

Scope of Work – Deanwood Temporary Art Installation

Introduction

Metro's [Office of Community Engagement](#) is seeking artists, designers, photographers, illustrators, and interdisciplinary creatives to submit qualifications for consideration for a temporary art activation at [Deanwood Metro Rail Station](#). Through this [Art in Transit](#) project, Metro seeks to celebrate the creativity, diversity, and stories of the communities Metro serves.

Background

Metro and its Art in Transit program seeks to increase artwork across the transit system to enhance public spaces and provide high-quality arts experiences for customers and the public. Metro will work with artists, other arts professionals, architects, engineers, and community representatives to develop a public art project for the Deanwood Metro Rail Station. An interactive view of the station can be found [here](#). Please review the technical requirements section of this document for more information about the passageways.

About the Commission

A project site has been selected for the art commission, and will be located in the two customer passageways within the Deanwood Metro Rail Station. The selected artist will design the artwork to scale and provide Metro with a digital file for exporting to print. The designs may be identical or unique to each of the two passageways, and should complement one another in their color, form, pattern, and/or design gestures if there is variance in the proposed design. The final artwork will be produced as a printed vinyl application directly to the wall surface at the installation sites. This vinyl wrap will be printed and installed by Metro. The artist may be asked to participate in community events associated with the

unveiling of the new artwork and other potential outreach activities associated with the project.

Community Design Input

Metro will conduct community-based digital and in-person outreach to solicit input from community members about the temporary artwork. This outreach aims to uncover the desired outcomes for the artwork from the community, and is expected to inform the design process for the final artwork.

About Deanwood Metro Rail Station

The historic northeast Washington, DC neighborhood of Deanwood is home to over 5,000 residents and serves upwards of 1,500 rail commuters on average per day. This Metro station is served by the Orange and Silver lines, and is also served by the C35, C63 and P62 bus routes. The immediate surrounding neighborhood is largely residential. On Minnesota Avenue, directly across the street from the bus loop and Metro entrance, is a community recreation center and playground.

Deanwood is one of Washington D.C.'s oldest and most consistently African-American communities. Home of civil rights activist Nannie Helen Burroughs and musician Marvin Gaye, this neighborhood also hosted Washington D.C.'s only permanent amusement park, Suburban Gardens, until it closed to the public in 1940. The area immediately adjacent to the Deanwood Metro Rail station is part of a joint development project that will bring new community amenities to the neighborhood, including a new public library.

Budget

The selected artist will be required to submit a quote for services. A budget will be provided to cover the cost of an artist fee and all labor associated with design concept revision and file preparation. A budget range of \$5,000.00-\$8,500.00 is allocated for this project, with the final budget amount based on the final deliverables the artist will submit. This budget does not include the cost of materials, which will be supplied by Metro separately.

Current Scope of Work

The selection and creation of this commission will follow a two-phase selection process utilizing one solicitation covering both phases hereinafter referred to as Phase 1 and Phase 2.

PHASE 1:

Requires artists/artist teams to prepare and submit qualifications as appropriate for the scope of work and qualifications submittal requirements set forth in the solicitation. An internal review by Metro staff will shortlist a series of candidates who meet the selection criteria. The Phase 1 review period will incorporate the community feedback received to determine candidates for short listing. The number of shortlisted candidates is subject to the total submissions received but will be between 5 to 10 artists for Phase 2 review.

PHASE 2:

Selected artists/artist teams whose proposals and qualifications are deemed acceptable will have their qualifications packaged, shared and reviewed for final selection by an internal working group comprised of Metro staff and leadership, including Art in Transit program staff and representatives from Metro Bus, Metro Rail, and Metro Access.

Project Deliverables

PHASE 1 - RFQ

Submission of application materials, including:

- 5 high-quality images of previous works (JPEG, PNG formats)
- A 2-page CV that highlights experiences with community-based projects, commissions, and/or large-scale public art commissions
- 50-word bio that articulates the artist's background

- 100 word Artist Statement that articulates the driving inspiration, subject matter, and processes employed in the artist's practice

The link to the Open Call RFQ can be found **here**.

