

2015

Community Commissions

Request for Proposals



Columbus Amsterdam BID and Carin Mincemoyer
Dandelions

97th Street between Columbus and Amsterdam avenues (Manhattan)

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

Since the launch of the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) Art Program in October 2008, DOT Art has installed over 200 engaging temporary art installations throughout New York City. The Program partners with community-based organizations and artists to present murals, sculptures, projections and performances on public property. These temporary art installations create attractive corridors and activate public space for passersby. Projects are presented within five program tracks: Community Commissions, Barrier Beautification, Site to Site, Arterventions and Art Display Case Exhibits.

Additionally, DOT Art produces special projects, such as: reNEWable Times Square, Curbside Haiku, Summer Streets Interventions and Asphalt Art Activations.

COMMUNITY COMMISSIONS BACKGROUND

As part of the Community Commissions program, DOT Art commissions artists to produce temporary site-responsive art in collaboration with community-based organizations. Twice a year in fall and spring, NYCDOT owned plazas, fences, medians, triangles, sidewalks and step streets in all five boroughs are announced as priority sites for art. The NYCDOT Borough Offices and Operating Units identify sites that are: 1) in need of beautification; 2) large enough to accommodate artwork; and 3) accessible to a diverse audience. (Appendix A: Spring Priority Site List.)

Organizations are invited to submit proposals in response to the priority site list by a set deadline. Artwork commissioned through this program may remain installed for up to 11 months. Not-for-profit organizations are eligible to receive up to \$5,000 toward direct project costs. Also, NYCDOT arranges for an engineering review by a NYS licensed engineer for all sculptural works and provides the necessary permits to install on City-owned property. NYCDOT may also provide additional services on a case-by-case basis to assist with project implementation; i.e. material donation and installation assistance.

Recent examples of successful Community Commissions projects include: Columbus Amsterdam BID and Carin Mincemoyer, *Dandelions*, 97th Street between Columbus and Amsterdam avenues, Manhattan; International Studio and Curatorial Program and Asae Soya, *Ringing Waves*, 45th Street between 10th and 11th avenues, Manhattan; and the Bronx River Art Center and Xavier Figueroa, *Aqua Hung*, East Tremont Avenue and Boston Road, Bronx. (Appendix B: Recent Community Commissions.) For additional photos of past Community Commissions, visit www.flickr.com/photos/nycstreets.

PROGRAM PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

NYCDOT works closely with selected applicants to implement projects within six months of approval. The DOT Art Program Director, the artist, a representative from the partner organization and other NYCDOT staff make up the project team. Throughout implementation, the project team meets to review design, confer on budget, develop a project schedule, assess the engineering documentation and sign the legal agreement. The artist is responsible for design and fabrication of the artwork. The partner organization is responsible for: 1) overseeing artwork fabrication and installation; 2) maintaining artwork during the display period; 3) removing artwork upon completion of the display period; 4) restoring the site to its original condition; and 5) processing funds from NYCDOT to the artist.

All selected applicants must sign a legal agreement with NYCDOT and provide a certificate of insurance naming the City as an additional insured. As per the agreement, the artist receives credit, sole ownership, and copyright of the final design and artwork, but is required to extend to the City the right to a royalty-free, perpetual license to use any depiction of the artwork for non-commercial purposes.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Organizations are invited to submit proposals for the listed priority sites by **Friday, April 24, 2015**. Applicants are notified of selection within two months of the submission deadline. Funding is not guaranteed with project selection.

Interested organizations and artists are required to submit a joint application. Organizations are permitted to receive multiple commissions per fiscal year when applying with different artists. However, artists are only eligible to receive one commission per fiscal year. All applicants must select a priority site and provide a conceptual design for consideration.

For submission specifications, review the Community Commissions Application Cover Sheet.

SELECTION PROCESS

The Art Advisory Committee, a panel of appointed arts professionals from varying disciplines, reviews all proposals based on the following selection criteria:

Public Safety

- Proposal does not present any public safety hazards.

Artistic Merit

- Proposed artwork is aesthetically pleasing and appropriate for the public realm.
- Artist's past work demonstrates proficiency in the proposed medium.
- Artist has exhibited in the public or private realm and participated in team and/or community-based art projects.

Site Suitability

- Artwork is suitable for the site based on size, scale, and form.
- Proposal considers the variety of audiences at the site.
- Proposal considers the social, historical, architectural, geographical and/or cultural context of the site.
- Proposal illustrates community involvement during design, fabrication, and/or installation.

Organizational Capacity

- Organization has experience planning public programs and/or public art projects.
- Organization agrees to monitor and maintain the artwork.
- Organization has secured additional funding to cover the total budget.

Artwork Durability

- Artwork will be made of durable materials to withstand outdoor weather conditions.
- Artwork is carefully planned ensuring sound fabrication and installation.

ADDITIONAL LEGAL INFORMATION

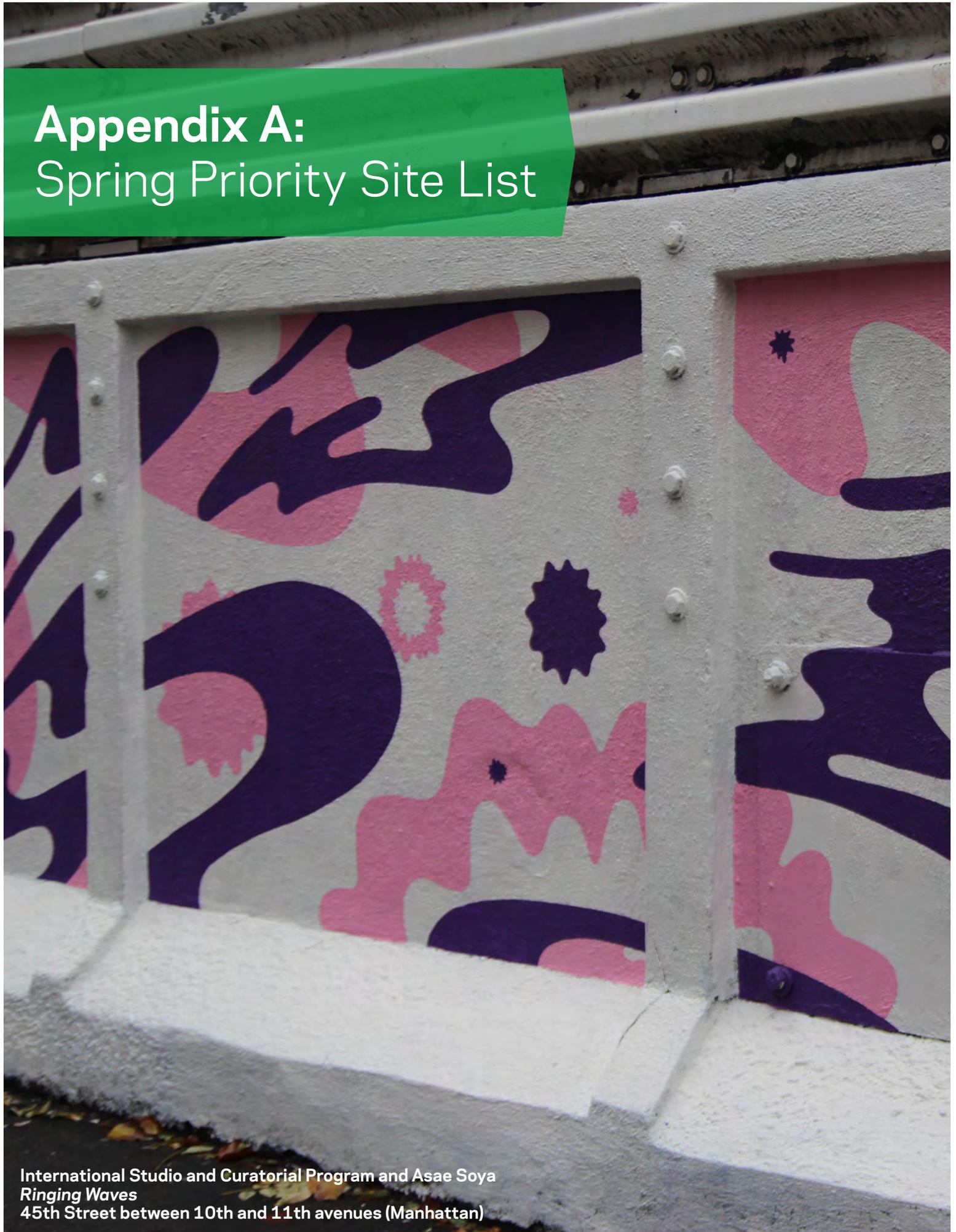
Please note the following:

- This RFP is not intended as a formal offering for the award of a contract or for participation in any future solicitation;
- NYCDOT does not intend to grant or issue any additional agreements on the basis of this RFP;
- NYCDOT, the City and their officials, agents and employees make no representation or warranty and assume no responsibility for the accuracy of the information set forth in this RFP;
- No information contained in submissions shall be deemed confidential and such information may be shared with other governmental entities. Therefore, please do not submit any information that may be deemed proprietary in nature;
- Neither NYCDOT nor the City shall be liable for any costs incurred by any respondent in the preparation, submittal, presentation or revision of its submission. Neither NYCDOT nor the City shall be obligated to pay and shall not pay any costs in connection with the preparation of such submissions;
- All submissions shall become the property of NYCDOT and the City and shall not be returned; and
- NYCDOT at its sole discretion reserves, without limitation, the right to;
 - Withdraw the RFP at any time;
 - To discuss various approaches with one or more respondents (including parties not responding to the RFP); and
 - Change any terms of this RFP.

