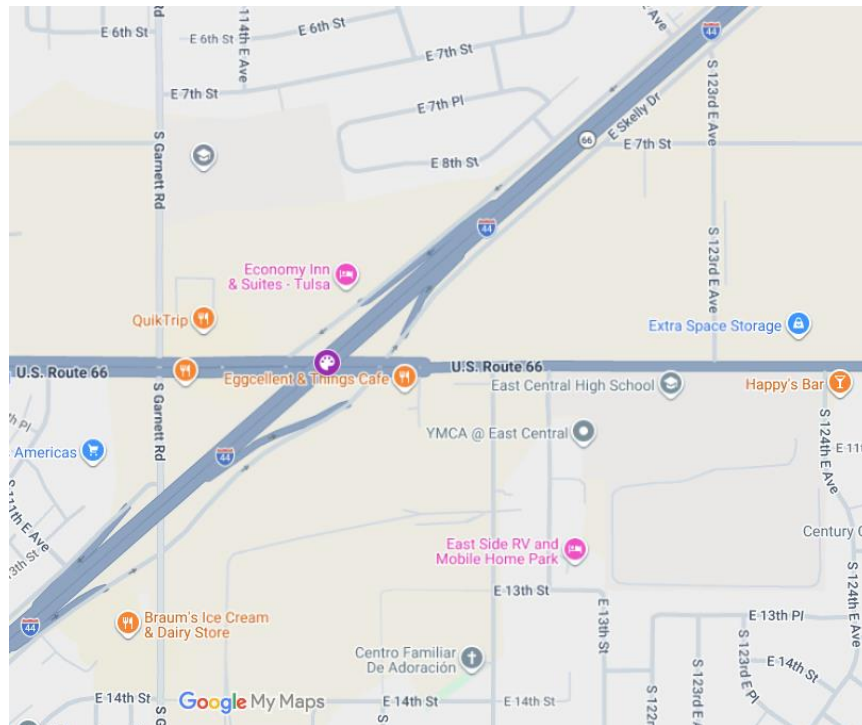


Figure 1: Map of I-44 Highway Underpass

I-44 Highway Underpass: ODOT I-44 highway underpass on 11th Street between 119th & Garnett Road.

Located on the East Tulsa portion of the Tulsa Route 66 corridor, this mural is right next to the Eastern Route 66 Gateway which has an Art Deco style and a neon Route 66 shield.

- **Approximate Size:** Eastbound underpass wall is 155' 10" L x 13' 2" H; Westbound underpass wall is 175' 2" x 13' 2" H; There are also 8 pillars. Pillars are 11' 6" tall with a circumference of 136"
- **Approximate Total Square Footage:** 4,360 (both walls); 1,052 (all pillars)
- **Surface Type:** Concrete; Ridged



Figure 2: Photo of Westbound Wall of I-44 Highway Underpass



Figure 3: Photo of Eastbound Wall and Pillars of I-44 Highway Underpass



Figure 4: Photo of Ridged Surface of I-44 Highway Underpass

ARTISTIC GOALS

- Welcome Route 66 travelers to Tulsa by creating an artistic gateway on the Eastern stretch of Route 66 in Tulsa!
- Celebrate East Tulsa Route 66 corridor's landmarks, attractions, and history!
- Beautify the corridor with varied public art.
- Provide another visual cue that travelers are on the Mother Road.
- Discourage graffiti on the underpass.

While Route 66 iconography, fonts, and artistic elements are strongly 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. Designs that incorporate East Tulsa Route 66 icons, landmarks, or history are strongly encouraged.

Installed alongside both murals will be a Capital of Route 66 graphic and QR code linking to a Route 66 Art StoryMaps with more information about each mural and artist(s). This StoryMaps will serve as a digital self-guided tour of all the art along Tulsa's Route 66 corridor, including the underpass murals.

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.

Route 66 in East Tulsa has many icons, landmarks, and stories that you may like to use in your artwork. For example, the Admiral Twin Drive-In, Fire Station 66 – Keepers of the Mother Road, Route 66 Rising, Cyrus Avery's Service Station, Will Rogers Theatre, KVOO Radio Station, Hi-Way 66 Drive-In, Rose Bowl, Wolf Robe Hunt's Indian Trading Post, Wonder Bread Factory, Ann's Bakery, Duncan McIntyre, "Father of Tulsa Aviation," and McIntyre Airport, and historic motels and motor courts (Desert Hills Motel, Oasis Motel, Brookshire Motel, Will Rogers Motor Court, Motor Inn, Grotto Tourist Court, Whitt Motel, Cook's Court, and the Tulsa Auto Court).

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	07/31/2026
Pre-Proposal Conference (TEAMS)	August 5th & August 10th
Deadline for Questions	08/14/2026
PROPOSAL DUE DATE	08/26/2026
RFP SSA Committee Opening Date	08/27/2026
Review and Evaluation	08/28/2026 – 09/10/26
Tulsa Arts Commission Review	09/14/2026
Award Recommendations Approved	09/17/2026
Execute contract (anticipated)	September
Design Revisions	September (If Needed)
Installation	September-November
Unveiling	TBD

PHASE 1 – CALL TO ARTISTS

1. Call to Artists Issued: The City of Tulsa’s Planning & Neighborhoods Department and the Tulsa Route 66 Commission is issuing this Call to Artists.
2. Informational Conference (TEAMS) Call: Register via sending an email request for the intended date to the Assigned Buyer 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 August 5, 2026 – 3:00 pm -4:00 pm
 - b. Conference (TEAMS) Call 2 August 10, 2026 – 10:00 am – 11:00 am
3. Deadline: Submissions received after 5 PM CDT Wednesday, August 26, 2026, will not be accepted. All submitted materials will be reviewed by the independent review panel.

