1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Stonnington’s Art in the Public Domain Policy 2013-2015 supports the commissioning of innovative, high quality, contemporary artworks by professional artists.

With this Artist Brief, the City of Stonnington (‘The City’) is seeking Expressions of Interest to develop an artwork specifically intended to integrate with the main Yarra River Trail, South Yarra, potentially opposite the Melbourne High School. Artists or groups of artists are welcome to submit their Expression of Interest.

Selection of the final artwork will take place in a two stage process. First, artists will be invited to submit Expressions of Interest and then up to five shortlisted artists will be invited to submit a more developed proposal and will be paid a concept fee. More details about the selection process and the project budget can be found later in this document.

2. INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN EOI SUBMISSION

First stage:
To be sent by email

1) a written outline of the proposal including the following details :
   • rationale of artistic vision and brief description of how the work will be experienced
   • description of which site/s has/ve been selected and rationale of response to the site

2) an indicative project timeline for the design development, fabrication and installation of the work

3) a biography and up to date curriculum vitae of the artist with an emphasis on the artist’s practice and experience in public art with up to 10 examples of previous works

Second stage:
Two (2) hard copies of the proposal in addition to an electronic version on a USB stick or CD must include the following:

1) a maquette or working model showing the scale of the work in context as well as drawings and descriptions of the artwork (with view lines), the proposed materials, the proposed lighting (if relevant) and the footing design

2) more information on the outline of the proposal including the following details:
   • a more developed artistic concept and description of how the work will be experienced
   • a more developed response to the site for the location/s that has/ve been selected
   • written descriptions and/or drawings of proposed process for execution of the work
   • the estimated life of the work

3) a detailed project timeline for the design development, fabrication and installation of the work
4) a **detailed project budget** including sub-consultant fees for any necessary advice such as engineering, electrical or lighting

5) a **detailed conservation maintenance plan and budget** listing maintenance activities and the required frequency of each activity

6) a **tax invoice** for the concept development proposal fee (see point 13. FEES)

Please send or deliver EOI responses and project submissions by email for First Stage and by post for Second Stage to:

**Violette Vidal**  
Visual Arts Officer  
Stonnington City Centre  
311 Glenferrie Road  
Malvern, VIC 3144

**Or**  
PO Box 21  
Malvern, VIC 3144

**Or**  
311 Glenferrie Road  
PO Box 21  
Prahran 3181

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3. **BACKGROUND AND HISTORY**

In 2010, the City of Stonnington started one of the biggest regeneration projects in the Yarra River’s recent history – the Yarra River Biodiversity Project.

The Yarra River Biodiversity Project involves seven stages of works to improve the quality of the riparian environment along the south bank of the Yarra River between Punt Road, South Yarra and Grange Road, Toorak. The project aims to increase habitat connectivity, improve water quality and provide recreational and educational opportunities for the community to interact with the Yarra River.

Design is now underway for stage 6 and will take place along the edge of the Yarra River, between Williams Road and Winifred Crescent, Toorak. Stage 6 is anticipated to be completed by June 2018.

**Indigenous history of the area**

(*please note that this information is from 2014 and might need to be checked again)*

The lower stretches of the Yarra River is where the City of Melbourne was established in 1835 and today greater Melbourne dominates and influences the landscape of its lower reaches. The Traditional Land Owners of the Melbourne metropolitan area are Aboriginal clans who speak the Boon Wurrung and Woiwurrung dialects. Known collectively as the East Kulin nation, the clan was the land-owning group with which individuals speaking these languages would primarily identify. Kulin means man in both dialects.

The Yarra River was a major food source and meeting place for Aboriginal Australians since prehistoric times. Several sites along the river and its tributaries were important meeting places where corroborees were held between communities. Lake Como, to the west of Williams Road, near to the proposed artwork site, was a favourite meeting place of Boon Wurrung and other language groups.