QUESTIONS

All inquiries regarding Community Commissions should be sent to: arts@dot.nyc.gov.

Appendix A: Spring Priority Site List



International Studio and Curatorial Program and Asae Soya
Ringin Waves
45th Street between 10th and 11th avenues (Manhattan)

FALL PRIORITY SITE LIST

BRONX

Sidewalk: Southern Boulevard and E. Fordham Road (adjacent to the Bronx Zoo)

Chain-link fence: Grand Concourse between 152nd Street and 153rd Street

BROOKLYN

Chain-link fence: Livonia Avenue between Van Sinderen Avenue and Junius Street

Sidewalk: Ocean Avenue and Parkside Avenue

MANHATTAN

Chain-link fence: Madison Street and Mechanics Alley

QUEENS

Sidewalk: Beach 21st Street and Mott Avenue (DOT Municipal Parking Lot)

Tunnel: 88th Road and Cross Island Parkway Service Road

STATEN ISLAND

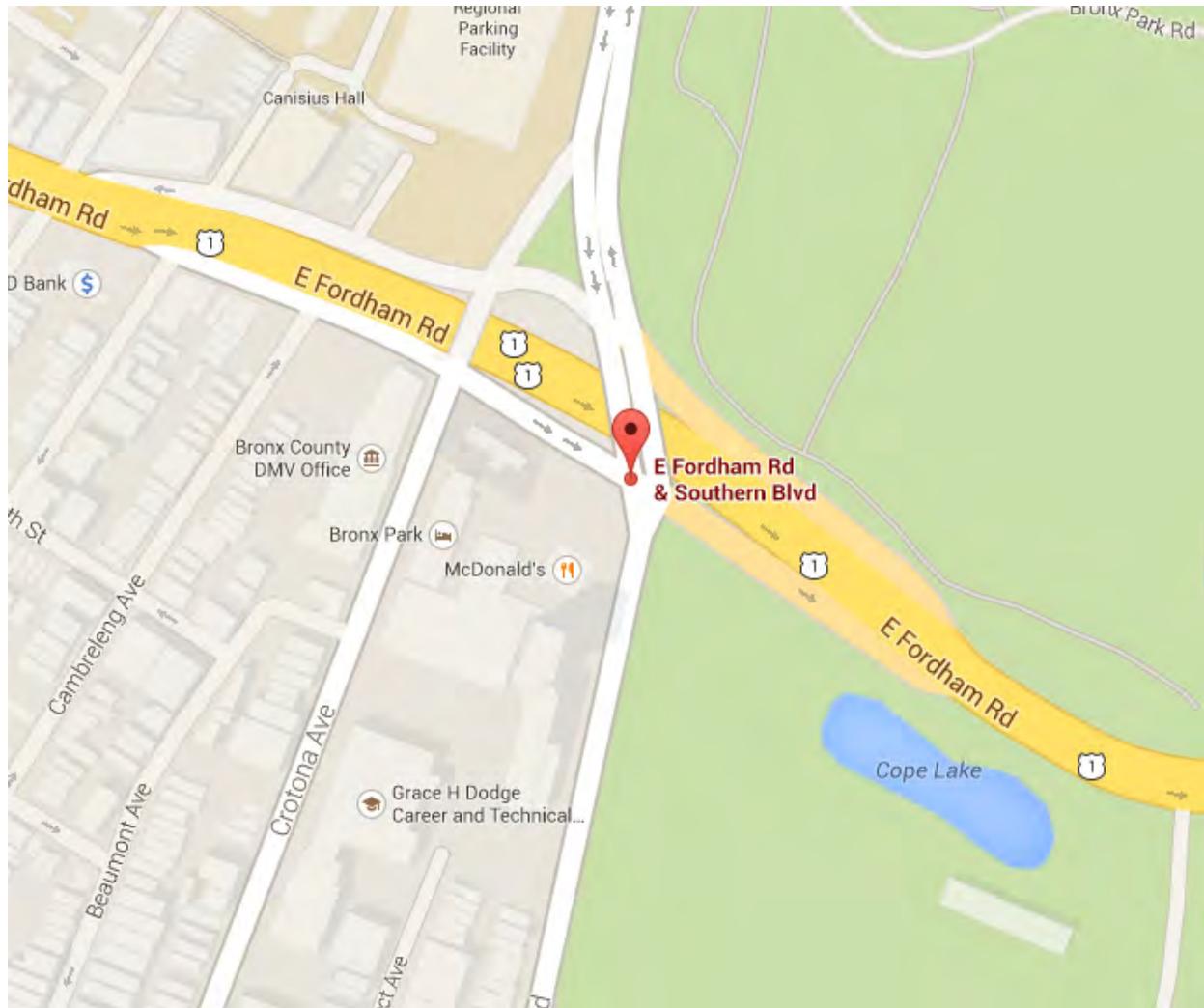
Chain-link fence: Glen Street and Canon Avenue

Chain-link fence: Bay Street and Victory Boulevard

BRONX

Sidewalk: Southern Boulevard and E. Fordham Road (adjacent to Bronx Zoo)

Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only sculptures will be considered for the sidewalk.
- Painting a mural directly onto the sidewalk is not permitted.
- Artwork must be installed at a minimum of 20' from the zoo fencing.

BRONX

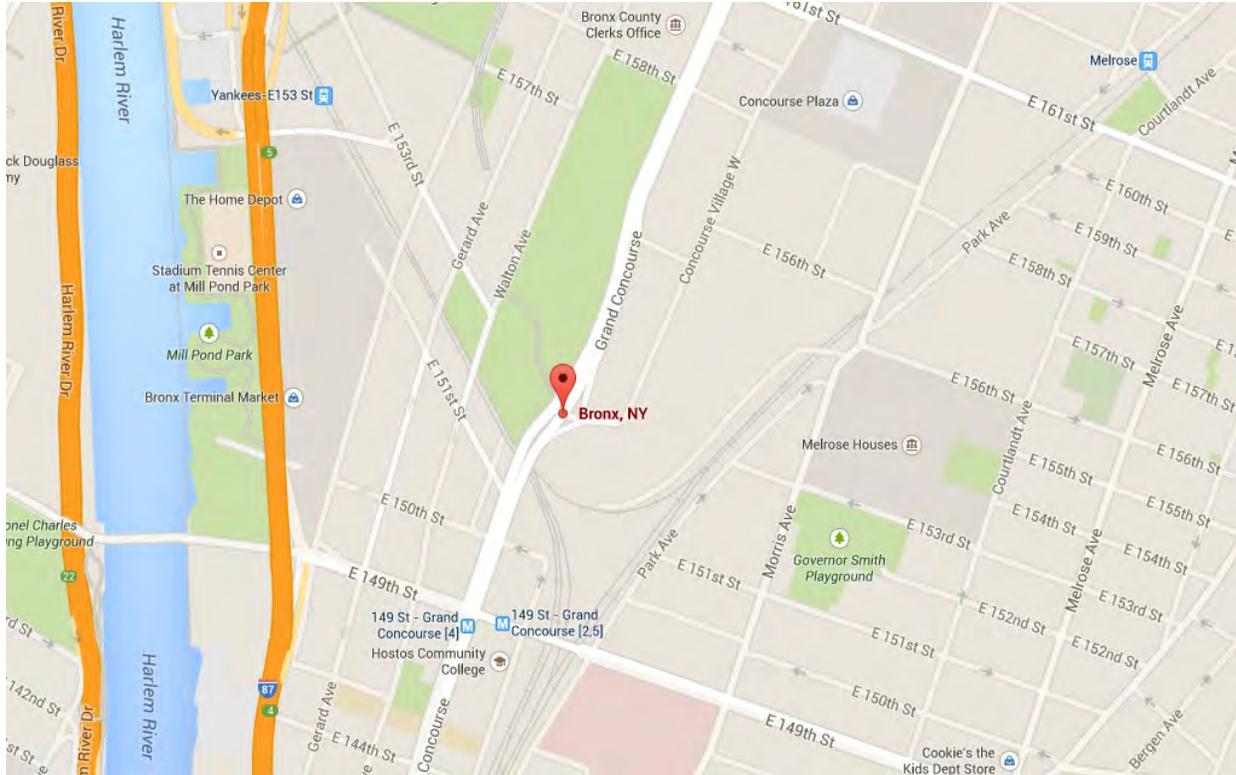
Sidewalk: Southern Boulevard and E. Fordham Road (adjacent to Bronx Zoo)

