

## **Expression of Interest**

# Ruffey Lake Park Public Art Commission 2023



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#### 1 Project Overview

Artists (individuals and teams) are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to create a new, site-specific permanent artwork that will be a prominent and integral part of Ruffey Lake Park.

This project is commissioned by Manningham Council and will be accessioned into the Manningham Art Collection upon completion.

It is intended that the permanent public sculpture in Ruffey Lake Park will build a sense of community pride and ownership. It will also build upon the function of the park as a space for relaxation, social interaction, passive recreation, and play.

#### 1.1 About Ruffey Lake Park

Ruffey Lake Park is situated on the Traditional lands of the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people.

It spans 66 hectares of public open space in Doncaster containing a number of features including Ruffey Creek, Ruffey Lake, Bonview Wetlands and over 6km of walking paths.

The unique qualities of the site include the undulating hills, orchard remnants and Monterey Pine wind breaks, open mown pasture, and several indigenous woodland communities.

#### 1.2 Ruffey Lake Park Masterplan

The Ruffey Lake Park Masterplan was endorsed by Council in 2021. The Masterplan aims to make the park more accessible while preserving its diverse natural environment and historic qualities for years to come, giving the park a clear direction for its future design, development and management over the next 15 years. In accordance with the masterplan's recommendations for Recreation and park infrastructure, multiple sites for public art works have been identified.

Learn more about Ruffey Lake Park in the Ruffey Lake Park Masterplan Report. https://yoursay.manningham.vic.gov.au/ruffey-lake-park

#### 1.3 Public Art Manningham

Manningham recognises the positive impact the arts make to our health and wellbeing, together with the local economy. Manningham actively commissions permanent and temporary contemporary public artworks of excellence, across the spectrum of public art practice and according to the following priority areas:

- Respect the culture of traditional land-owners, Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung.
- Reflect local identity.
- Are site specific and enhance public places.
- Connect with community by stimulating reflection and imagination.
- Contribute to contemporary art practice as an excellent example



#### 1.4 Project Scope

The commission includes the conceptual development, design, structural engineering and fabrication of all components of the major permanent installation.

The work will be site specific and respond to the natural environment of the park. Proposals that reflect the environmental character of the Manningham region, including local flora and fauna, and the histories of the region are encouraged.

Bespoke features of the sculpture that integrate with or across the broader design of the park are also encouraged as are Interactive elements such as kinetic features and/or forms that allow play and discovery.

The proposed location, size and feel of the work must work in harmony with additional infrastructure being constructed at Boulevard Hill. These new elements include a ninja warrior course, new BBQ and picnic area and new multiuse deck and shelter space for uses like yoga and meditation.

Artwork proposals should consider materials and processes that are high quality, sustainable, durable and underpinned by Ecologically Sustainable Design.

Artists whose work in any way engages Indigenous histories, themes, ideas or design elements will be required to consult with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and/or other appropriate community representatives throughout the commission, at no additional cost to Council.

The commission will be undertaken in consultation with relevant Council officers, including representatives of Arts and Culture and Assets and Environment team. The commissioned artist must have the capacity and ability to collaborate effectively with the project manager and stakeholders.

#### 1.5 Specifications

The sculpture is intended to have a lifespan of 20 years. It may consist of any material suited to permanent outdoor installation and exposure to weather, and that will require minimal maintenance and/or have sustainable running costs (for example, with regard lighting or new media elements) across its lifespan.

#### 1.6 Location, Visibility and Accessibility

It is intended that the sculpture will be a prominent feature of the park and function to attract visitors.

The work should be located or viewable from the Boulevard Hill Precinct and its incorporated walking trails.

The Boulevarde Hill Precinct is a large open area in the western section of the park with a central high point. This vantage point overlooks Ruffey Lake and King Hill and provides panoramic views to the east and to the Dandenong Ranges.



#### 1.7 Budget

The total commission budget is \$130,000 (exclusive of GST).

This fee is to cover all costs associated with the project from community consultation, research, final design approval through to delivery including all applicable costs relating to material, labour, fabrication, artist's fee, project management, installation, certified engineering drawings and insurance.

Council will fund the site preparation (including footings) in addition to the commission fee.

#### 1.8 Timelines

Milestones	Approximate dates
Expression of Interest Closes	Sunday 5 February 2023
Shortlisted artists invited to develop concept proposal	Week commencing 6 February 2023
Contract Awarded	Friday 10 March 2023
Fabrication and install methodology confirmed, engineering and risk and safety paperwork signed off.	Friday 23 June 2023
Fabrication	June-August
Installation	September-November

#### 1.9 Safety and Insurance

Applicants will be required to have public liability insurance to the value of \$20 million and provide a risk assessment for all planned activity. If there is any associated community engagement which involves children and families, the artist will be required to hold a current Working with Children Check.



#### 2 Selection Process

#### 2.1 Expression of Interest

Expressions of interest must be submitted online: Ruffey Lake Park Public Art Commission

Applicants will be requested to submit their CV, examples of previous work and a short response to this Brief. Concept designs are not required for Expressions of Interest.

Expressions of Interest will be measured by the artistic merit of submitted portfolios and the demonstrated knowledge and skills to deliver the project.

#### 2.2 Shortlisted artists

A maximum of three applicants will be shortlisted and invited to respond to the formal request for quotation for the commission.

Shortlisted artists will be required to submit a detailed budget, design concept, timelines and project Risk Assessment for which they will be paid an artist fee of \$2,200 (incl GST) each. Shortlisted applicants will be required to provide a Certificate of Currency to evidence their public liability insurance to the value of \$20 million.

Quotations will be assessed by an evaluation panel comprising Council officers and industry representatives. who will make recommendations for Council's final endorsement.

Shortlisted applicants will be required to submit their formal proposal TenderSearch and address the below criteria.

#### 2.3 Assessment Criteria

- 1. Reflects the principles of the Manningham Public Art Policy and Ruffey Lake Masterplan.
- 2. Strength of site specificity and integration with broader surrounding elements, with details as to the specific installation location, number of pieces and the orientation of each.
- 3. Appropriate design and materials as a permanent installation conducive to a 20-year lifetime, accompanied by a maintenance plan.
- 4. Previous experience in the successful design and delivery of a major public artwork and capacity to deliver key milestones on time and in budget



5. Clearly identified engineering requirements, site-preparation requirements (including lighting plan and planting requirements), delivery and installation requirements?

#### 2.4 Contract Awarded

A contract will be awarded to one successful applicant and the commissioning process will commence, in consultation with relevant Council staff, contractors and stakeholders. The successful artist will be commissioned under the terms and conditions of the Commission Agreement of Public Visual Artwork as provided by the Arts Law Centre of Australia.



### **Appendix A:** Site images- Boulevard Hill Precinct





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