

# **TOWN of GREENBURGH**

## Community Development & Conservation

**Paul Feiner** Supervisor Garrett Duquesne, AICP

Commissioner

Aaron Schmidt

Deputy Commissioner

February 15, 2022

#### Re: Request for Interest (RFI) – Manhattan Avenue Wall Mural

The Town of Greenburgh (Westchester County), through the Office of the Department of Community Development and Conservation, seeks letters of interest from artists with demonstrated exceptional experience in mural development, and particularly artists with an ability to authentically depict African American images through realistic renderings. The selected artist will work directly with the Town of Greenburgh through a subcommittee of the Town's Black Lives Matter Committee, an existing Mural Committee, that has planned and envisioned the exhibit as described below. The Town seeks an artist to bring the Town's and Mural Committee's vision to fruition.

The Manhattan Avenue Wall Mural (MAWM) will be a permanent, 2,500 square foot, museum quality, exhibit-in-the-street that is part of a larger project that will pay homage to the Black experience in America since 1619. It will celebrate African Americans' tenacity and accomplishments while addressing the ongoing killing of African Americans by police. It also will include a memorial beneath the mural consisting of more than 600 rocks imprinted by school children with the names of unarmed African Americans who have lost their lives from police brutality.



Existing
underpass
facade; note
mural will
encompass
this area and
comparable
facade across
Manhattan
Avenue

Appropriate lighting will transform a dark underpass where young and old travel on foot and by automobile each day to and from various destinations in and around Greenburgh. The project will also include landscaping, security cameras and direct wi-fi access to a website where viewers can learn more about the history behind various time periods, people and events illustrated in the mural.

The red, black, and green rocks below the mural area represent the Pan African Flag which was created in 1920 to give Black people in America, and the world over, a symbol that ties together all Africans dispersed around the globe.

### Services Requested:

From a mural development perspective, the Town of Greenburgh will supply all infrastructure for the project: Permits/Approvals, artist platform structure, lighting, paint, etc., to allow the Artist to focus on the visual exhibit, design paneling, artistic development. The selected Artist will have the support of approximately 5-10 local artists paid through a separate stipend, coordinated through the Town and Mural Committee, with the selected Artist's input.

#### Letters of Interest should include:

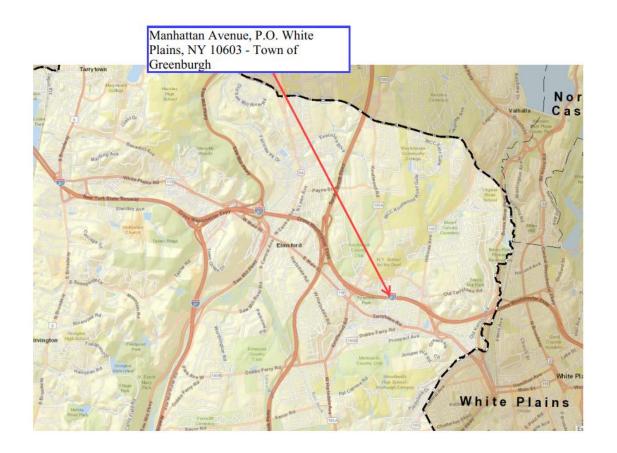
- Resume
- Prior experience with Mural development (location, size, timeframes, etc.), and if applicable, experience with respect to authentic depictions of African American images through realistic renderings;
- Comment on availability to accommodate a preference for August 2022 Completion;
- Confirmation of availability to meet with Town staff via Zoom for interviews/subsequent coordination;
- Ability to deliver a finished world class mural within a \$25,000 Artist allocation.
- References

Interested Artists should send a letter of interest by email to Garrett Duquesne at <u>planning@greenburghny.com</u> no later than March 15, 2022. Please direct questions to Garrett via email planning@greenburghny.com or phone (914) 989-1532

Thank you for your interest in the Town of Greenburgh.

Sincerely,

Garrett Duquesne, AICP



Manhattan Avenue Mural Sketch Plan - Prepared by Madison Hood (Town of Greenburgh Resident)

