

Pulaski Park Public Art Project

Seeking artists applications for a community public art project -submissions are by invitation only. In order to be invited, please contact Iris Gonzalez at the contact information below.

The Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers' Department of Environmental Health is leading community development efforts through the Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative in the Pulaski Park neighborhood. Sixteenth Street is seeking artists to create a permanent visual art project that enhances underused spaces with artwork.

Overall Budget:

Through a grant opportunity from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Mary Nohl Fund and another identified funder, Sixteenth Street has funding to support up to a \$30,000 project budget, which will include artist's time, materials, project production and delivery.

Project Site:

Pulaski Park is a 26 acre park owned by Milwaukee County Parks that sits in a densely populated neighborhood on Milwaukee's south side. It is the only green space for 18,820 families living in a low to moderate income neighborhood. Sixteenth Street has been leading community development activities tied to a Neighborhood Plan in the Kinnickinnic (KK) River corridor, surrounding Pulaski Park. The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) is currently leading efforts to restore the KK River through an \$85 million flood management project that will replace 2.5 miles of concrete with a more natural river. This large-scale project will change the community and park for generations.

As Pulaski Park revitalization efforts and the flood management project move forward, investments will be made in green infrastructure, updates to park infrastructure and programming that activates the park to meet community needs. Over 125 surveys have started to define the neighborhood's vision for Pulaski Park (results are included in this packet). Art projects should reinforce and support this vision.

Criteria:

1. Community members must be involved in the planning and execution of the project. To accomplish this, a Resident Selection Committee will be convened by Sixteenth Street and will meet monthly to inform every step of the project. Chosen Artist will be expected to meet with residents up to 5 times during the project period. The neighborhood association, KK River Neighbors in Action, will also help inform the project and monthly meetings are a great venue for feedback/input. The art project will need to be approved by the Milwaukee County board.
2. Neighbors have identified that they would like an art installation that is interactive and reflects the assets of the neighborhood, such as: the beauty of the park, the changing Kinnickinnic River and the diverse, vibrant neighborhood.
3. Inclusion of one or more community-identified themes that include water, nature, native plantings, transformation and diversity.

4. Projects need to be completed by no later than September 30, 2015, with a community event/celebration to commemorate completion in October 2015.
5. Piece(s) need to be permanent and able to withstand outdoor conditions for up to 10 years.
6. A plan for maintenance (including protection against graffiti) and installation (including engineering considerations if necessary) must be included in proposals.
7. Artist must work within the confines/criteria set by Milwaukee County staff and/or engineers.
8. Artist is responsible for designing, building and transporting art piece(s) to Pulaski Park. Installation will be completed by Milwaukee County Parks.

Other Considerations:

The art project should remain outside of the floodplain and not inhibit MMSD's flood management project, construction of which will commence in 2018 and be completed by 2022. Floodplain map and Pulaski Park map including all structures are provided in this packet.

Other Art in the KK River Community:

Previous art projects in the neighborhood have focused on engaging youth, who make up 38% of the population, and used imagery of a caterpillar/butterfly as symbols of transformation. Art projects under this opportunity do not need to replicate these themes; new imagery is encouraged.

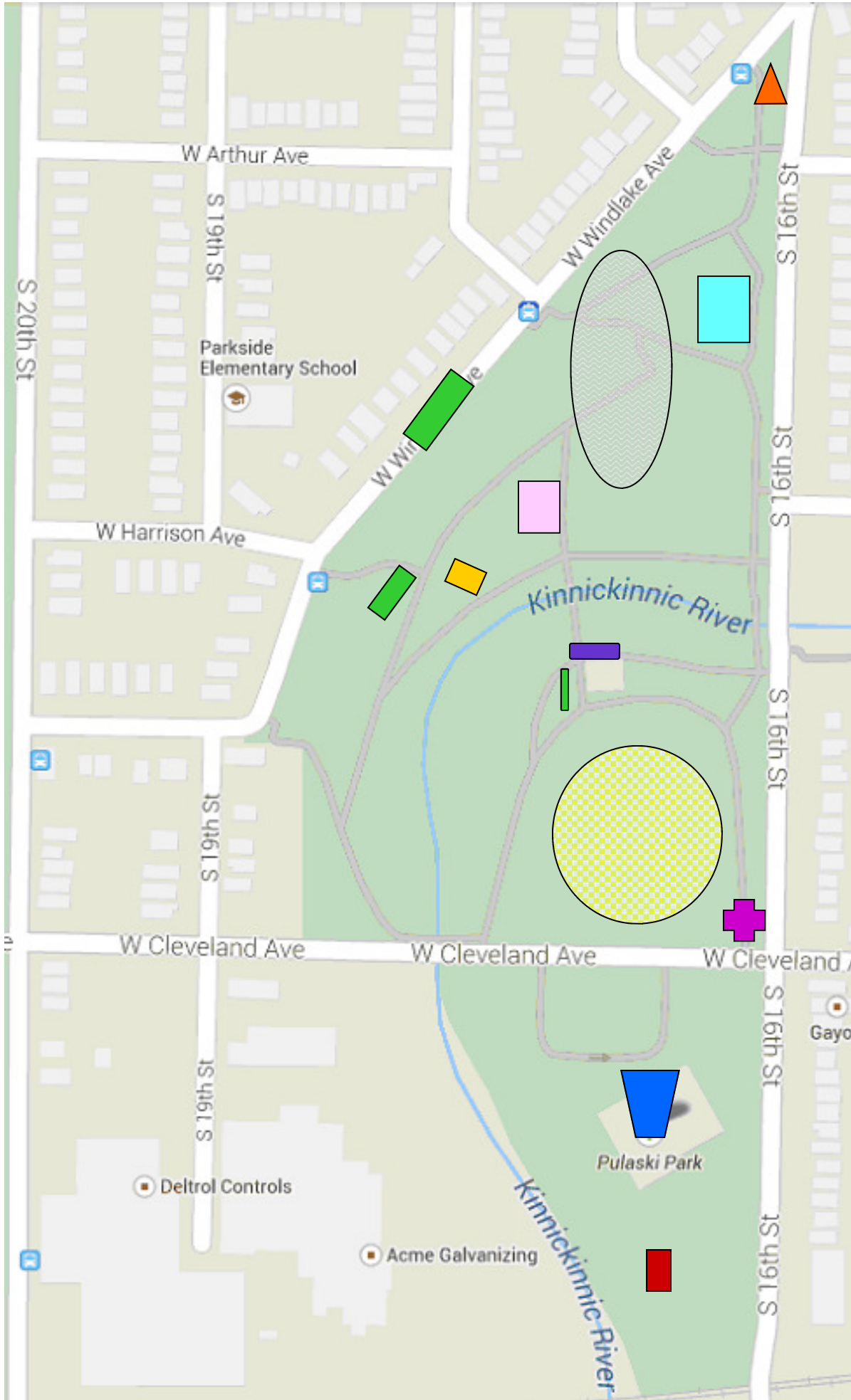
Public Art Project Timeline:

- Artists invited to attend March 11th neighborhood association meeting to make a pitch that includes their previous work/style, initial concepts for this project and a proposed budget. Neighbors, Alderman Jose Perez and County Parks staff will be present.
- Artists invited to submit written proposal including concept, timeline & budget by Wednesday, March 11th – via email to iris.gonzalez@sschc.org.
 - Submissions should include:
 - Images/Renderings of proposed project
 - Proposed budget, including breakdown for artists' time, materials, production and delivery costs
 - Proposed timeline for construction
 - Installation and Maintenance plan
- Resident Selection Committee meets late March to select Artist.
- Proposals (submitted by Sixteenth Street) to Mary Nohl Fund due on April 1st.
- Milwaukee County Board meets to approve project in April or May.
- Announcements of awards from Mary Nohl made May 15th, 2015.
- Contracts signed with Artists and Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers in May 2015
- May to September - finalize design with community input and begin construction.
- May to September - artist provides 1-2 updates to Resident Selection Committee.
- Celebration to commemorate art project to take place in October 2015 (date TBD).

For more information or to set up a meeting to be invited, please contact:
Iris Gonzalez - Community Engagement Specialist - (414) 385-3745 - iris.gonzalez@sschc.org

Pulaski Park Amenities

-  General Casimir Pulaski statue
-  Pulaski Park Indoor Pool
-  Pulaski Park Pavilion
-  Current & Proposed Green Infrastructure Sites
-  Sledding Hill
-  County Parks sign
-  Soccer field
-  Tennis Courts
-  Playground
-  Basketball Courts
-  Exercise Equipment



Pulaski Park Neighborhood Plan "Top Ten" Survey Results

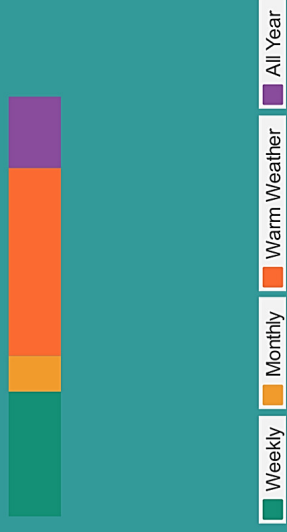
Q. 1: Top 10 Ways the Park is Used Now

The top ten uses of Pulaski Park amenities include the playgrounds, walking & jogging, sledding, biking and basketball.



Q.2: How Frequently the Park is Used

The only green space for 18,280 families in a dense urban neighborhood, Pulaski Park is a valuable asset. It is used year-round by the community and its Pulaski Pool draws in south side users from a broader geography.



Q. 3: What the Community Wants

Among the ten most desired changes are community access to the Pavilion and programming like exercise or art classes.



Community Visioning for Pulaski Park

Getting More Specificity

Community engagement for the development of the Pulaski Park Neighborhood Plan included the administration of 125 surveys to better understand current park usage and begin to define a community vision for the future of Pulaski Park. The three top results for improvements include: playgrounds, exercise classes, and use of the Pulaski Park Pavilion. At an Open House held in November 2014, community members were asked to rank more specific ideas within those three top categories.

Types of Playgrounds

Residents would like to continue to see family-friendly amenities like the playground. Large support exists for safe and visible designated play areas such as rubber surfaces, fenced playgrounds or a kiddie pool. Neighbors cite the lack of tennis users as an opportunity to re-imagine the tennis courts as a kid zone.



Types of Exercise Classes

When it comes to exercise classes, zumba and yoga top the list. Swimming and permanent exercise equipment also rank high. For other types of active use of the park, neighbors listed running programs for building up existing runners for races and preserving the sledding that is a big draw every winter.



The Pavilion as a Hub

Community members are excited about using the Pulaski Park Pavilion as a neighborhood gathering place. They envision renting it for parties or special events, using it for community meetings to address crime and other neighborhood needs or having cultural events like a farmers' market or music concerts.

