Community Foundation

of St. Clair County

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL Art Fabrication & Installation at Blue Water River Walk

Summary

The Community Foundation of St. Clair County is accepting proposals for the creation of a new piece of public art to complement the character of the Blue Water River Walk in Port Huron, MI. This project is generously supported by the Port Huron Rotary Club.

Once a train yard, the one-mile Blue Water River Walk shoreline recently celebrated its 10th anniversary since its restoration. It now serves as both a natural habitat for local wildlife and a scenic destination for residents and visitors alike.

Project Goal and Scope of Work

The goal of this project is to add a new public art installation to the River Walk's existing collection. The proposed artwork should complement the River Walk's character and reflect its themes of nature, transformation, and community.

Scope of work includes:

- Designing an original art installation.
- If selected, fabricating the sculpture for installation on the River Walk.
- The sculpture should be similar in size to existing pieces like Stella the Sturgeon and Sugar the Horse.
- Materials should contribute to the area's natural and rustic aesthetic.

Proposal Requirements

Proposals must include:

- A sketch or rendering of the proposed sculpture.
- A brief written description of the artwork, including materials, concept, and size.
- An artist biography, including relevant experience and previous public art projects (if applicable).

Submit proposals via email to:

natacha@stclairfoundation.org

Timeline

- Proposal Deadline: July 31, 2025
- Final Selection: September 2025
- Installation slated for: Spring 2026*

After the submission deadline, select artists may be invited to create a 3D model of their proposed sculpture. These models will be reviewed by a selection panel, and final decisions will be made in September 2025. *Installation is dependent on contractor availability.

Budget

A flat **\$10,000** is available for the design and fabrication of the awarded sculpture. Installation costs will be covered separately by the Foundation.

Selection Process

Selected finalists will be asked to develop a 3D model of their design and present it to a selection panel. Final approval and selection will be made by members of the Port Huron Rotary Club.

Contact Information

For proposal submissions or questions, please contact:

Natacha Hayden

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One of the many fantastic enhancements of the Blue Water River Walk is public art. Existing public art installations in the Blue Water River include:



Blue Water River Walk Arch



Sugar, The Iron Horse



Stella, The Sturgeon



Petroglyphs



Seven Grandfather Teachings



Capstan