Site Photos



BRONX

Chain-link fence: Grand Concourse between 152nd Street and 153rd Street Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only exterior grade materials such as, yarn, fabric, zip ties, etc. that can be easily installed and removed will be approved.
- Consider the necessity of the Bridge Unit to be able to see behind the fence; therefore the proposed design should not completely cover the chain-link fence allowing for visibility across the given site.

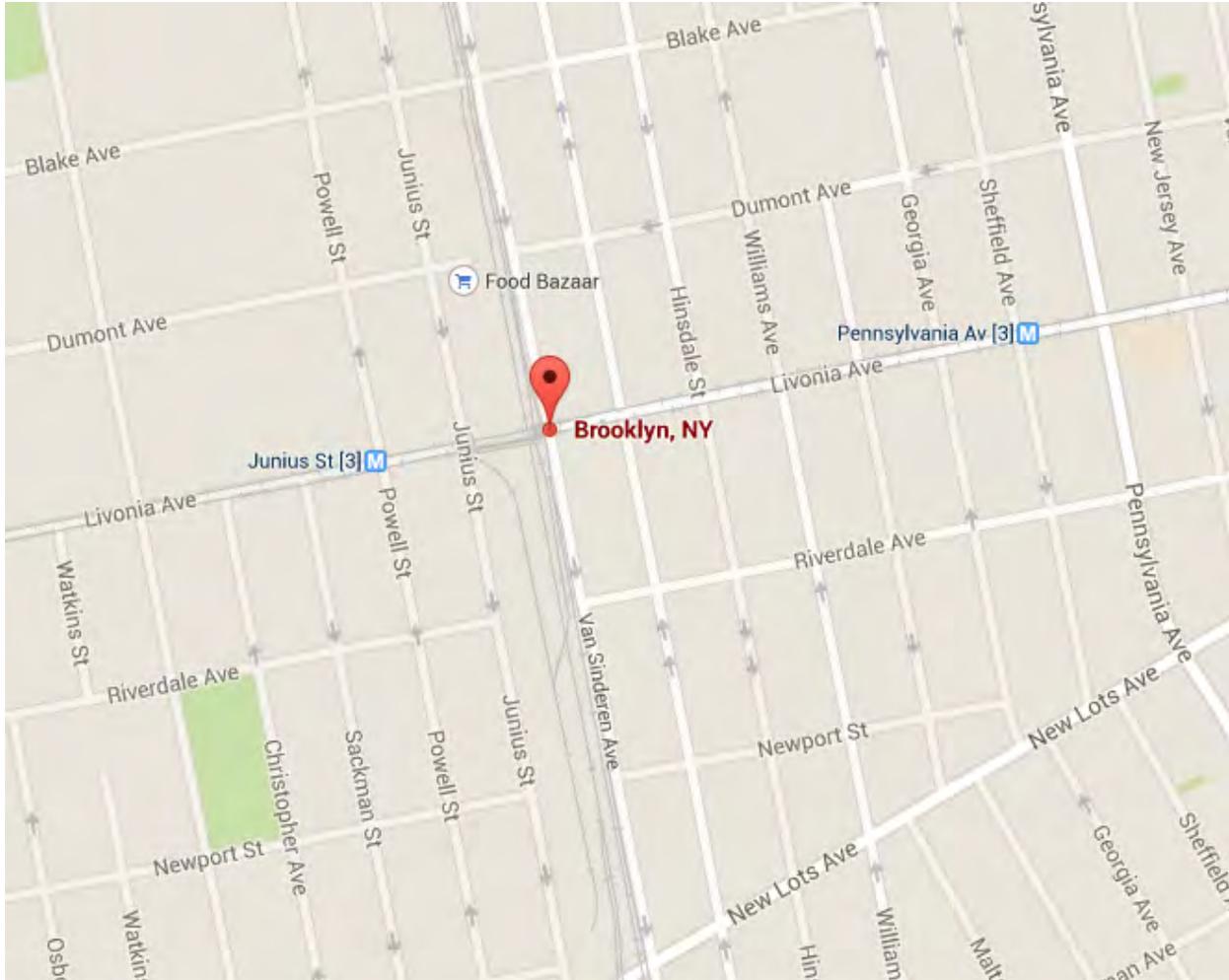
BRONX

**Chain-link fence: Grand Concourse between 152nd Street and 153rd Street
Site Photos**



BROOKLYN

Chain-link fence: Livonia Avenue between Van Sinderen Avenue and Junius Street Site Map

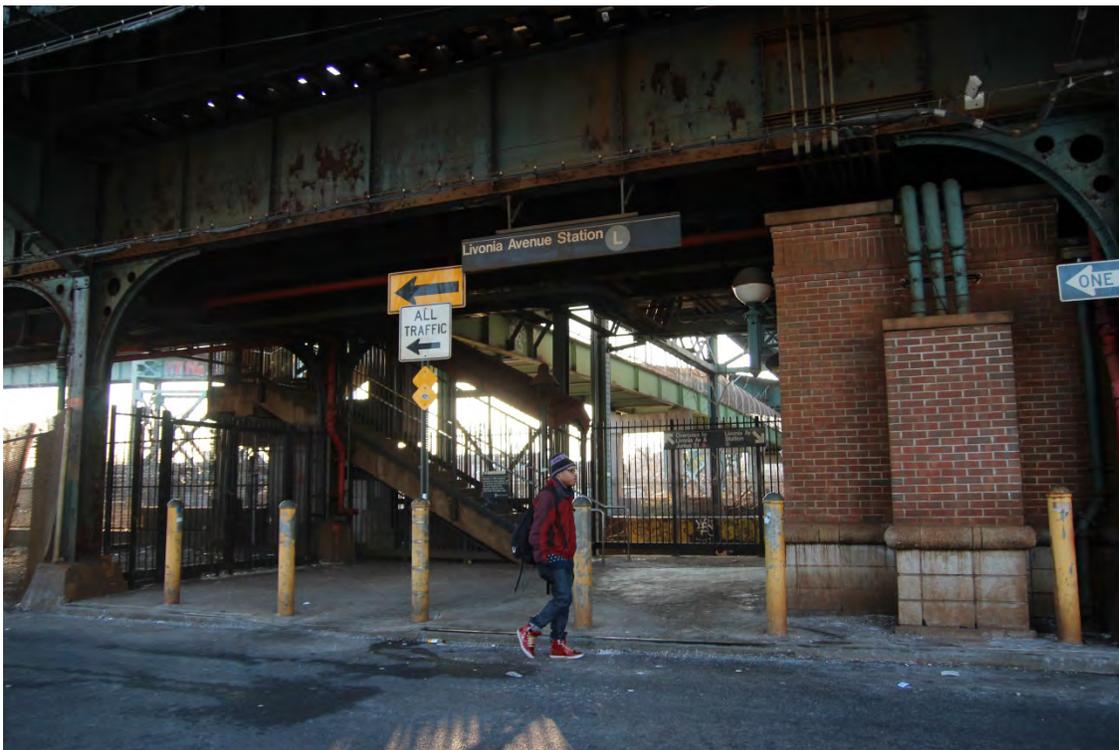


Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only exterior grade materials such as, yarn, fabric, zip ties, etc. that can be easily installed and removed will be approved.
- Consider the necessity of the Bridge Unit to be able to see behind the fence; therefore the proposed design should not completely cover the chain-link fence allowing for visibility across the given site.

