

Request for Proposals
Public Art Design
Animating Infrastructure in the Rutland Transit Center

Date Issued: May 21, 2026

Date Due: July 10, 2026

Contact person: Sean Adkins, Executive Director Rutland Redevelopment Authority (RRA), (802 775-2910 and sean@rutlandvtbusiness.com). All questions related to this Request for Proposals shall be addressed, in writing, to this individual no later than 5 business days prior to the Date Due above.

I. Introduction

The City of Rutland, VT herein referred to as the City, received a grant from the Vermont Arts Council, which receives support in part from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The grant is to be used to enhance the quality and sense of place downtown through the design of murals on pillars on the first level of the Rutland Transit Center located at 102 West Street in Downtown. These murals will help to create a welcoming space and showcase the region's attractions accessible by bus.

The project will be managed by Sean Adkins. The owner of the project is the City and the Vermont Buildings & General Services (BGS) owns the transit center. A local review committee will determine the winning proposal. All submissions become the property of the City.

II. Project Description

This project is specifically designed to transform an existing, utilitarian space into a vibrant community asset. The Transit Center is identified as "the key gateway for visitors and tourists seeking to visit Killington without using a private automobile" and "the primary gateway for anyone entering the downtown by bus." Adding murals to the first level pillars will make this critical entry point more inviting and memorable and encourage people to explore further. The aesthetic improvement is intended to draw people to the space and make it a more pleasant place to pass through. The murals will entice both residents and tourists, and remind transit users, to explore the region's offerings by highlighting outdoor activities and attractions throughout Rutland County.

III. Submission Requirements

Artists are encouraged to submit the following:

- Examples of previous work and professional experience
- References: Contact info for previous clients

- Drawings or models based on the “local destinations” or “Proud of Rutland” themes that would be painted or placed on 10-11 pillars
 - Artists may visit the Transit Center (102 West St) or request pictures to see the ‘canvas’ (pillars)
- Chosen color palette
- Installation budget
- Details of specific materials or activities
- Timeline for fabrication and installation
- Site preparation needs and public art maintenance requirements

IV. Selection

A local review committee composed of representatives from the City, RRA, Downtown Rutland Partnership (DRP), Marble Valley Regional Transit District (MVRTD) and Chaffee Art Center will determine the winning proposal.

Proposals will be scored based on artistic merit, thematic relevance, technical feasibility and experience. It is anticipated that community members will have a direct opportunity to vote for their favorite artist(s), ensuring their preferences are clearly captured.

V. Submissions

Complete proposals must be received at the RRA office, City Hall second floor, 1 Strongs Avenue, Rutland or emailed to sean@rutlandvtbusiness.com no later than three p.m., 3 pm est. on July 10th, 2026. Proposals received after the deadline will not be accepted.

The City maintains an environment free from discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, creed, national origin, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic bias, disability, citizenship, veteran status, or any other category protected by applicable state and federal law.

All questions related to this RFP shall be directed to Sean Adkins, at sean@rutlandvtbusiness.com. Other than very routine questions, all questions will be answered in writing and distributed to all prospective artists.

VI. Award

The Artist that submits the winning proposal shall receive five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and a contract for the fabrication and installation of their design provided the City is successful in applying for an Animating Infrastructure Implementation Grant in 2027. The Artist that gets second place will be named as a contingency in the event the winning Artist is unavailable for the subsequent implementation phase.



Rutland Transit Center

102 West Street

Rutland, VT

Photos: Pillars first floor referred to in RFP

