



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS  
Water Tower Design Project: Toledo, OH

I. PROJECT INTENT

The Arts Commission of Greater Toledo's Art in Public Places Program has partnered with the City of Toledo's Water Treatment department to commission designs for two new water towers that will be constructed in 2026.

A Design Review Board (DRB) plans to select three artists to create a simple design for the horizontal section of the watertower. Preferences will be made for artists that have strong vector based graphic design portfolios. The selected artist will not be painting the water tower. The goal of this project is to commission the design.

### III. ELIGIBILITY

The project is open to all artists living within Lucas County, age 18 and over, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical or mental disability. Artist teams are eligible to apply.

### IV. TIMELINE

06/03/26	Launch RFQ
07/01/2026	Qualifications Due
07/08/2026	DRB Meeting 1
07/15/2026	Design Proposal Phase starts
8/15/2026	Designs Are Due
8/20/2026	Proposal Presentations
8/25/2026	DRB votes on winning designs

The Arts Commission reserves the right to change the project timeline. Additional dates may be added for meetings and proposal presentations.

### V. HOW TO APPLY

Artists interested in this project must prepare and submit the following:

- Letter of Interest - This letter should be no more than one page and should explain the artist's interest in the project.
- Current Resume - If submitting as a team, a current resume for each team member should be provided.
- Visual Support Materials - Submit 5 digital images of your most recent professional work. A preference will be made for work that includes strong graphic design elements.
- Annotated image list - The image list must include the artist's name and a brief description of the image stating its title, date, medium, size, and use.

All submissions must be received by 11:59 pm EST, July 01, 2026.

Materials must be submitted through this link: [Water Tower RFQ](#)

Water tower locations:

[Schneider Park](#)

## VI. SELECTION PROCESS

The Design Review Board will be composed of members of The Arts Commission, City of Toledo Water Treatment Department and additional stakeholders.

The Design Review Board for this project will review all submissions and select up to three artists as finalists. The finalists will then be asked to develop a conceptual approach for artwork and make a presentation of their proposal. More details will be made available at the proposal stage.

## VII. STIPENDS

The finalists will be compensated \$2,000 for their participation in this stage of the selection. The artist with the winning proposal will be awarded an additional \$6,000 stipend

## VII. ABOUT TOLEDO

Toledo is located on the western shore of Lake Erie and is the fourth largest city in Ohio, with a population of approximately 650,000 people in the metropolitan area. Toledo has a storied past in the manufacturing of many well-known icons of industry including The Jeep and Toledo Scale. Toledo is also known as The Glass Capital of the World for glass manufacturing and is the birthplace of the American Studio Glass Movement.

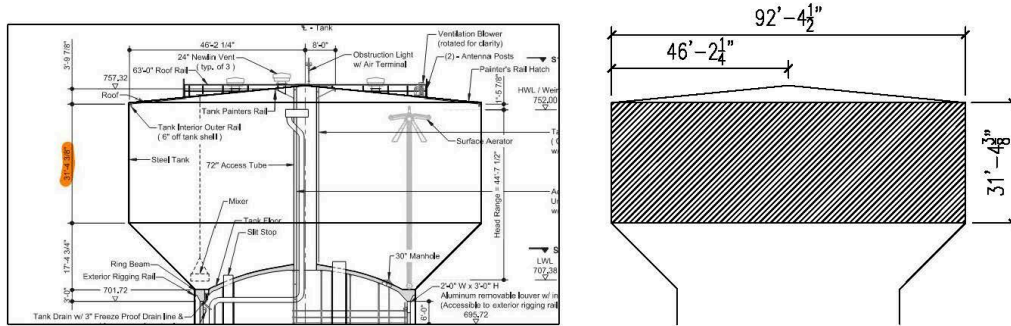
Toledo has an impressive collection of public art, with large-scale sculptures, murals, and functional structures by noted artists from all over the world. Many of these pieces were acquired through the pioneering 1977 ordinance that set aside one percent of Toledo's Capital Improvement Budget for the purchase, conservation, and public education of art. The city also offers a wide array of cultural opportunities including The Toledo Museum of Art, The Toledo Symphony Orchestra, The Toledo Opera, and a world class Metropark system that was voted best in the United States in 2020.

*For further information, please contact Nathan Mattimoe, Director of Art in Public Places: 419-254-2787 ext. 1011. [nmattimoe@theartscommission.org](mailto:nmattimoe@theartscommission.org)*

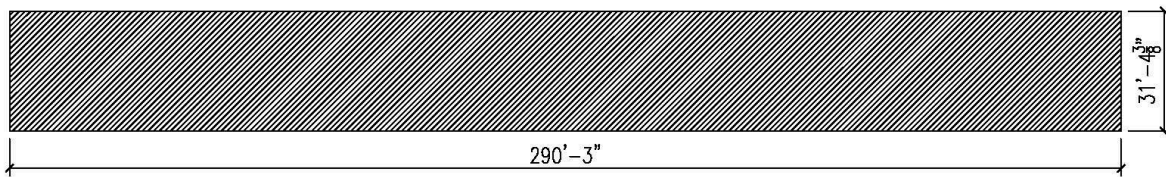
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The Arts Commission is the longest standing arts commission in the state of Ohio, founded in 1959, administering the City of Toledo's One Percent for Art Program since 1977. The Arts Commission is supported in part by the Ohio Arts Council and The National Endowment for The Arts.

