

GARMENT DISTRICT ALLIANCE BUTTON SCULPTURE

Fabrication & Installation - Request for Proposals



I. INTRODUCTION

The Garment District Alliance, a Manhattan Business Improvement District, is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1993. Working in partnership with local building owners and businesses, the Garment District Alliance (GDA) improves quality of life and economic vitality in this authentic New York neighborhood. Our programs support the Garment District's transformation into an attractive, modern, 24/7 neighborhood; they include streetscape improvements, sanitation and public safety services, marketing, and economic development.

II. OBJECTIVE

Through this RFP, the GDA will select a firm to demolish and remove the Information Kiosk on Seventh Avenue at 39th Street, and to fabricate and install a new over-sized button/needle/thread sculpture in its place. **(EXHIBIT I - Map)**

III. BACKGROUND

In the 1970s, the original Information Kiosk structure, which straddles the public sidewalk and the private property at 555 Seventh Avenue, was erected through a public/private fashion industry initiative, and operated as an industry information center for more than a decade, before falling out of use by the late 1980s. **(EXHIBIT II-a – Original Kiosk 1974)**

In 1996, the Garment District Alliance (then known as the Fashion Center BID) renovated the structure and rededicated its use as an information center. The renovation included the addition of a distinctive rooftop "button & needle" sculpture, designed by James Biber of Pentagram Architects. The sculpture referenced the neighborhood's historic identity, as well as the BID's trademarked "button" logo, designed by Pentagram's Michael Beirut. **(EXHIBIT II-b – Kiosk Renovation 1996)**

While the Information Kiosk was a critical fashion industry resource, its relevance has faded in recent years as the Internet has changed the way people access information.

In 2017, the GDA engaged Local Projects, an experiential design firm, to explore concepts for the future of the Information Kiosk. This process determined that there is no longer a need for a physical information center, but that the button and needle sculpture holds great value as a beloved symbol of the area and its history. Local Projects presented a concept for removing the kiosk structure entirely, while retaining the button and needle and enhancing its identity as a pop art sculpture, district icon, and placemaking amenity. **(EXHIBIT II-c – New Concept 2017)**

In 2018, UAP Company was selected to develop the Local Projects concept into a realistic plan for implementation. A final design has now been established. **(EXHIBIT II-d – Final Sculpture Design)**

IV. NEW DESIGN

The new sculpture will include the following elements:

1. The new stand-alone sculpture will include the addition of a “thread” element to functionally support the Button and Needle, while further articulating the concept. The thread will be fabricated from 316 stainless steel, with a mirror polished finish.
2. A new button will be fabricated out of aluminum and finished with a yellow high gloss automotive paint (Pantone C116). Button holes to be painted black. The button should be fully welded and seamless.
3. A new needle will be fabricated out of stainless steel with a brushed finish.
4. A stone cane rail will be added where the needle meets the ground plane.
5. The sculpture will be illuminated from below with embedded lighting, and from above utilizing the adjacent NYC street light.

The new design meets engineering requirements, as well as NYC regulations, and has been approved by the GDA Board of Directors, NYCDOT, the NYC Public Design Commission, as well as the owners of the adjacent property.

V. SCOPE OF WORK

The successful proposer will be required to complete all aspects of the project, as specified in the approved set of drawings created by UAP (**EXHIBIT III – UAP Approved Drawings**), and the structural documents created by Theta Engineering (**EXHIBIT IV – Theta Engineering Structural Documents**).

Scope includes but is not limited to:

1. Obtain all necessary permits
2. Demolish and remove the Information Kiosk structure on Seventh Avenue at 39th Street
3. Fabricate and install a new version of the over-sized button & needle sculpture at the same site
4. Fabricate and install stone cane rail where the needle meets the ground plane
5. Procure and install specified light fixtures underneath the sculpture and on the adjacent NYC street light.
6. Procure pavers and restore the ground plane to match the surrounding 555 Seventh Avenue plaza
7. Provide any necessary storage that might be required throughout the scope of the project
8. Provide all necessary site protections and security
9. Provide maintenance information for all finish materials.
10. Develop and submit shop drawings for review.
11. Provide structural engineering, certification and calculations report.
12. One base connection sits outside of the property line and on NYC property. Further investigation is required to determine the subsurface conditions at this location.
13. A site survey will be required to verify grade elevation at the location of each connection point prior to commencing fabrication.

