

Open Call: Joe Louis Greenway (JLG) Mural Project

Deadline to apply: June 19, 2023

The City of Detroit has a vision for neighbors to feel connected to each other, to foster a sense of belonging, and have a collective say for what happens in their neighborhoods. Residents will have the opportunity to share their perspectives and bring their expertise to inform the artwork that will be created in their space, and that will provide inspiration to envision a positive future for themselves, their children, and the built environment.

The commission is being managed by City Walls Detroit in conjunction with Spacelab Detroit & The General Services Department for the Joe Louis Greenway.

Vision Statements commitment

Joe Louis Greenway Team Vision Statement:

The Joe Louis Greenway is a recreational pathway increasing equitable connectivity, enhancing residents' quality of life and unifying Detroit neighborhoods, people, and parks. The greenway will connect the cities of Detroit, Dearborn, Hamtramck, and Highland Park, ensuring safe, comfortable, and sustainable mobility. Our goal is to honor the legacy of Joe Louis by providing beautiful spaces through arts, programming, and economic opportunity.

Midwest Tireman Community Vision Statement:

Across 5 Vision Planning meetings, community members in the Midwest Tireman Area were able to suggest the below concepts that created the vision statement below.







This community has a rich cultural heritage that is reflected in the languages spoken by its residents: English, Spanish and Arabic. Despite the challenges of gentrification, the residents of Midwest/Tireman are committed to bridging neighborhoods and welcoming new folks and businesses into the area to reach the goal of unity. Residents work tirelessly to build connections between different communities in the area, to create strong block clubs that are proactive in protecting the interests of the loyal and faithful resident population.

The deep roots in the area extend through intergenerational ties and the hope to pass the baton to the next generation. The youth are ready to work toward a future that reflects on the good people in their neighborhood. There is a desire to see children of all shades & colors. The mural should capture the essence of happy feelings and relaxed vibes, and self-expression through hair and clothes. The mural could incorporate Afrofuturism, technological advances, and space travel, tapping into the abstract fantasies and positive thoughts that inspire creativity and abundance. The children mentioned being able to see Black, Latino, and Middle Eastern culture and the powerful figures who have shaped the community including kings, queens, activists, and motivated athletes could be prominently featured. The mural should aim to

capture a feeling of deep connection, as if the viewer has been there before, and inspires kindness and beautiful emotions. The mural should evoke a sense of peace and satisfaction, encouraging viewers to embrace our histories and culture to celebrate the beauty and power of people of all shades.

To truly prosper, The Midwest Tireman Community is hoping to bridge generations and discover the gifts among their residents, pursuing the common good and speaking into existence what we want the neighborhood to look like. As the African proverb says, "If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." Other inspiration includes paying respects to fallen community members or residents lost by gun violence which reminds us of the importance of coming together as a community to support each other and make positive changes. It's important to focus on people as an asset and to recognize that the Joe Louis Greenway is just one added feature of the community and using the Joe Louis Greenway as a catalyst for more opportunities and experiences. The area communicates ancestrally and intuitively through relationships. Ultimately, building a stronger community requires working together and valuing the collective wisdom of all the people who live there. This is a strong community that celebrates its past, present, and future.

Mural Exhibits:

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| <p>8060 Tireman</p>  | <p>8951 Alpine</p>  | <p>9330 Roselawn</p>  |
| <p>11751 Cloverdale</p>  | <p>8031 Tireman Ave</p>  | <p>Laker Park</p>  |

The Project

Project Location Scope

City Walls Detroit has worked with The JLG Landscaping Design Unit to identify the 6 walls within the larger context of the corridor.

Project Schedule

- May 29, 2023: CTA Released
- June 15, 2023: Deadline for Questions
- June 30, 2023, 2022: CTA Closes
- Early/Mid July 2023: Selection Panel Meeting(s)
- Late July 2023: Artist Announced
- Late July 2023: Artist Start Work

Artist Scope of Work

Artist/Artist Team Responsibilities:

- The selected artist/artist team will be required to work in collaboration with City of Detroit. Artist/artist teams should be prepared to share their personal practice with the community as this is inherently a group project.
- Artist/artist teams are responsible for:
- Conducting research to better understand the site, the project, the community's history and current culture, along with any other elements deemed helpful to their creative process
- Develop concepts and renderings for the project site
- Present concepts and refinements
- Create a final approved concept and design
- Fulfill the responsibilities within the contracted budget and timeline
- Participate in an unveiling

City Walls Detroit responsibilities:

- Coordinate reviews and permissions regarding artist selection and concept development
- Coordinate marketing, documentation, and public engagement
- Assist in the coordinating applicable permits and right of entry for install

Budget

The overall budget:

\$10,000 to \$20,000 per mural depending on square footage

This budget is all-inclusive, including but not limited to artist's fees, artist's assistant costs, artist's studio costs, materials and supplies, installation, specify consultants, and community engagement participation.

Artist Selection Process

Eligibility

We are seeking artists or artist teams who can make a commitment to working in Detroit as necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of this project. Any artist or artist team is encouraged to apply.

Process

This will be an open call. Qualifications, portfolios, and statements will be solicited by City Walls Detroit. City Walls Detroit and the selection panel will review the artist submission and identify one artist/artist team per project to be selected for the project.

There are a total of 5 projects + Laker Park Mural available.

Selection Criteria

Winning artists/artist team will be selected based on the selection panel's evaluation of the following criteria:

- 30pts Experience in creating permanent, durable, outdoor public artwork
- 30pts Ability to accomplish projects of a similar complexity within the budget, timeline, and technical constraints presented, based on examples of prior works
- 10pts Experience in community engaged art process and research
- 10pts Artist Statement
- 10pts Detroit Based Artist
- 10pts Preliminary Sketches

The Selection panel consists of 1 member from each category below:

- GSD: JLG Team
- District 6 Council Rep / DON
- City Walls: Bethany Howard
- Community Member
- Community Member
- Community Member

- Community Member
- Community Member

Application

Along with completing the online form, interested artist/artist team should submit:

- A project brief page including the name(s) and contact information
- A CV or resume for each artist (1 page per artist)
- Up to 3 images of past work you consider relevant to this project
- Up to 3 images of preliminary designs for the project
 - Digital images must be JPEG files
 - Each image must be unlocked and downloadable for viewing
 - Upload 1 sheet with the following information per image
 - Image name
 - Title of artwork
 - Location
 - Date of completion
 - Budget, medium, and dimensions
 - Up to 4 sentences of project description
 - 2 references of previous public art clients

Questions can be submitted to citywalls@detroitmi.gov