**Attachment 1:**

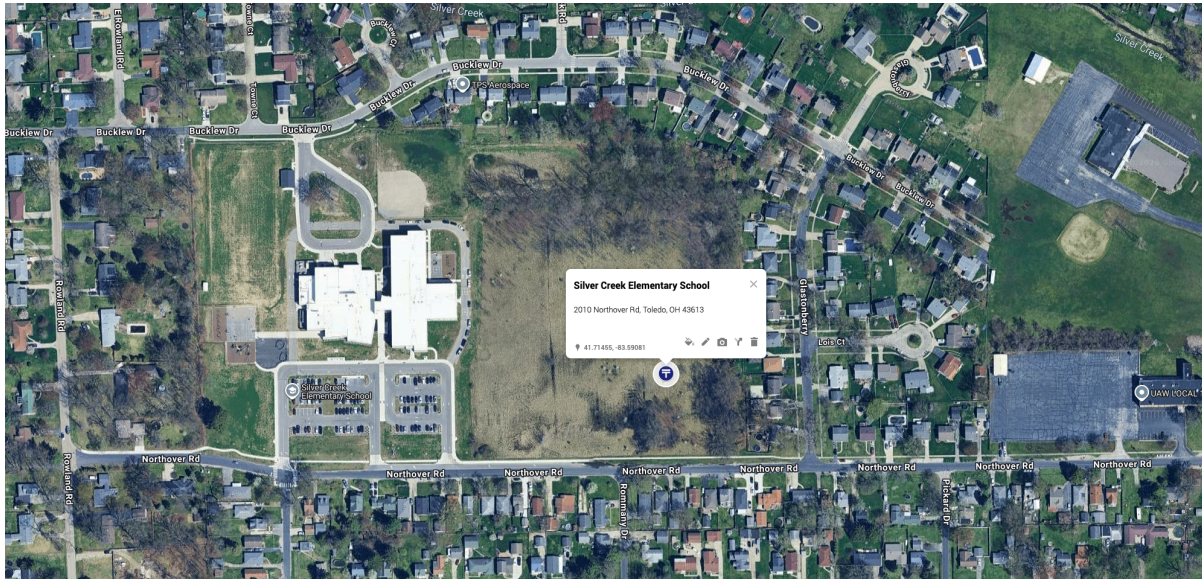


**ARTWORK DIMENSIONS**

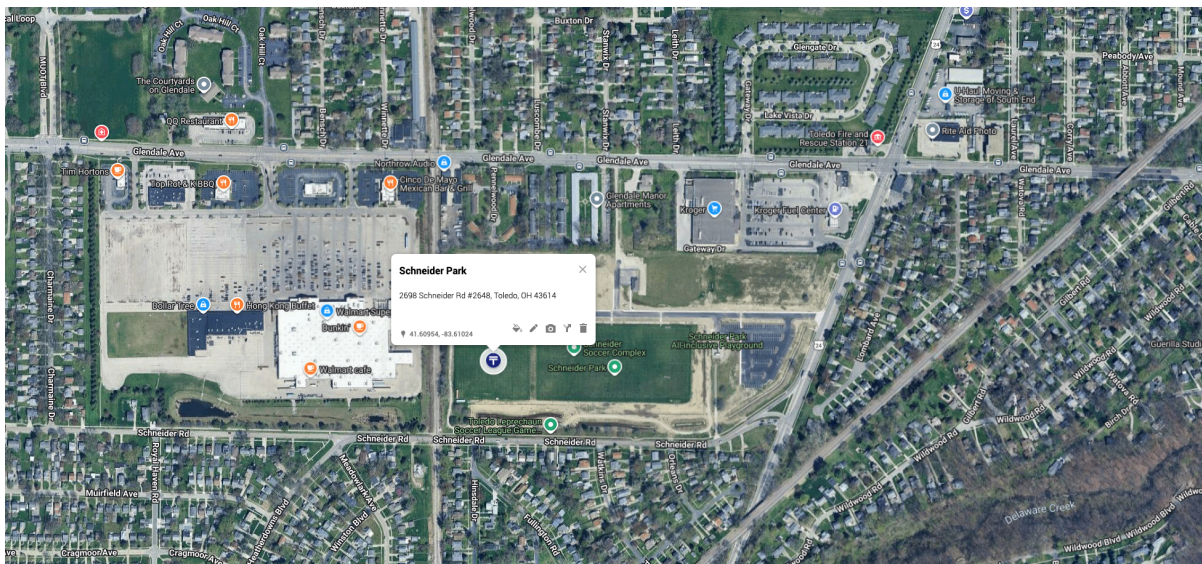


Water Tower artwork surface dimensions

**Attachment 2:**



**Location 1: Silver Creek Elementary, 2010 Northover Rd, Toledo, OH 43613**



**Location 2: Schneider Park, 2698 Schneider Rd #2648, Toledo, OH 43614**