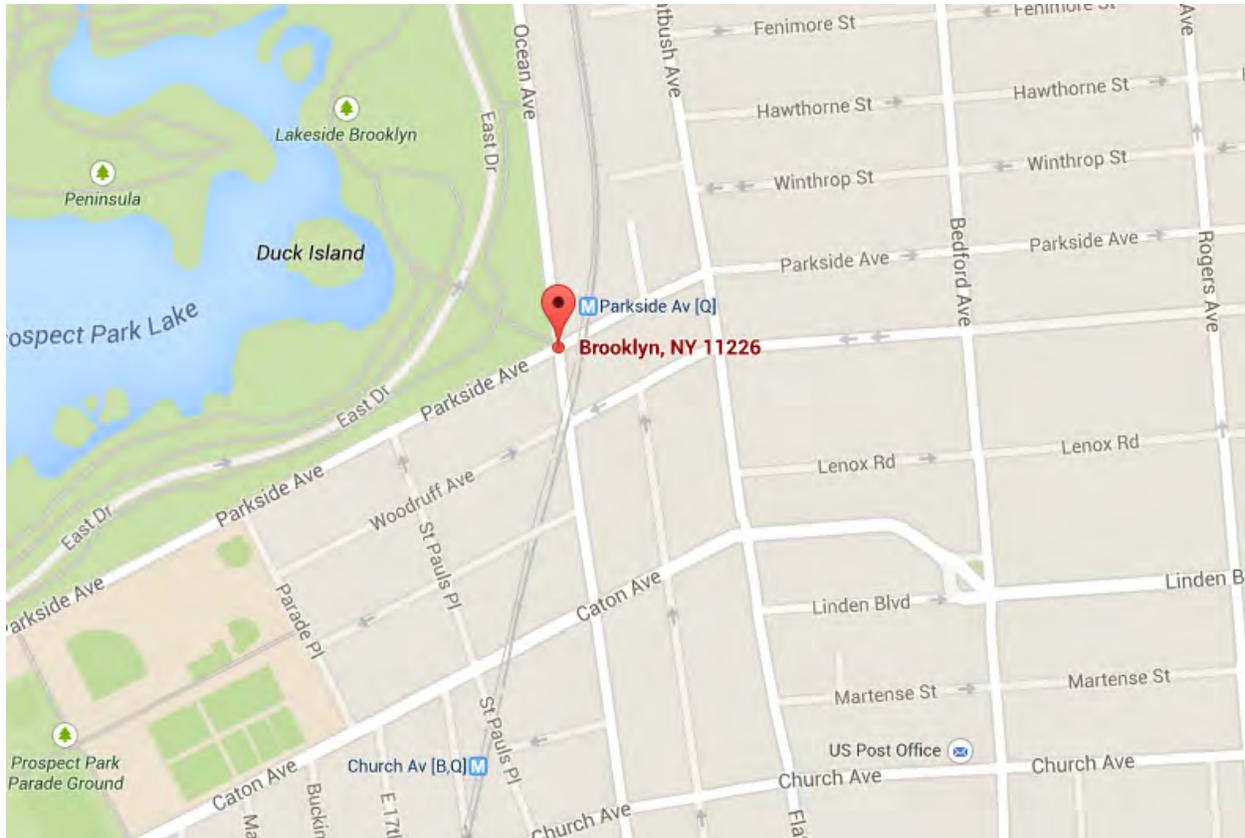
BROOKLYN

Chain-link fence: Livonia Avenue between Van Sinderen Avenue and Junius Street
Site Photos



BROOKLYN

Sidewalk: Ocean Avenue and Parkside Avenue Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only sculptures will be considered for the sidewalk.
- Painting a mural directly onto the sidewalk is not permitted.
- Artwork must be installed at a minimum of 20' from the subway entrance.

BROOKLYN

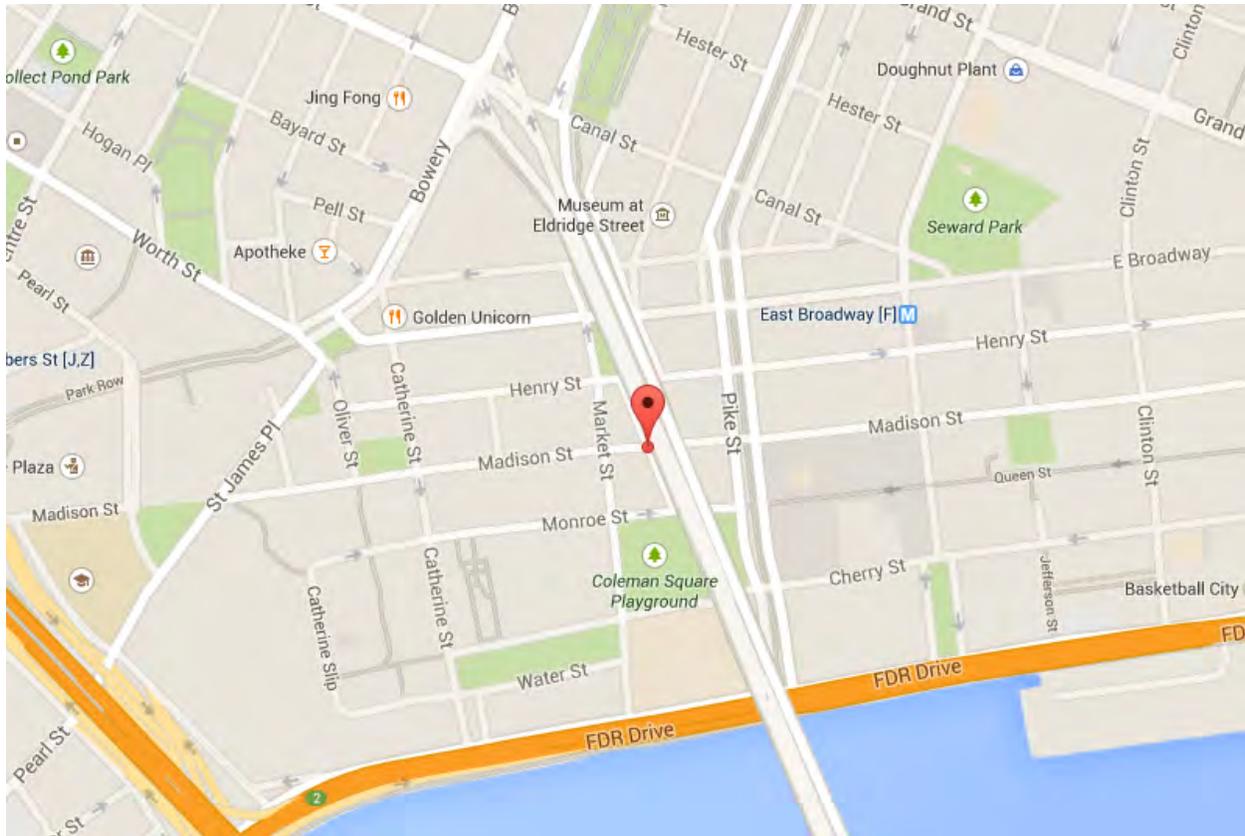
Sidewalk: Ocean Avenue and Parkside Avenue

Site Photos



MANHATTAN

Chain-link fence: Madison Street and Mechanics Alley Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only exterior grade materials such as, yarn, fabric, zip ties, etc. that can be easily installed and removed will be approved.
- Artwork may not be installed on the gate or on top of existing signage.
- Consider the necessity of the Bridge Unit to be able to see behind the fence; therefore the proposed design should not completely cover the chain-link fence allowing for visibility across the given site.

