



Introduction

Plymouth Housing and the 2nd and Mercer Mural Committee (consisting of representatives from Path with Art, the Uptown Arts and Cultural Coalition, the Uptown Land Use Review Committee, Seattle Center, neighboring property owners, and community members) invite artists to submit qualifications to develop an art concept to become a mural on the north and east facades of the 2nd and Mercer Housing project at 610 2nd Ave, Seattle, WA.

Scope of Work

Develop a holistic design for an outdoor mural. Urban ArtWorks will be responsible for final painting of the art design through a community painting process in which the artist is encouraged to participate. The final deliverable by the artist is a full design that is adopted by the community, and executable by the installation team.

Project Overview

Plymouth Housing builds and manages permanent supportive housing for individuals who have experienced long-term homelessness. Plymouth is invested in not only serving the individuals who live in our housing, but also being an asset to the community surrounding our buildings. The mural provides an essential opportunity to engage with the neighborhood by creating a welcoming space enlivened by art chosen by a community committee.

This project, like all in Seattle, is located on land that is the traditional home of the Coast Salish people, the traditional home of all tribes and bands within the Duwamish, Suquamish, Tulalip and Muckleshoot nations. The site is at the intersection of 2nd Ave N and Mercer Street, directly across the street from Seattle Center's Mercer performing arts corridor and the Uptown arts and culture district. The new building will have apartments for formerly homeless individuals on the upper floors. The ground floor serves as a bridge between these two contexts by providing a new home for Path with Art, which provides creative expression opportunities to homeless and formerly homeless individuals. Artists are encouraged to consider these contexts in their design, but we do not expect artists to respond to all contexts at once.

The mural will be located on the first story of the north and east elevations of the building, as shown in the site plan and rendering at the end of this document. The mural will reach a maximum height of 15 feet and stretch 120 feet around the building, totaling 1791 square feet. The mural is at the intersection of two small-scale cross-block pedestrian pathways and faces two multi-family apartment buildings. The mural surface is punctuated with doors and landscaping, as seen in the rendering.

The mural will be experienced on a variety of levels. The mural will activate the pedestrian walk along the north and east sides of the building, and pedestrians will largely experience the mural from close proximity, with more limited views will be seen from further back along the pathways, from 2nd Avenue, and across a plaza on Mercer. The mural will therefore contribute to the enjoyment of residents and Path with Art students as they approach and walk around the building and will be viewed on art walks within the Uptown arts and culture district. The mural will also be viewed from within adjacent buildings.

The mural will be installed on 4x4 foot panels. The artist should expect gaps of up to ½" between panels to allow for attachment to the building. The artist should also expect the panels to be flush with one another. The committee will consider, though not guarantee, proposals for other 3-D elements attached to the panels. Designs that break the straight planes at the top and bottom of the mural will also be considered.

Process and Timeline

The process consists of two phases: design selection and mural execution. The Design Selection phase process will utilize both a Call for Artists and a Request for Proposals (RFP). The goal of the Call will be to identify up to three artists from whom the Committee wish to request a conceptual design (the RFP). Artists selected from the Call to complete the conceptual design in the RFP phase will each receive \$1,000.

The three proposals will be discussed by the Committee and shared with the community through an online survey and other methods as necessary, allowing community members to vote for their favorite. A design to develop fully will be selected through this process.

The artist with the selected design will receive \$2,500 to finalize the design and work with Urban ArtWorks and Plymouth Housing to transfer the design into a "paint by numbers" system that can be completed by the community. Urban ArtWorks will transfer the design onto panels and facilitate approximately 8 community painting sessions, where community members can help paint the design. Participants may include: Plymouth Housing residents, residents at neighboring buildings, and Path with Art students. The artist is encouraged to participate in the community painting sessions, and a \$500 total stipend is available for

artists who opt to participate in this process. Finally, the finished panels will be installed on the building.

