



**Imagine West Park: Public Art Initiative**  
**Request for Qualifications: Upgrading the Ordinary – Utility Box Wraps**  
**Submissions Deadline: November 30, 2023**

[Imagine West Park Program Overview](#)

Imagine West Park is West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development's inaugural public art program, but it is even more than that. It is a program that seeks to further placemaking and community engagement efforts that acknowledge the varied experiences of all West Parkers. Imagine West Park is made up of three different art initiatives, two painted murals, ten utility box wraps, and a ten-week youth arts program. Find more information on these different initiatives [here](#).

[Upgrading the Ordinary Project Overview](#)

West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development (WPKND) is seeking proposals for a project that will consist of wrapping ten utility boxes located at various locations in the West Park neighborhood. Up to fifteen artists will be selected. During the community engagement process for this program, West Park residents identified community, green space, and local businesses as the things that make West Park a unique place to live. 34% of respondents identified Rocky River Reservation as their favorite place in the neighborhood, and 44% cited friendly neighbors and a strong community as the main factor that makes West Park special. Applicants should address their relationships with these themes and how/if their past work has incorporated these themes. Selected artists will be paid a stipend of \$200 to develop a unique design concept.

[About West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development](#)

WPKND is the nonprofit, community development corporation serving Ward 17 in Cleveland's West Park Neighborhood. Together with the community, WPKND envisions West Park Kamm's as a vibrant, livable, and multi-generational neighborhood, known for its welcoming people, thriving businesses, and connection to the environment. Our mission is to cultivate a neighborhood where the diverse needs of its people are met through community-building, stewardship, and development initiatives. WPKND is able to complete this series of projects thanks to the generous support of the Mandel Foundation's CDC Leadership Program.

[About the West Park Neighborhood](#)

West Park Kamm's is the western side of the larger far-west side area of West Park in the City of Cleveland. It is bordered by Lakewood on the north, Rocky River Reservation on the west, Cleveland Hopkins International Airport on the south, and the RTA Redline to the east. Home to more than 23,000 residents and over 200 businesses, West Park Kamm's is known for its neighborhood feel, friendly community of neighbors, and well-kept housing stock. West Parkers highly value the walkability of



their neighborhood, frequenting local stores and restaurants, as well as utilizing all of the neighborhood parks and greenspaces, including but not limited to the neighboring Rocky River Reservation. While historically known as an Irish Catholic neighborhood, West Park Kamm's continues to be a place for the City's newcomers, welcoming immigrants from around the world who are establishing businesses and putting down roots in the community.

### Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development is committed to seeking artists who represent and celebrate all of those who call West Park home.

### Project Logistics

Selected artists are called on to create images that embody the spirit of the neighborhood and/or the character of the residents. The goal of the Imagine West Park program is to further placemaking and community engagement efforts within West Park as well as ensure that the varied experiences and identities of West Parkers are represented and celebrated. Within each piece of artwork, artists will be required to apply one of the main themes identified in the community engagement processes that are currently taking place. The themes identified so far include love for neighbors, strong community ties, a deep appreciation for parks and green spaces, an affection for the local business community, and a love for the walkability of the neighborhood. Showcasing the diverse backgrounds and experiences of the community will be prioritized in the final image selection.

### Project Eligibility

This call is open to artists 16 years of age or older at any experience level. Artists can work in any medium, however, selected non-digital artists will need to convert their art into a digital format for production. We strongly encourage submissions from artists residing in the West Park neighborhood and the City of Cleveland.

### Application Requirement and Submission

Artists should submit their application materials (see below) to [molly@westparkkamms.org](mailto:molly@westparkkamms.org) by November 30, 2023.

### Application Materials

All applications should include the following:

- Name of Artist / Artist Team with contact information (email, phone, and mailing address)
- Website and Social Media Handles (if they have them)
- Artist / Artist Team Biography
- Artist Statement of Interest (1 page maximum, double-spaced)
- A single (1) PDF document containing images of past work



- Optional: Professional References from past projects

Within the PDF document, please include up to 5 images of previous work alongside a corresponding, numbered, annotated image list with title, media, dimensions, brief description, and date of work

**PLEASE NOTE: Design proposals will not be accepted at this point in the process.**

#### Selection Process

Up to 15 artists will be selected from this call as a pool of eligible artists/teams. Selected artists/teams will be paid a \$200 stipend to develop an image appropriate for a utility box wrap. An additional stipend of \$200 will be paid to the final 10 artists whose designs are selected for installation. Final selected artists may be required to complete small edits to ensure the image converts to wrap properly. Information will be sent to the selected artists/teams with details of the proposal process and contracts. **Design proposals will only be considered after the selection of artists/teams.**

#### Project Timeline

- October 16, 2023: RFQ released
- November 30, 2023: Responses due by midnight
- Late December 2023: Artists Selected
- January 2024: Selected Artists Meet with WPKND to Begin Design Process
- Early April 2024: Site-specific designs due
- Spring 2024: City review processes
- Summer 2024: Installation

#### Project Contact

If you need assistance developing your proposal, please reach out to [molly@westparkkamms.org](mailto:molly@westparkkamms.org).