The River supports a diverse range of wildlife, fish and plants. Its resources were utilised sustainably by the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri clans until the advent of early European colonisation in the early-mid-19th century. Following the arrival of European settlers, game and plant foods became harder to obtain and eventually clearing forced the remaining Aboriginal people to neighbouring territories and away from the river.
Originally called Birrarung by the Wurundjeri, the current name is derived from the Woiwurrung term: Yarra Yarra. It is thought that Birrarung is derived from Woiwurrung words meaning ("ever flowing") Upon European arrival it was given the name ‘Yarra Yarra’ by John Helder Wedge of the Port Phillip Association in 1835 in the belief that this was the Aboriginal name for the river, however it is now understood ‘Yarra’ means "waterfall", "flow", or refers to running or falling water; descriptive of any river or creek in the area.

Punt Road River Crossing
Below is a photo of the punt road river crossing 1850/60’s. View looking south towards South Yarra. Domain road on the top of the hill.

4. SITE
The Yarra River Public Art Commission is intended to integrate with the main Yarra River Trail, South Yarra, potentially opposite the Melbourne High School but the exact location is to be determined by the artist. Three potential locations have been identified and you will find images in attachment 2.

More information on the site is available via the links below:

- City of Stonnington Biodiversity Trail to learn more about the Yarra River Biodiversity Project.
- Melbourne Water Yarra Catchment to learn more about more about the history and ecological value of the Yarra River.
- The Life of the Yarra Audio Tour to listen to the Audio Tour and learn all about Melbourne’s landmark river.

5. AUDIENCE
Primary Audience: Cyclists and pedestrians along the Main Yarra Trail. Main Yarra Trail is Stonnington’s highest use commuting bike path. However overall user rates are highest on the weekend, mainly comprising recreation activities.

Secondary Audience: Vehicle traffic along Alexandra Avenue.
6. CONCEPT AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

The following concept and design considerations and constraints are important in developing the artwork proposal:

**Appropriateness to site**
Artists should consider the history of the site and uniqueness of the location and space in developing their concept.

**Scale**
Artworks of all sizes and forms will be considered.

**Visual appeal**
Proposed artworks must have the ability to engage a broad audience. Colour and material are important considerations.

**Interactivity, play, sound and lighting**
Artists may consider design elements which are interactive so that people can potentially touch or move through the artwork. Lighting and sound may be considered but should be discreet as to not disturb the wildlife present on the biodiversity trail.

Any interactive elements will need to comply with Australian playground safety standards.

**Location**
The artist is free to choose one or more location(s) out of the 3 locations identified.

**Safety, resilience, conservation and cleaning**
The artwork must be as resilient and vandal-proof as possible. Durability of materials is important. A conservation maintenance plan must be detailed in the artist’s proposal and construction materials must be listed.
The artwork should be robust and community safe.

**Structure and serviceability**
The artist proposal should include fixing points and base structure information if relevant. If any structural engineering certification is needed for the artwork, the commissioned artist will have to engage the engineer and build that cost in their proposal.

**Life expectancy of the Artwork**
The artwork must have a minimum life span of at least 20 years subject to cleaning and maintenance’s recommendations being implemented

7. PROJECT BUDGET

The artist will receive a Commission Fee of **$80,000 plus GST** as the project budget for the delivery of the commission.

The budget presented by the artist must include estimates of all costs relating to artist fees, engineering and other consultants, concept development, materials, fabrication, lighting, transport to site, footings, installation, insurance and contingency. The budget of $80,000 plus GST will cover all costs with the intent and to the effect that, other than payment by The City of the Commission Fee, The City is not required to make any other payment.

Long term maintenance of the artwork will be addressed in a separate budget.
8. PROJECT TIMEFRAME

The artist should provide an indicative timeframe for completion of each stage of the project. An estimated timeframe of the overall project is attached to this brief.

For example:
Design development of final concept – X weeks/months
Fabrication – X months
Site preparation incl. Lighting - X days
Installation and practical completion - X days
Please expand as you see fit.

9. SELECTION PROCESS

First stage:
Artists’ responses to the EOI will be reviewed by the Stonnington Art Acquisition Panel and The City’s staff. A maximum of 5 artists will then be shortlisted and invited to submit a public art proposal for the second stage of the selection process.

Second stage:
Shortlisted artists’ submissions will then be sent to and later on presented to the Yarra River Public Art Commission Selection Panel and approved by Council.