VI. TIMELINE

Project timeline will be incorporated into the final agreement with the successful proposer. Proposers should state any need to vary from this timeline, if necessary.

1.	RFP release date:	Friday, February 7, 2020
2.	Submission of questions on RFP:	Friday, February 21, 2020
3.	Proposals due:	Friday, March 13, 2020
4.	Proposal review:	March 2020
5.	Finalist interviews:	March 2020
6.	Proposal award date:	April 2020
7.	Project start date:	April 2020

Work must be completed by mid-November NYCDOT Holiday Construction Embargo.

VII. TERMS

1. The successful proposer will be fully responsible for the Scope of Work to be performed under this proposal. If a Proposer intends to utilize a business partner or subcontractor to provide services, proposals submitted must clearly identify every business partner and subcontractor who will supply services under the contract and the nature of their relationship to the proposer.

2. The successful Proposer will be subject to completing and submitting online Procurement and Sourcing Solutions Portal (PASSPort) Vendor and Principle Questionnaires (formerly known as Vendor Information Exchange System (VENDEX) forms) to the NYC Mayor's Office of Contract Services to determine Proposers' previous track record and contractual experience with the City of New York.

For more information please visit: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/mocs/systems/about-go-to-passport.page>

VIII. FORMAT FOR PROPOSALS

1. Introduction

Describe your company, its size, mission and recent clients, and explain why you and your team are uniquely qualified to handle this project.

2. Qualifications and Experience

- a. Provide brief resume for all who will work on the project
- b. Provide 2-3 relevant case histories of prior clients and provide links to the sites or online demos.

3. Process

Briefly explain the process you will follow, including major milestones, evaluation, and communication.

4. Schedule of Deliverables

Please review the proposed timeline in Section VI to provide a more detailed work schedule. If your firm cannot adhere to the target completion date, please propose an alternative schedule.

5. Project Bid

- a. Proposals for this project will be selected competitively, so care should be given to submit an accurate, comprehensive and cost effective budget.
- b. This section must contain all information concerning costs, fees and hourly rates for providing all elements and services outlined in this RFP and accompanying exhibits.
- c. Proposers should submit fee schedules showing maximum, not-to-exceed amounts.
- d. The button should be fully welded and seamless.
- e. Provide a breakdown of cost by components, tasks and hours, and include fee structure for any additional work not anticipated in this RFP.
- f. The Garment District Alliance is tax-exempt; therefore, prices must not include state or local sales or use taxes. The Alliance is not liable for any costs incurred by proposers in preparing their proposals or for any work performed before the approval of an executed contract.

DEDUCT ALTERNATIVE:

A deduct alternative should be provided that allows for seams in the button to optimize shipping. The seams should be limited to along the centerline of the button only. The base bid requires a fully welded and painted button.

BUDGET PROVISION:

The thread footing for thread B-01 is located outside the property line and subsurface information was not available during the design phase. Please provide a **budget range** for this footing and connection, assuming it will be similar to the other thread connections. This cost can be verified following further investigation and agreed to as a change order. This budget range should not be included in your base bid.

6. References

Provide three professional references.

IX. SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Proposals are due on Friday, March 13, 2020 by 5 pm.

Proposals should be submitted to: abonacum@garmentdistrictnyc.com

X. QUESTIONS

Questions regarding this RFP process should be addressed to Anne Bonacum, GDA, at abonacum@garmentdistrictnyc.com

Technical questions should be addressed to Emily Johnson, Principal, UAP, at emily.johnson@uapcompany.com