MANHATTAN

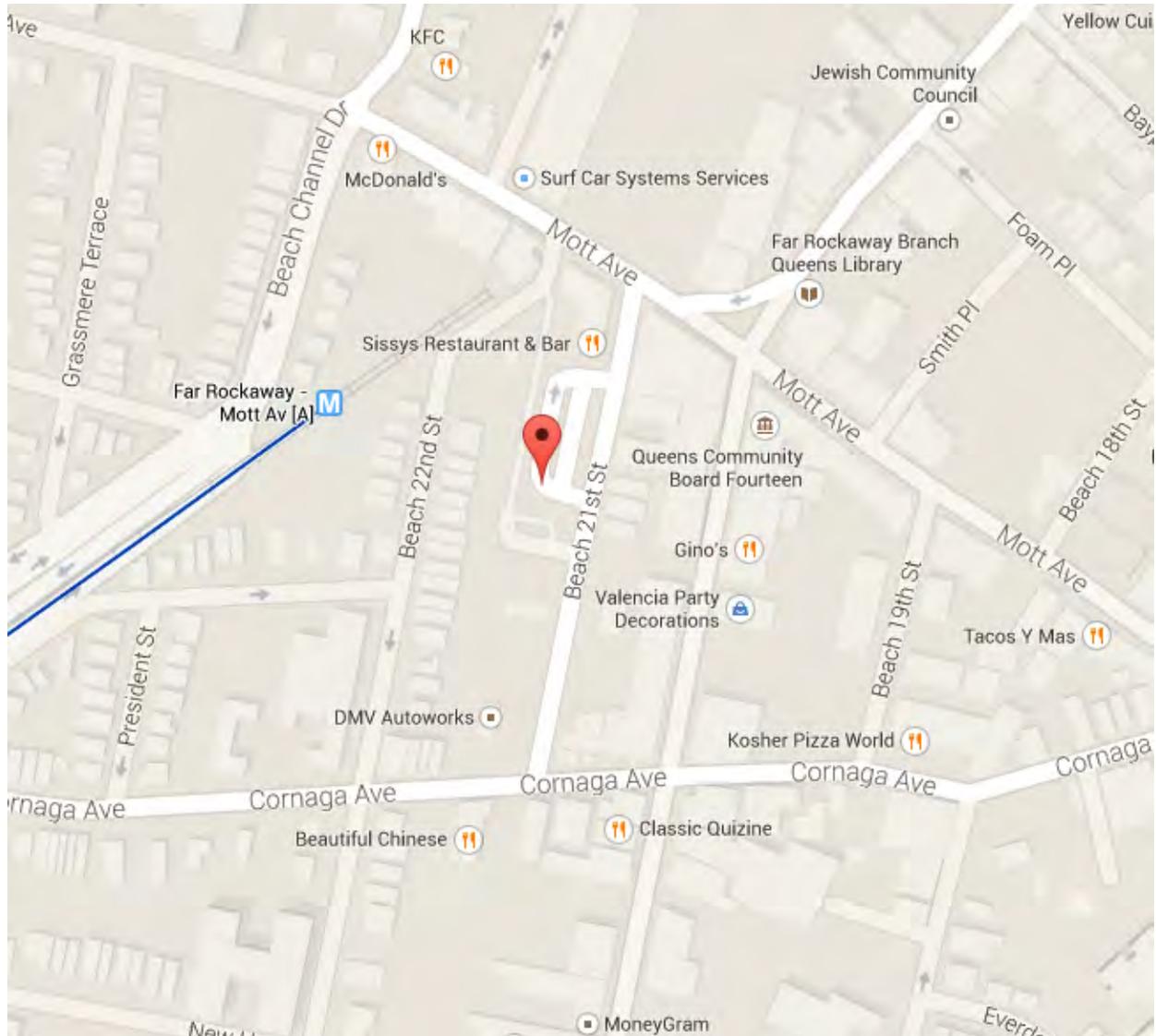
**Chain-link fence: Madison Street and Mechanics Alley
Site Photos**



QUEENS

Sidewalk: Beach 21st Street and Mott Avenue (DOT Municipal Parking Lot)

Site Map



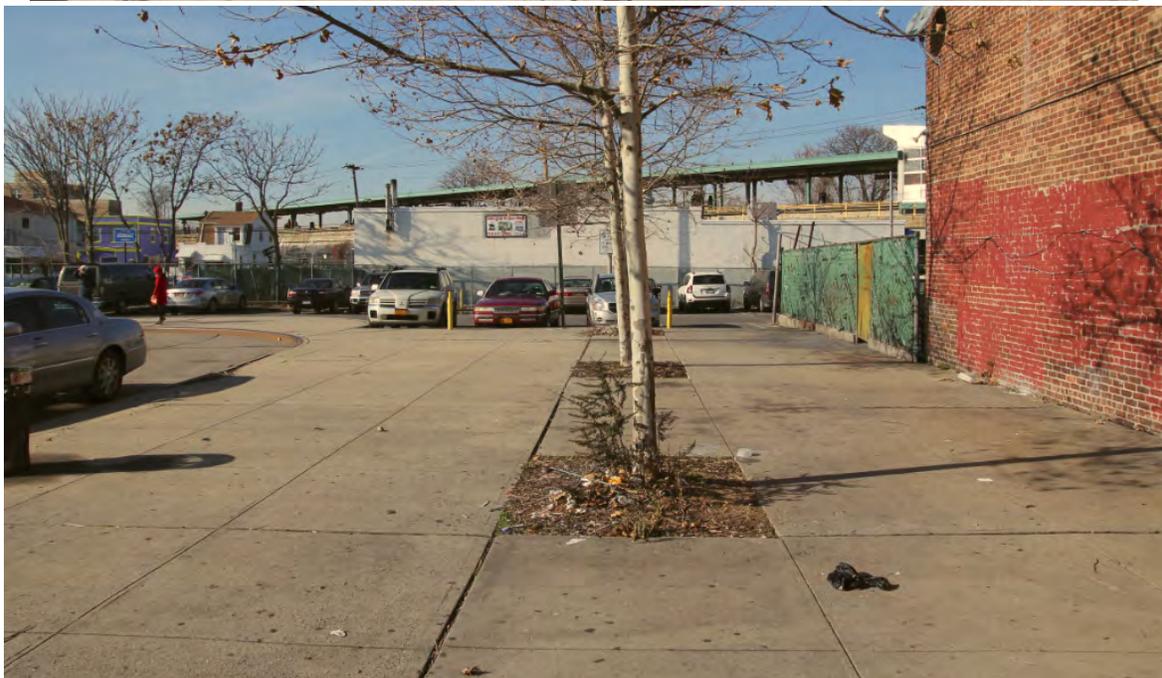
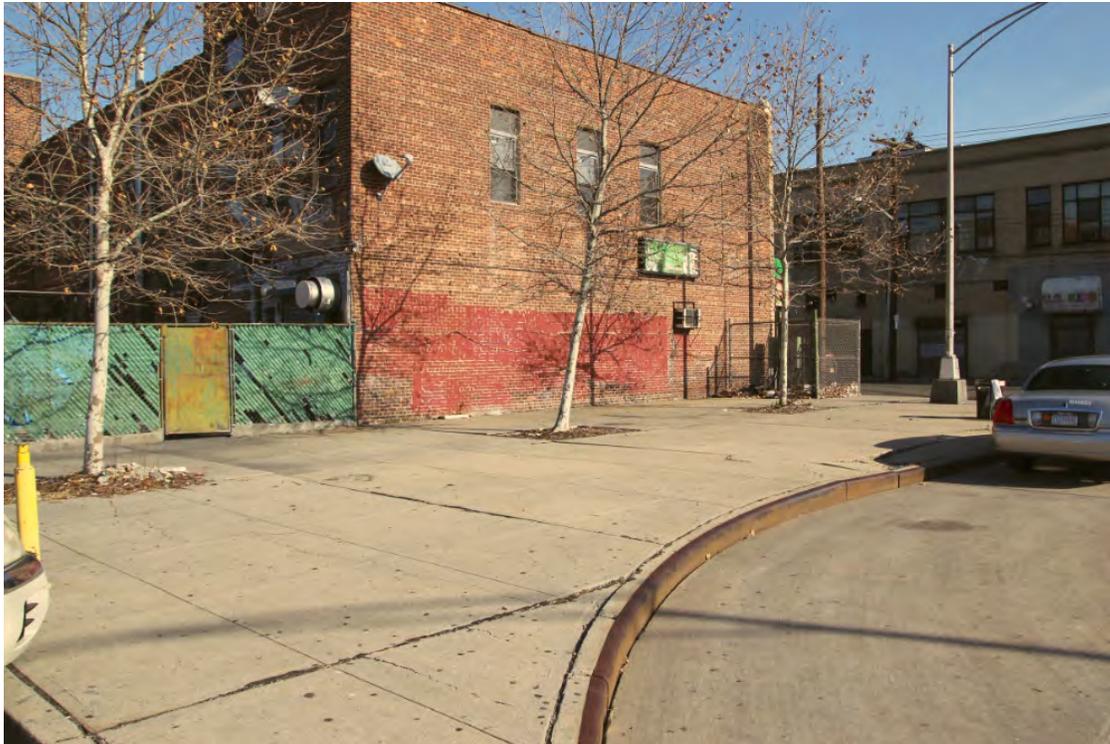
Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only sculptures will be considered for the sidewalk.
- Painting a mural directly onto the sidewalk is not permitted.
- Painting a mural onto the adjacent building wall or fence is not permitted as this property is not owned or maintained by the agency.