Distribute Call for Artists	April 2020
Responses Due	June 2020
Select Three Artists to Proceed	June 2020
Distribute RFP	June 2020
Proposals Due	August 2020
Community Online Voting Process Begins	September 2020
Design Selected	October 2020
Execution Process	October 2020-April 2021
Installation	May 2021

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

We are seeking a person or team who meet the following qualifications:

- Demonstrated experience with public art
- Aesthetic excellence in the design of completed projects
- Ability to respond to the particular geographic and programmatic context of this site and the new building
- Consider the physical constraints of the site
- Interest in working with the community during community painting sessions
- Ability to work with an existing steering committee comprised of community stakeholders
- The selection committee will also consider diversity and connection with the context of the site as discussed above

How to Apply

This is a Call for Artists. No specific proposals for artwork will be accepted at this time. Applications must include all of the following for consideration:

- Artist's statement of interest, considering the context of the site and project to state artist's background, their interest in this project, and preliminary design ideas (1 page)
- Digital materials of previous artworks, as a pdf attachment via e-mail or provide link to website or portfolio (3-5 images with a max size of 2MB 72dpi)
- Resume(s) of artist(s)
- Three professional references

Plymouth values diverse perspectives and life experiences. Plymouth encourages people of all backgrounds to apply, including people of color, immigrants, refugees, women, LGBTQ individuals, people with disabilities, veterans and those with diverse life experiences.

Please submit responses by: **June 3, 2020**

Email Qualifications to: krandall@plymouthhousing.org

Subject: 2nd and Mercer Mural Call for Artists

Mail Qualifications to:

Plymouth Housing
Attn: Katie Randall
2113 3rd Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121

Notification of Results

Applicants will be notified of the panel's decision by e-mail in June 2020. Plymouth Housing reserves the right not to select any of the applicants.

Project Contact

Please contact Katie Randall, mural project manager, at krandall@plymouthhousing.org, or (206) 374-9409 ext. 161 with any questions concerning the application process.

IMAGES: BLOCK CONTEXT



Image 1: Full-block context. The 2nd and Mercer Mural location is indicated in pink.

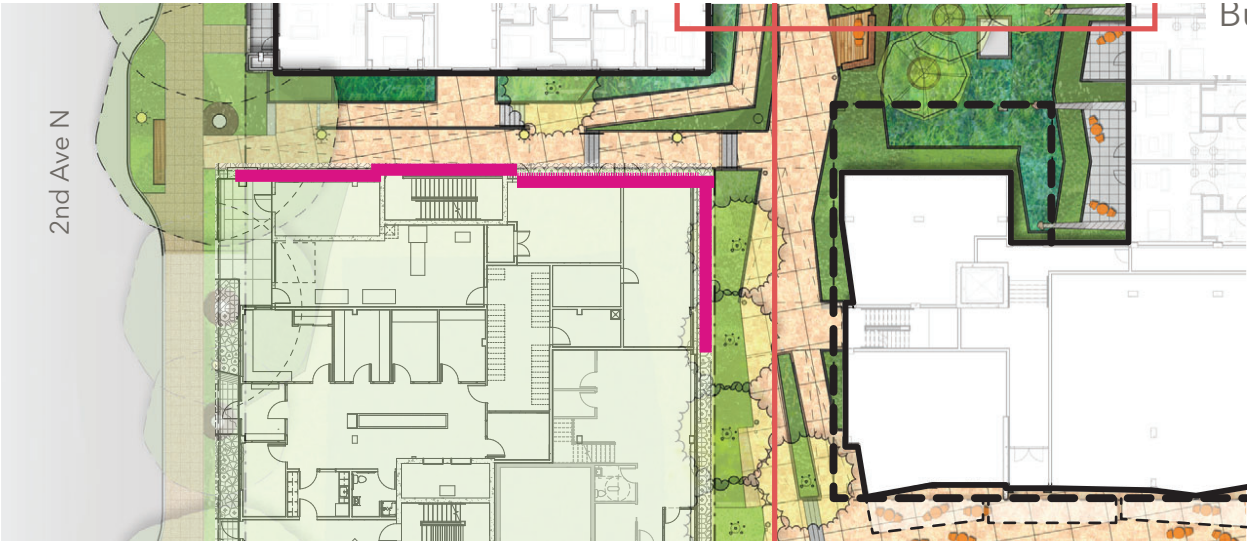


Image 2: Mural in the immediate context of pedestrian pathways.