PHASE 2 – REVIEW

1. Evaluation/Scoring: The independent review panel will evaluate all submissions and will select one artist or team.
2. Recommendation: The independent review panel will formally recommend an artist or team to the Arts Commission and Route 66 Commission, which advises the Mayor of the City of Tulsa on final approval. Award of this RFP will be contingent on ODOT Approval of Artwork. The Award Recommendation Approval is expected to take place on Thursday, September 17, 2026.

PHASE 3 – IMPLEMENTATION

1. Contract Issue Period: Contract will be issued to selected artist(s).
2. If needed, the selected artist(s) 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 design. 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. Installation: This is anticipated for September-November 2026, depending on the weather.
4. Unveiling: Once the mural is complete, the City of Tulsa will host an unveiling event and invite the artist(s) to attend.

SCOPE OF WORK / DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

The selected artists/teams will be responsible for designing a mural that:

1. Serves as a gateway “photo-op” art piece beautifying an Oklahoma Department of Transportation Underpass.
2. No messaging, advertisements, or profanity are allowed.
3. Utilizes high-quality, long-lasting and potentially cleanable materials.
4. Includes a protective graffiti coating on the mural.
5. Includes a descriptive title and 5-10 sentence description of the artwork to be used in a Route 66 Art StoryMaps.

BUDGET

The budget for the mural is \$40,000.00. The budget for the mural must be inclusive of all costs, including but not limited to artists' fees, studio overhead, consultant fees (including engineering), purchase of materials, artwork fabrication, permits if required, site preparation, transportation, installation of work (including scaffolding), construction and installation (including mounting) of any necessary bases and lighting, general public liability insurance, workers compensation insurance, and contingency. The selected artist(s) will be responsible for the appropriate allocation of the commission funds to the artist's project components.

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 (30 points), historical & cultural context (25 points), narrative richness & representation (20 points), place-based insight into the corridor (15 points), and technical feasibility (30 points) for a total of 120 points.

HOW TO APPLY

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL:

- A. Proposals must be received by **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, Central Daylight Time**. Please place proposals in a sealed envelope or box clearly labeled **"RFP 27-903, Route 66 I-44 Underpass Mural – 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 artwork on either an 8.5 x 11 or 11 x 17 sheet of paper and NOT the original artwork itself.

A complete proposal will include:

- ☐ Artist Information Sheet
- ☐ Respondent Information Sheet
- ☐ Affidavit (Signed & Notarized) Note: There are notaries in UPS Stores, most local banks, and local tag agencies.
- ☐ Paper copy of mural design
- ☐ Thumb drive with a digital copy of mural design and all proposal materials.

- 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, August 14, 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 items make up this Call to Artists:

ARTIST SUBMISSION FORM (Not Evaluated)

FORM Contact & artist information, like your name, phone, email, mailing address, etc.

TITLE OF ARTWORK The title of your artwork which will be used in the public-facing Route 66 Art StoryMaps.

DESCRIPTION OF ARTWORK Description of your design, inspiration for the work, why 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.

ARTIST(S) BIO Biography and information about the artist(s) which will be used in the public-facing Route 66 Art StoryMaps.

YOUR CREATIVITY (Evaluated)

ARTWORK .pdf, .ai, or .psd file. (1) Print a paper copy for your design on either an 8.5 x 11 or 11 x 17 sheet of paper and (2) a digital file of your design for your mural to a thumb drive.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION SHEET (Not Evaluated)

FORM Additional information needed by the City of Tulsa.

AFFIDAVIT (Not Evaluated)

FORM Legal form affirming non-collusion, interest, or claimant. *Needs to be notarized.*

ARTIST SUBMISSION FORM

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Artist/Studio Name: (If different from above)

Are you applying with other artists?

☐ Yes ☐ NO

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

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

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!

Mural Title: Tell us the title of your mural. If it has no title, please type in "Untitled" below. (Limit: 50 words)

Description of Mural: 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. (Limit: 250 words)

Artist Biography (Required)

Tell us about yourself. Provide artist bio. If you are applying with other artist(s) please write a combined bio representative of all artists involved. This will be used in the public-facing Route 66 Art StoryMaps. (Limit: 250 words)

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)

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Sole Proprietorship | ☐ Limited Partnership |
| ☐ Partnership | ☐ Limited Liability Partnership |
| ☐ Corporation | ☐ Limited Liability Limited Partnership |
| ☐ Limited Liability Company | ☐ 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# 27-903

RFP DESCRIPTION: Route 66 I-44 Underpass Mural – Call to Artists

Please return all pages of this RFP with your Submission.

Be sure to complete all Forms.

Please Be Sure to Include your USB with Your Proposal