QUEENS

Sidewalk: Beach 21st Street and Mott Avenue (DOT Municipal Parking Lot)

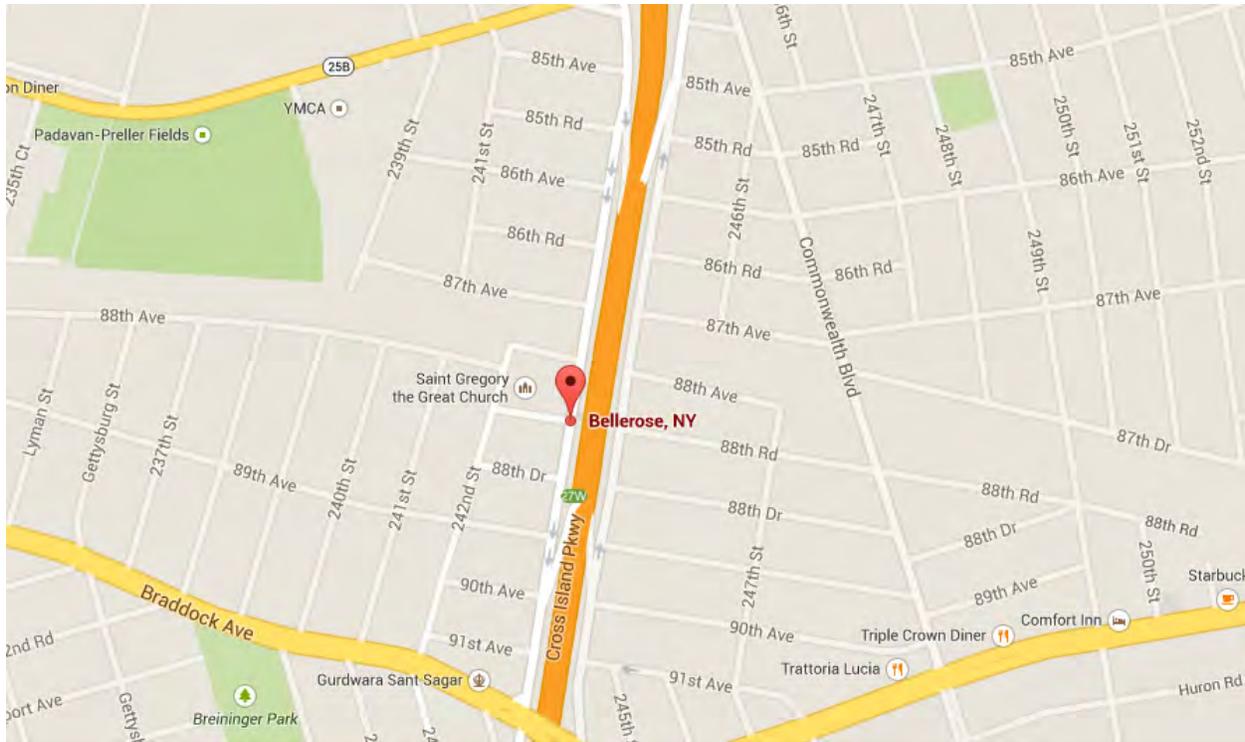
Site Photos



QUEENS

Tunnel: 88th Road and Cross Island Parkway Service Road

Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only murals will be considered for the brick and concrete bridge walls.
- Parachute cloth, vinyl decals and/or other forms of canvas may not be installed onto the walls of the structure.

QUEENS

Tunnel: 88th Road and Cross Island Parkway Service Road

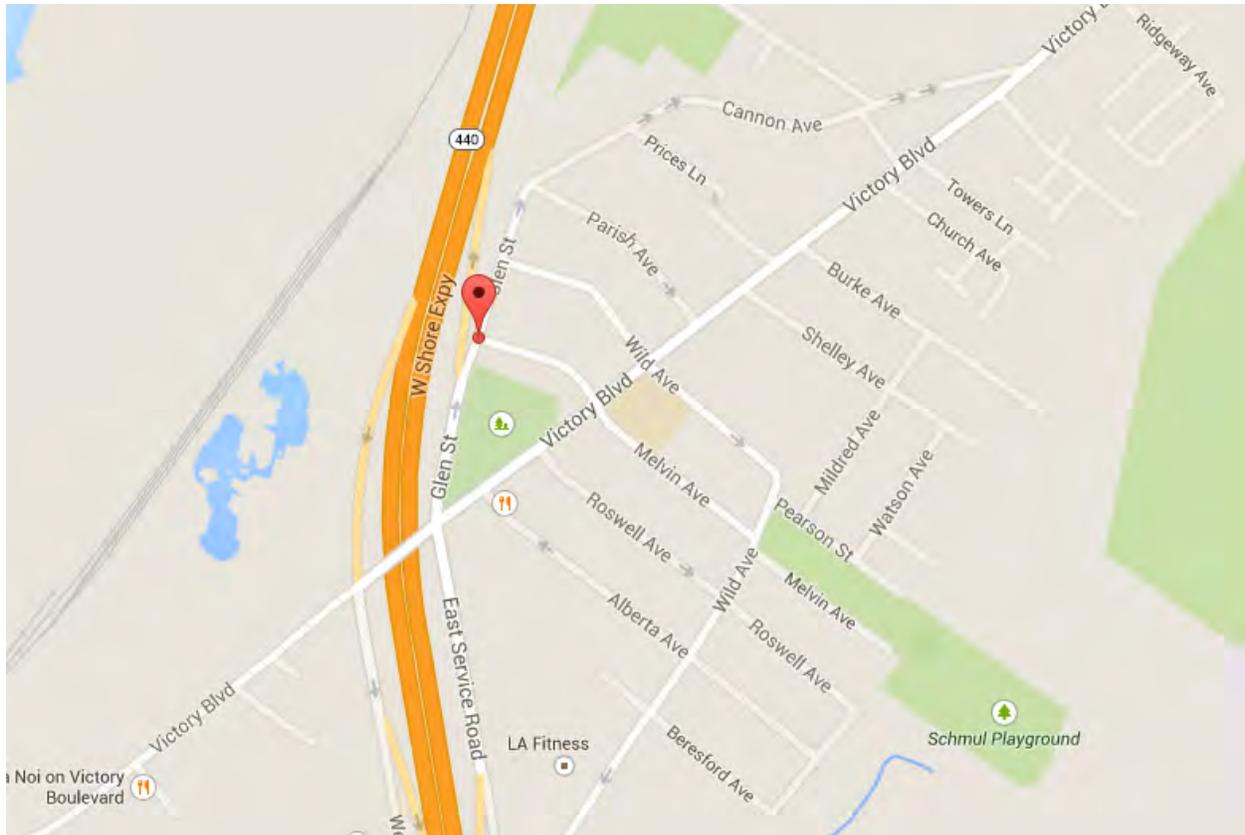
Site Photos



STATEN ISLAND

Chain-link fence: Glen Street and Canon Avenue

Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only exterior grade materials such as, yarn, fabric, zip ties, etc. that can be easily installed and removed will be approved.
- Artwork may not be installed on the gate or on top of existing signage.