PHASE 2 – Contracting & Commission Development

Following both reviews, the selected artist will be contracted to deliver the complete, site-specific design for the rail passageways at the Deanwood Metro Rail Station. A quote will be required for contract completion. The passageways are details in the technical specifications section of this Scope of Work.

PHASE 3 – Design Iteration/Feedback

The selected artist will submit the selected design to Metro for review and comment. The artist may receive written feedback on the submitted design and request for iteration. The design iteration phase is limited to two rounds of review and feedback.

PHASE 4 – Delivery

The selected artist will prepare and export a package of digital files prepared to the specifications and dimensions of the passageways. Metro will oversee the process of printing and installing the artwork at the site. The artist will be asked to review proofs of the final artwork to ensure quality and fidelity to the submitted design.

Performance, Eligibility and Selection Criteria

PHASE 1 Review:

- Completeness of the application
- Artistic merit of the submitted body of work (such as national recognitions, awards)
- Appropriateness of qualifications for the project based on previous experiences details in the submitted CV

- Strong conceptual skills with innovative and effective approaches demonstrated in other creative projects demonstrated through work samples
- Originality of approaches and methodologies used to convey meaning through art, as detailed from the submitted Artist Statement
- Ability to design artwork that is sensitive to social, environmental, historical, and/or other relevant contexts
- Ability to translate artistic concepts into materials that are appropriate for this public space, taking into consideration maintenance, safety, and longevity
- Demonstration of successful execution and completion of similar projects within the last 5 years
- Experience collaborating with public agencies and/or design build projects

PHASE 2 Review:

- Artistic excellence, originality, and creativity of artist work samples and application materials
- Relevance of the proposed design to the values, culture, and people of Metro, the community of Deanwood and the Deanwood Metro Rail Station site
- Proposed design's ability to activate or enhance public space
- Potential for work to enrich and diversify the Metro system and community of Deanwood's public art collection

Performance Schedule

Open Call RFQ Released: Friday, September 11, 2026

Application Open Period: Friday, September 11, 2026 – Friday October 2, 2026

Application Deadline: 5:00 pm, Friday October 2, 2026

Phase 1 Review: Monday, October 5 to Friday, October 9, 2026

Phase 2 Review: Thursday, October 15, 2026

Artist Notification: Friday, October 16, 2026

Artist Contracting Period: Monday, October 19- Friday, October 30, 2026

Artist Design Phase/Printing and Installation: Monday, November 2 – Friday
December 11, 2026

Community Unveiling: The week of December 14, 2026

Eligibility Requirements

This call is open to:

- Applicants 18 years of age or older.
- Individual artists and artist teams who are residents of the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.
- Priority will be given to artists inside Metro's registered service area, the Deanwood community, and DC's Ward 7 for this project.
- Emerging, mid-career, and established artists. Student artists are welcome to apply.
- Practitioners working in visual and interdisciplinary arts.

Artists from historically underrepresented communities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Selection Criteria

Selection considerations may include:

- Complete application materials
- Artistic quality and creativity
- Relevance to project goals and site conditions
- Technical suitability for the intended format
- Representation of diverse artistic voices and communities

- Demonstrated experience through submitted work samples and qualifications

Submission through the open call does not guarantee selection for a project.

Technical Specifications

The two sites selected for this site-specific commission are two pedestrian passageways that egress to two separate exits from the Deanwood Metro Rail Station. These interior passageways are covered to protect from the elements. Each passageway is curvilinear; the final artwork should be adaptive to a curvilinear wall surface. There is a north and south passageway, with walls on the east and west faces. On the south passageway wall are 3 fire signals and on the north passageway wall there are 2 fire signals; each will need to remain unobstructed. The design should account for cut outs for the fire signals, as the vinyl may be applied to the surrounding space.

Location of work and any constraints

The Deanwood Metro Rail Station is located at 4720 Minnesota Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20019. The two passageways are located inside the station, accessible by the Minnesota Avenue and Polk Street entrances to the station. Constraints are described in the technical specifications section.

WMATA Procurement

The selected artist will be required to register with the WMATA Procurement System. To review registration details, please visit the [Procurement website](#).