IMAGES: MURAL LOCATION

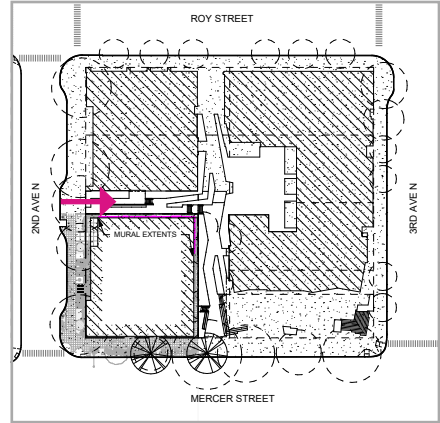
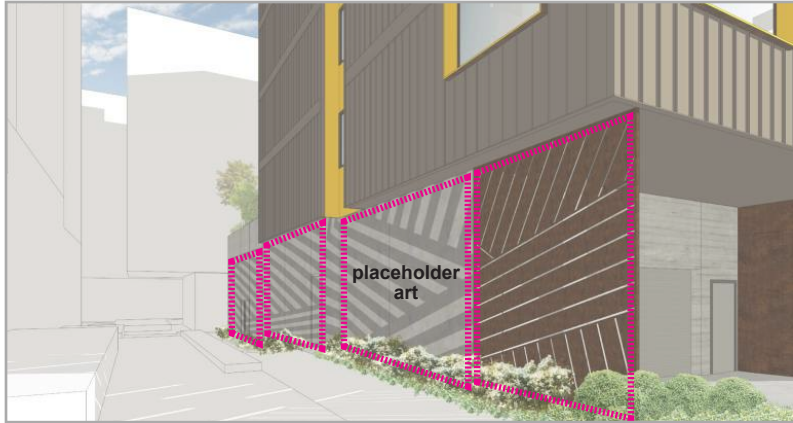


Image 3: Mural location as seen looking down pedestrian pathway from 2nd Ave.

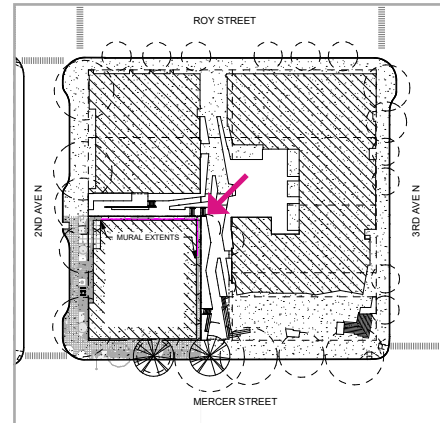


Image 4: Mural location as seen from the intersection of pedestrian cross-block pathways, looking at the 2nd and Mercer building.

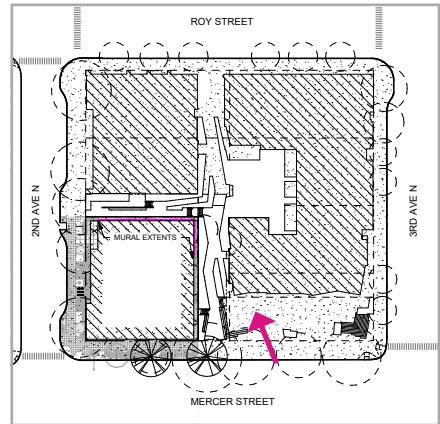


Image 5: Mural location as seen from Center Steps plaza on Mercer Street.

IMAGES: SURROUNDING BUILDINGS AND USES



Image 6:
Plymouth Housing's
building at 2nd and
Mercer, housing
formerly-homeless
individuals.

Image 7:
The 2nd and Mercer building will
house new spaces for Path with
Art, including classrooms and a
gallery space.

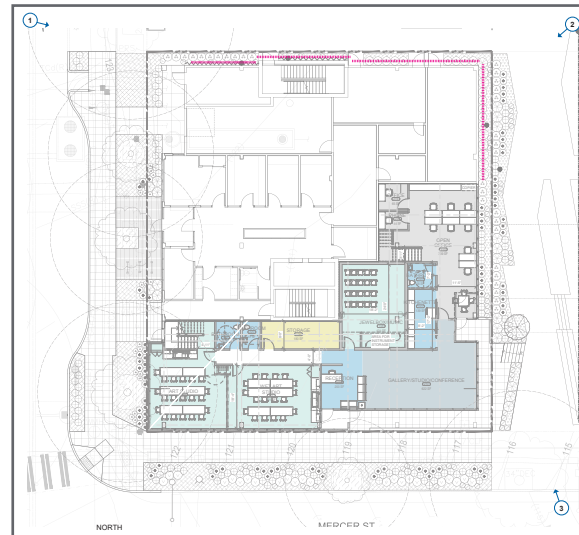


Image 8:
The Center Steps
multifamily housing
buildings will face the
mural (2nd and Mercer
is located where the
lawn is shown).



35'-0"

33'-0"

47'-0"

42'-0"

15'-6"

14'-0"

510 SF

560 SF

575 SF

