



CITY OF RALEIGH PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

News Release

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City Selects Artists for Public Art for Hillsborough Street Streetscape Project

The City of Raleigh's Public Art and Design Board has approved artists David Dahlquist and Justin Platts of RDG Planning & Design of Des Moines, Iowa, as project artists for Phase II of the Hillsborough Street Streetscape project.

The Public Art and Design Board's artist selection panel recommended the artists based on their demonstrated experience providing creative enhancements for streetscape elements in other cities.

A nationally recognized public artist and teacher, Mr. Dahlquist is a senior partner and leads the Dahlquist Art Studio as its public artist at RDG Planning & Design. His work ranges from free-standing sculptures to major architectural installations. His most recent work, "Tree of Life" in Omaha, Neb., has won several awards at national and community levels.

Mr. Platt is a landscape architect specializing in urban design with RDG Planning & Design. An award-winning designer and project manager, he has been involved in a variety of project types including master planning and design guideline development.

Mr. Dahlquist and Mr. Platt believe that "everything evolves from a compelling story, one that unfolds in layers throughout the design. We are especially sensitive to lighting, establishing tone and character, and the ambience and safety related to how a site changes from day to night," the two artists said.

The Hillsborough Street Streetscape project, Phase II, will modify Hillsborough Street from the existing configuration of a multi-lane undivided roadway section to a two-lane divided roadway with raised median from Gardner Street to Rosemary and Shepherd streets. The project will improve usability of the corridor with a "complete streets" design approach to provide better access for traffic, cyclists and pedestrians. Modification of the streetscape is scheduled to be complete in the fall 2016.

Public art at selected City of Raleigh sites is authorized by the Half Percent for Art Ordinance adopted by the City Council in 2009 and implemented by the City's Public Art and Design Board and the City of Raleigh Arts Commission.

The Office of Raleigh Arts supports and promotes the arts in Raleigh by administering the programs of the City of Raleigh Arts Commission and the City's Public Art and Design Board and supporting the Pullen and Sertoma arts centers. The Office of Raleigh Arts is part of the City of Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department.

For more information, contact Kim.curry-evans@raleighnc.gov or the Office of Raleigh Arts at 919-996-3610; or visit the City's website at www.raleighnc.gov/arts.

{NOTE: Attached is an image of David Dahlquist's "Tree of Life" streetscape artwork in Omaha, Neb.}