STATEN ISLAND

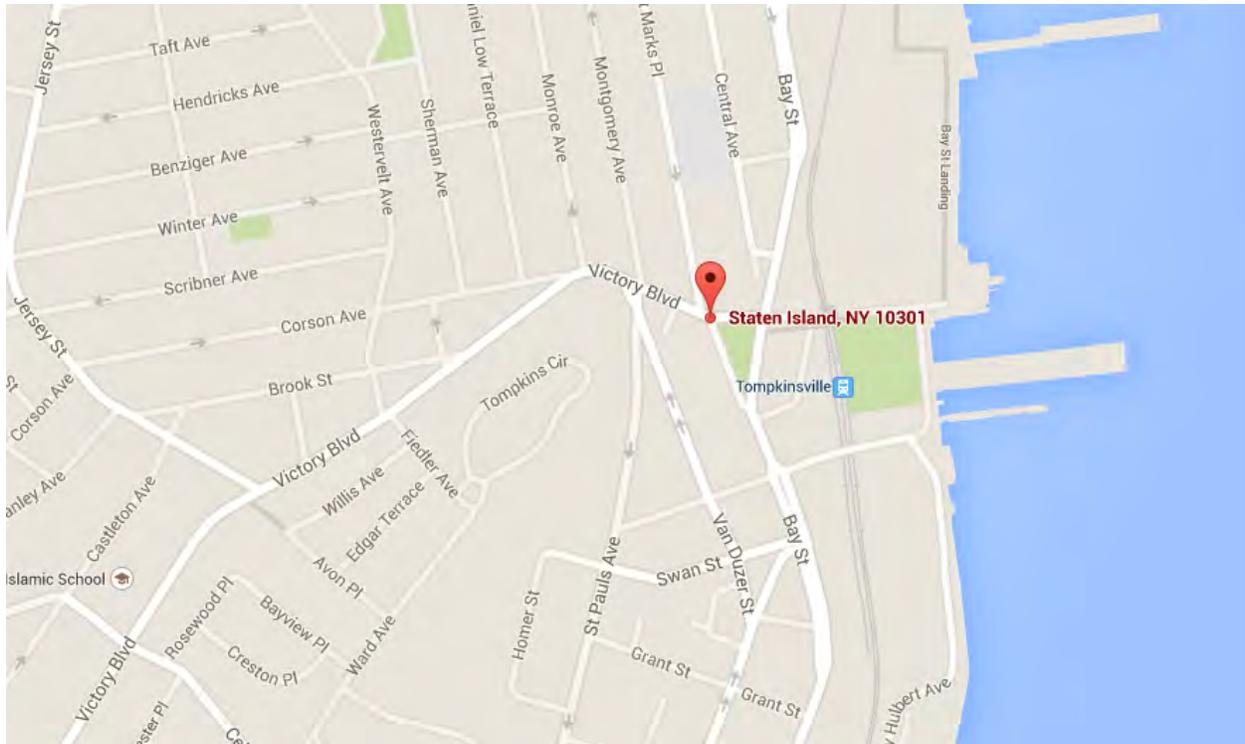
Chain-link fence: Glen Street and Canon Avenue

Site Photos



Staten Island

Chain-link fence: Bay Street and Victory Boulevard Site Map



Restrictions/Considerations:

- Only exterior grade materials such as, yarn, fabric, zip ties, etc. that can be easily installed and removed will be approved.