The Panel reserves the right not to select any submission for commissioning. No correspondence will be entered into with respect to the decision of the Panel.

10. SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection of a concept to be commissioned will be based on the following criteria and weight system:

First stage:

- **Artistic vision**, quality and originality – 25%
- **Appropriateness to site**: impact and suitability – 25%
- **Experience** offered by the concept and its ability to engage the audience – 20%
- Safety of design – 10%
- The artist’s response to the timeframe and budget – 10%
- Durability of materials – 5%
- The artist’s capacity to deliver the project as proposed – 5%

Second stage:

- **Safety** of design – 15%
- **Durability** of materials – 15%
- The artist’s response to the **timeframe and budget** – 15%
- The artist’s **capacity to deliver** the project as proposed – 15%
- Artistic vision, quality and originality – 10%
- Appropriateness to site: impact and suitability – 10%
- Experience offered by the concept and its ability to engage the audience – 10%
11. DUE DATES

First stage (3 weeks):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Expression of Interest (EOI) should be submitted by COB Fri 29 June 2018.</th>
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Artists will be notified by cob Mon 16 July 2018 if they have been shortlisted for the second stage.

Second stage (6 weeks):

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Shortlisted artists will be asked to send their submissions by COB Fri 10 August 2018.</th>
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</table>
Shortlisted artists will present their concept developments at a date and time to be arranged after the due date so that any questions or issues arising may be discussed.

12. COPYRIGHT AND OWNERSHIP OF MATERIALS

If an artist concept is selected for completion by the selection panel the artist will be formally commissioned by written agreement to produce the artwork. Following the execution of a formal commissioning agreement, materials relating to the proposal including the maquette will remain the property of the City. The artist will be acknowledged in any public display of this material.

13. FEES

In the first stage of the project commissioning process EOI responses will not incur a fee.

Each shortlisted artist in the second stage of the project commissioning process will be paid a concept development fee of AUD$1,000 plus GST. Shortlisted artists must include with their submissions an invoice for this sum with ABN and note whether GST is applied (or not) with their application.

14. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Following receipt of this brief the artist shall not make or authorise a public statement relating to their proposal or the project or any other matter related to the selection process or project without prior written approval from The City.

15. FURTHER INFORMATION

The Artist may direct any questions with respect to this brief to:
Violette Vidal
Visual Arts Officer
Phone: 03 8290 1105 (Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays).
Email: vvidal@stonnington.vic.gov.au
### ATTACHMENT 1 – INDICATIVE PROJECT TIMELINE

Project completion estimated timeframe (9 months)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>TIMING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issue Artist Brief as an EOI (3 weeks to respond)</td>
<td>June 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information session with architect and artists</td>
<td>June 2018 – exact date TBC* please check the website</td>
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<tr>
<td>EOI submissions due (2 weeks for review of submissions)</td>
<td>29 June 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shortlisted artists invited to submit</td>
<td>16 July 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artists submissions due</td>
<td>10 August 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artists concept development fees payment ($2,000 per artist)</td>
<td>August 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentations to selection panel</td>
<td>August 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finalist selection by the selection panel</td>
<td>August / September 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recommendation to Council</td>
<td>September 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artist contracted - project commences</td>
<td>September 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artist – first payment invoiced (50%; $40,000)</td>
<td>September 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design development and consultation with architects / Council (1 month)</td>
<td>October 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fabrication (3 months)</td>
<td>November 2018 – January 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artist – final payment invoiced when fabrication is completed (50%; $80,000)</td>
<td>January 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Installation and lighting phase</td>
<td>January / February 2019</td>
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ATTACHMENT 2 – POTENTIAL LOCATIONS ON THE SITE

1- Around or under the VIC train track
2- Around the area, in front of the playground
3- Around the area, opposite Melbourne High School
Cremorne Rail Riverbank Listening Station - Part 1

Tune into the audio tour on your mobile device at:  
http://tuningstation.wic.gov.au  
Select ‘Cremorne Rail Riverbank - Part 1’

The Life of the Yarra

How present? Observing our local environment and appreciating the unique history, culture and ecology of the natural waterways.