

# News Release

For Immediate Release: June 7, 2018

## **City of Durham Seeks Proposals for Banner Design Contest**

*Submission Deadline is June 30, 2018*

DURHAM, N.C. – The City of Durham is seeking design proposals for a series of artful banners to adorn the southern facade of the new Downtown Mixed-Use Parking Garage. The new facility, located at the intersections of Mangum Street, Morgan Street and Rigsbee Avenue, is expected to be open to the public in early 2019.

### **About the Art Banner Design Contest**

This public art opportunity is open to all talented and creative people living or working in the Research Triangle area. Applicants are asked to develop and submit a design proposal for eight artful banners to be displayed on the parking garage, currently under construction, in downtown Durham. The City of Durham's Cultural Advisory Board and the Public Art Committee will review all design proposals submitted by the deadline and select up to five finalists. Each finalist will be awarded \$500. The finalists' design proposals will then be displayed on the City of Durham's webpage for a 10- day period, during which the Durham community will be asked to vote on their favorite design. The finalist with the winning design proposal will be awarded an additional \$7,500 honorarium. The winning design proposal will be professionally printed and installed by the City.

All proposals must be in digital format and include a completed cover sheet and digital images of the overall composition and banner detail. The deadline for submissions is June 30, 2018 at 11:59 p.m. MST. Full submission guidelines and project details are available [here](#).

There will be two informal opportunities for interested individuals or teams to ask City staff any questions about the contest on June 19, 2018 from 12:30p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. These open sessions will be held at Parrish Street Forum, located at 108 W. Parrish Street. Interested applicants who are unable to attend either of these sessions may always direct questions in writing to [durhampublicart@gmail.com](mailto:durhampublicart@gmail.com).

### **About the City of Durham General Services Department**

The [General Services Department](#) creates, manages and maintains City properties to provide best value to the Durham community. The core business functions include: Administration/Business Services, Facilities Operations, Landscape Services, Urban Forestry, Real Estate, Project Management, Cemeteries, and Keep Durham Beautiful.

As guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), General Services serves as a steward of the City's physical and environmental assets. Through annual and long-range facility planning activities, the department plans, provides, and maintains the City's facilities infrastructure, which supports the community's quality of life and serves as a foundation of a healthy economy.

### **About the City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development**

Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the [Office of Economic and Workforce Development](#) helps ensure that Durham has a strong and diverse economy by increasing the city's tax base through several revitalization initiatives, including new development efforts in the central city area. The department also plans and promotes cultural awareness and events, identifies and recruits target industries as well as assesses and trains Durham residents to fill new jobs.

### **About the City of Durham Transportation Department**

The [Transportation Department](#) is responsible for a broad range of transportation services, which include traffic signs and signals, transportation planning, parking operations, street lighting, taxicab administration and bicycle and pedestrian planning.

### **About the City of Durham Public Art Committee**

The [Public Art Committee](#) serves as an advisory body to the Durham City Council and the City Manager, and its functions include assisting the City's Office of Economic and Workforce Development on matters relating to public art; implementation of the Public Art Policy; and reviewing proposals for public art projects brought to it by the City administration; and making recommendations to the [Cultural Advisory Board](#) regarding project approvals.

To further help artists connect with opportunities, the City has also launched a [Durham Calls for Artists](#) page on its website, which lists a number of upcoming opportunities for artists in and around Durham. Artists and other stakeholders who would like to be notified of current and future art-related opportunities and news can now sign up for alerts through the [Cultural and Public Art mailing list](#).

For more information about the City's Public Art Program, visit the City's [public art page](#). Artists and residents interested in more information about the Public Art program may also contact Senior Economic Development Coordinator Brian Smith with the City's Office of Economic and Workforce Development at (919) 560-4965, ext. 15205 or by [email](#).