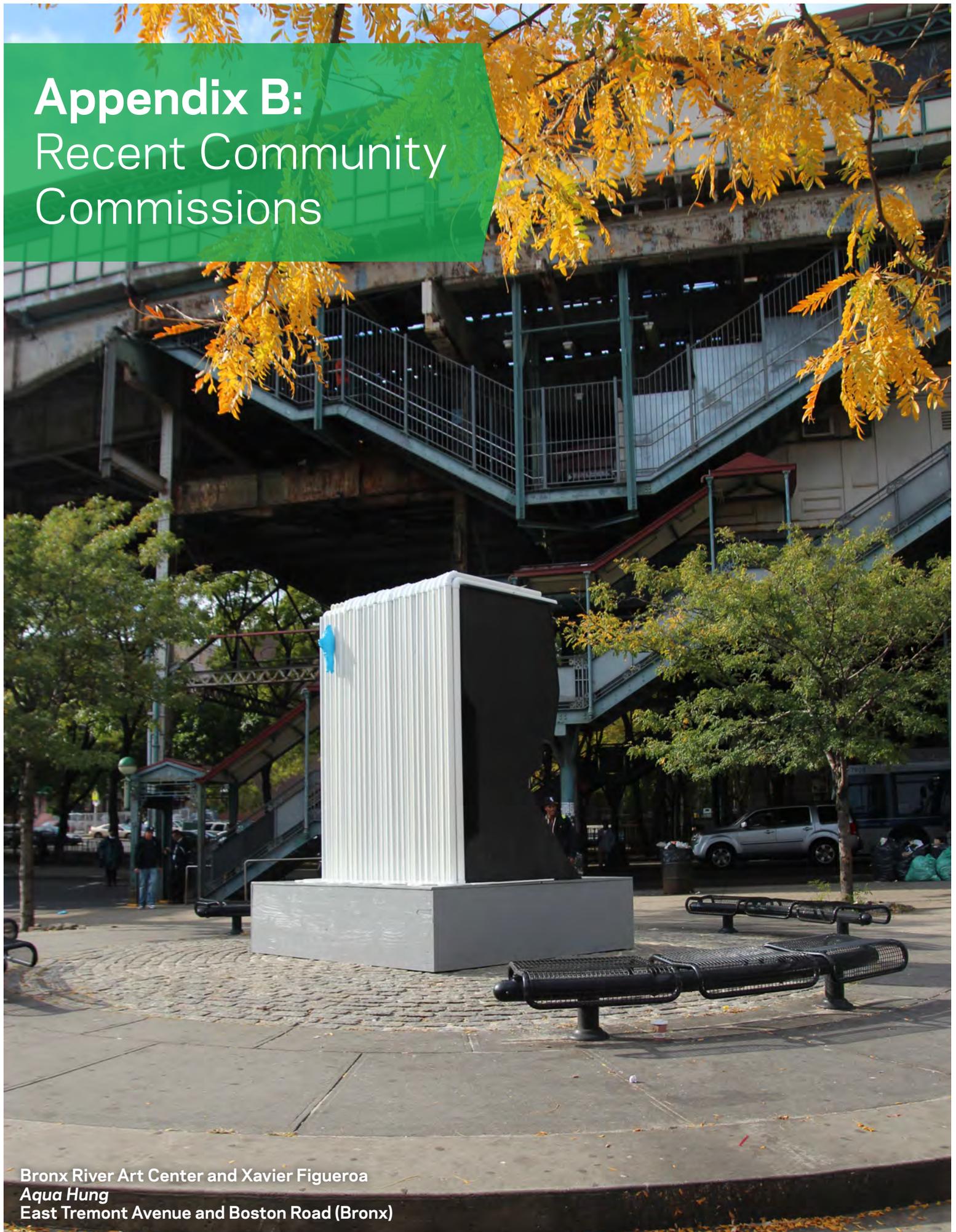
Staten Island

Chain-link fence: Bay Street and Victory Boulevard

Site Photos



Appendix B: Recent Community Commissions

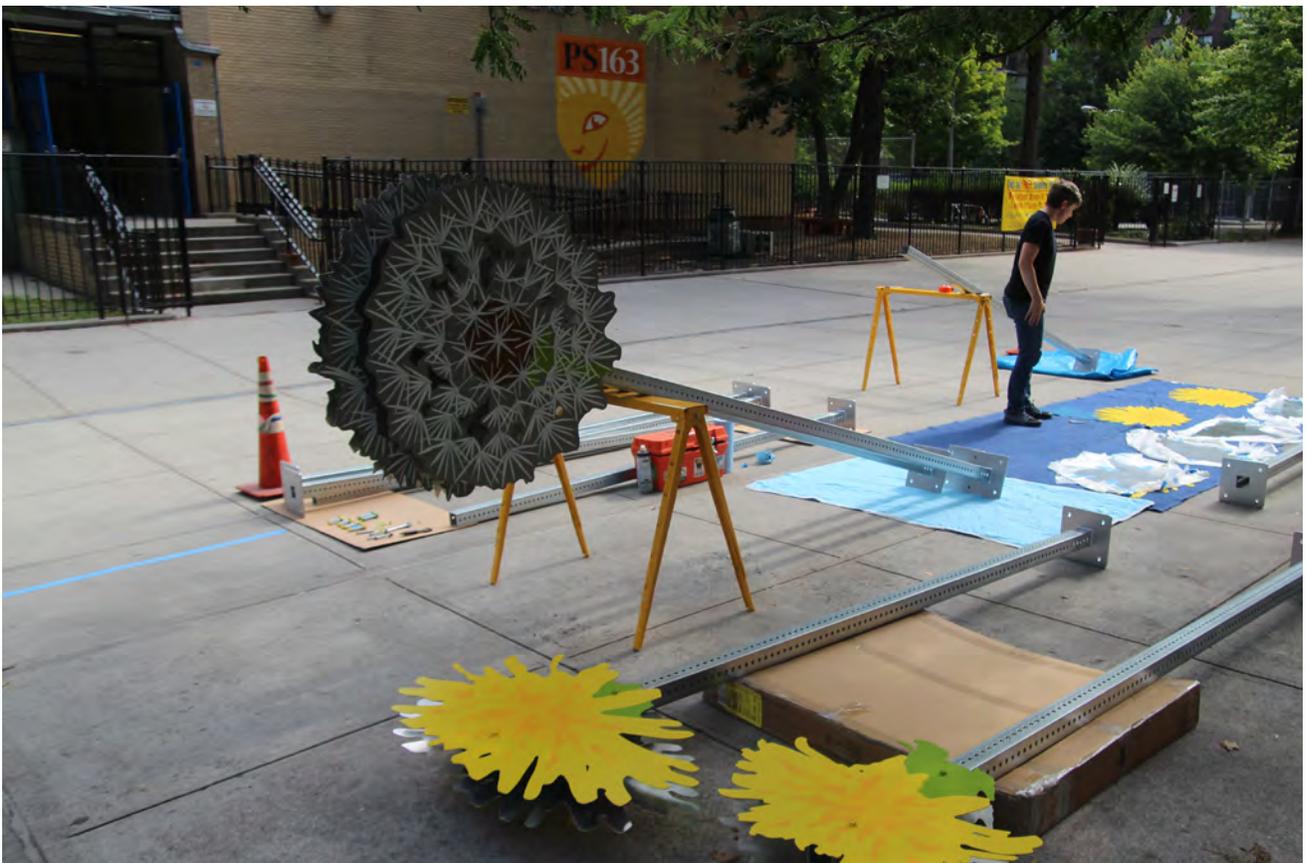


Bronx River Art Center and Xavier Figueroa
Aqua Hung
East Tremont Avenue and Boston Road (Bronx)

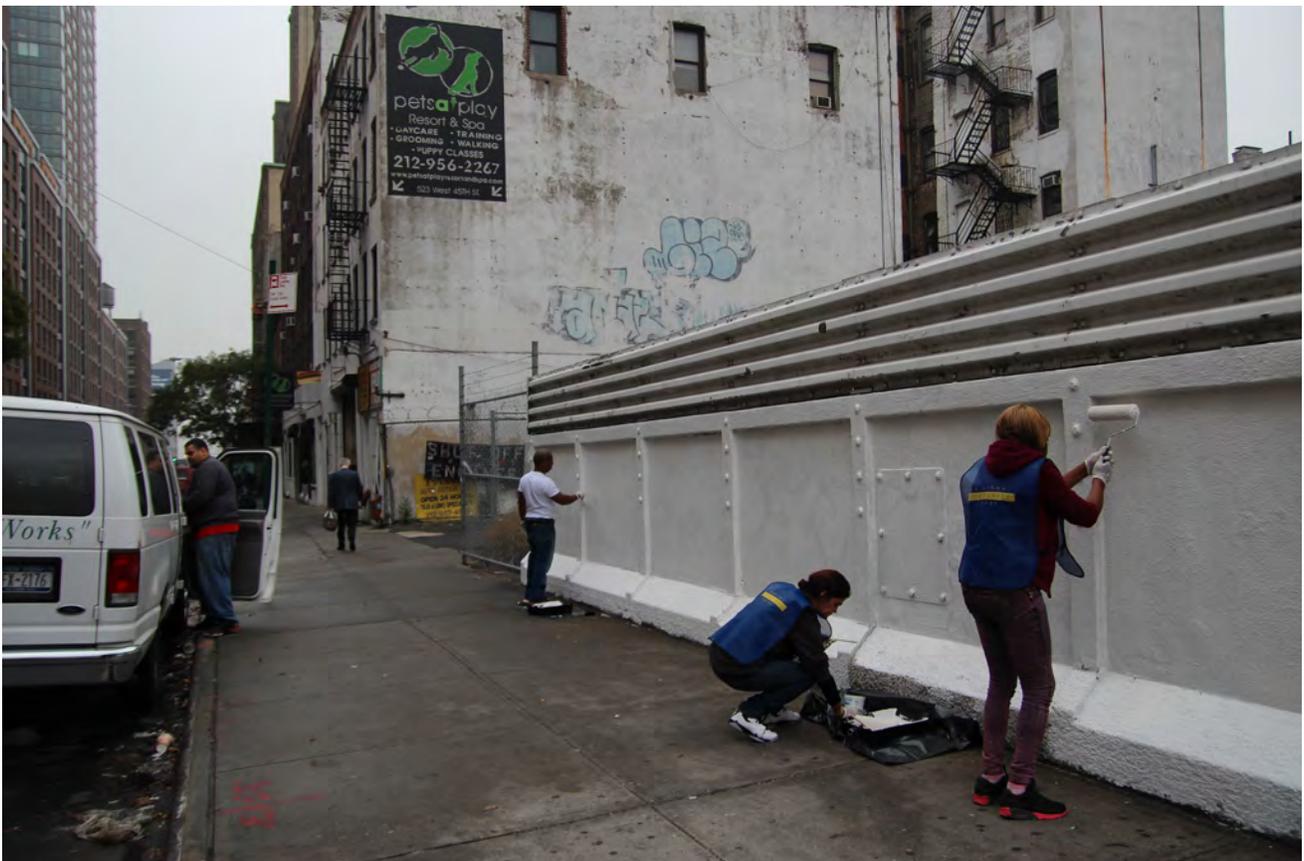
Columbus Amsterdam BID and Carin Mincemoyer

Dandelions

Sidewalk: 97th Street between Columbus and Amsterdam avenues (Manhattan)



International Studio and Curatorial Program and Asae Soya
Ringin Waves
Bridge: 45th Street between 10th and 11th avenues (Manhattan)



Bronx River Art Center and Xavier Figueroa
Aqua Hung
Plaza: East Tremont Avenue and Boston Road (Bronx)



Community Commissions

Application Cover Sheet

GENERAL INFORMATION

Submission Date: _____

Site Selection: _____

Organization Name: _____

Artist Name: _____

Project Title: _____

Artwork Type: Sculpture Mural Lighting Design Intervention Other

Materials: _____

Proposed Installation Date: _____ **Funding Request:** _____

Materials should be submitted as printed hardcopies and included on either a CD-ROM or USB flash drive. Proposals will be reviewed by the Art Advisory Committee. All items must be included as part of the submission package or applications will not be reviewed.

- Community Commissions Application Form;
- No more than 4 project renderings (include: sketches, site plan, and Photoshop renderings);
- No more than 4 photographs of past artwork in jpeg format (resolution of 72 to 150 dpi) and associated image list that includes: title, date of completion, medium, dimensions, location, sale price or commission budget, description of artwork, and list of partners;
- Artist curriculum vitae; and
- Organization support letter.

All application materials should be mailed to:

**Attn: Emily Colasacco, Art Program Director
NYC Department of Transportation, Urban Design and Art
55 Water Street, 9th Fl, NY, NY 10041**

Community Commissions

Application

Organization Name: _____

Executive Director: _____

Contact Name & Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____ **Phone #:** _____

Email: _____ **Website:** _____

Organizational Background Describe your organization's mission and include one strong example of a community-based project.

Site Selection Describe your organization's interest in commissioning an artwork for the selected priority site.

Project Description/Artist Statement Describe the overall concept and approach for the proposed artwork and its consideration for the social, historical, architectural, geographical and/or cultural context of the site.

Community Commissions

Application

Community Involvement Describe your community outreach strategy and include a list of local stakeholders you plan to involve during design, fabrication and/or installation.

Artist Bio Describe the artist's past experience in any significant solo or group exhibitions in the public or private realm.

Project Budget

What is the estimated total project budget? _____

Provide a line item budget (Artist Fee, Materials, Fabrication, Equipment Rental, Transportation, Installation, Maintenance, and Removal):

Community Commissions

Application

How much funding is being requested from NYCDOT? _____

How much funding is already committed for the project? _____

Fabrication/Installation Describe the fabrication and installation methods and include a list of relevant materials, hardware and equipment required to produce and install the artwork.

Maintenance Describe the proposed maintenance plan to monitor and maintain the artwork throughout the display period and include any potential maintenance concerns given the proposed materials.

Project Schedule

Provide a tentative schedule for implementation.

Installation _____

Display Period _____

Removal _____