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# 1. Call Summary

The [Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy](#) (“The Conservancy”) seeks an artist or artist team for the creation of a temporary, site-specific, placekeeping artwork in celebration of 2024, the Year of the Dragon. This public artwork will activate [Auntie Kay & Uncle Frank Chin Park](#) (“Chin Park”), part of the contemporary public park in the heart of Boston known as The Greenway. The artwork will be installed in time for the 2024 Lunar New Year celebrations for the Year of the Dragon, no later than January 24, 2024. The artwork will remain on display for a period of one year.

The primary objective of the project is to honor the thriving community of Boston’s Chinatown through the creation of new, contemporary, and site-responsive public artwork. The artwork will be selected by a jury composed of community stakeholders, including Chinatown organizational representatives, artists, and community members, who will help ensure that the Artist’s vision and strategies align with and are responsive to community and neighborhood priorities. As an act of placemaking and placekeeping, the artwork will represent and honor Chinatown’s rich cultural history and cross-generational residents, neighbors, and community.

## 1a. The Greenway and The Greenway Conservancy

The Greenway is a contemporary public park in the heart of Boston. The Greenway welcomes millions of visitors annually to gather, play, unwind, and explore. The Greenway Conservancy is the non-profit responsible for the management and care of The Greenway. The majority of the public park’s annual budget is generously provided by private sources.

The Greenway Conservancy’s Public Art Program brings innovative and contemporary art to Boston through free, seasonal exhibitions that engage people in meaningful experiences, interactions, and dialogue with art, each other, and the most pressing issues of our time.

## 1b. Project Background

The Greenway Conservancy’s Public Art Program seeks to work towards the goals of the Chinatown community and has supported the annual creation of new public art in the neighborhood since 2015, when our Public Art Program began. Projects have included the luminous canopy *Lantern Stories* by artist [Yu-Wen Wu](#) (2020, 2022), the vibrant [VISIONS/VOICES](#) performance series in collaboration with Pao Arts Center (2022), and a series celebrating the Chinese zodiac including artists [Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong](#) (2022, tiger), [Andy Li](#) (2021, ox), and [Risa Puno](#) (2018, dog). Projects have ranged from artworks which represent the form of the animal to conceptual projects that build on the traits and specific modalities associated with a particular zodiac animal.

See [Appendix A](#) for images of previous Greenway Public Art projects in Chinatown.

## 1c. Art Location and Context

Chin Park on The Greenway lies at the southern end of The Greenway and on the eastern edge of the Chinatown neighborhood. Comprising an open plaza and playscape, the park serves community needs by providing open space for people to meet, play, and relax. It is also a tourist destination, with the Chinatown Gate as a main entry point to the neighborhood. The Chinatown community plans cultural events and festivals throughout the year on the park's central plaza.

Chinatown partners bring a range of annual and vibrant cultural festivals to in Chin Park, including [Films at the Gate](#) with the [Asian Community Development Corporation](#) (ACDC) to [World Tai Chi Day](#) with [Bow Sim Mark Tai Chi](#), from [Experience Chinatown](#) with the [Pao Art Center](#) and [Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center](#) (BCNC) to the [August Moon Festival](#) with the [Chinatown Consolidated Benevolent Association](#). The Greenway Conservancy is thrilled to work with and support partners in the production of cultural events.

See [Appendix B](#) for Community Activations

See [Appendix C](#) for Site Plans and location information.

## 1d. About Public Art in Chinatown

Every ten years since 1990, Chinatown community members have come together to develop and publish a grassroots master plan that outlines the community's vision and priorities for community development. In the [2020 Master Plan](#), as in prior years, public art was identified as a key strategy for specific needs such as creating safer streets, supporting historic preservation, and celebrating the culture of the neighborhood.

For the current Year of the Rabbit (2023), the Conservancy is partnering with Chinatown cultural organizations, artists, and community members to support the Metropolitan Area Planning Council's development of the Cultural Plan addendum to the 2020 Master Plan. This plan seeks to support artistic, placekeeping, and cultural heritage work in the neighborhood.

*Photo credit: LD Tran.*



## **2. Project Opportunity**

The Conservancy seeks an artist or artist team to design and create a temporary artwork to celebrate the Year of the Dragon (February 10, 2024 - January 28, 2025) with installation in the weeks prior to 2024 Lunar New Year celebrations. An auspicious and lucky zodiac year according to Chinese astrology, the dragon installation may be a representation of the dragon and/or may build on the characteristics attributed to the Dragon, such as leadership, courage, tenacity, and risk-taking.

The selection body, the Year of the Dragon Jury Committee, will be composed of cultural workers, selected partners, resident leaders, and partner organization representatives. Upon review of applications, the Committee will select and invite up to three (3) Artist Finalists to develop and submit a project proposal. Artist Finalists will be invited to Boston for a site visit of the park and for meetings with community members to inform the context and form of their proposals. Upon submitting the finished proposal, artists will receive a \$2,000 stipend for their work. The Year of the Dragon Committee will then select one proposal to move forward.

### **2a. Compensation**

The final selected artist(s) will receive a comprehensive fee of \$50,000. This fee will cover all budgeted costs and expenses associated with fulfilling the Artist Responsibilities outlined below. As best practice for the creation of public art, the Conservancy commits 20% of all project budgets to the Artist Fee, with an additional 5% as an artist Health and Wellness Stipend. The remaining project budget is intended to cover materials, fabrication, engineering, labor, installation, and programming. A contract between the artist(s) and the Conservancy will define stages of compensation and payment schedule and scope of work.



### 3. Artist Responsibilities and Eligibility

The selected artist or artist team will be responsible for the following project steps:

- ☐ Develop and refine artistic concepts and designs to work within the engineering, loading, and design constraints of the project, that comply with all City of Boston, Commonwealth and MassDOT building codes and guidelines.
- ☐ Create a structurally sound and efficient design, using durable materials, accounting for energy efficiency and maintenance. The artwork design may include increased temporary infrastructure to support the new artwork. The design and funding of these elements are inclusive in the fee.
- ☐ Develop designs that are secure and tamper-proof through hiring a Massachusetts licensed engineer. Greenway staff can assist in providing contacts and making introductions for this process.
- ☐ Participate in an iterative design process, addressing feedback from key stakeholders in design considerations. This process will be administered by The Conservancy's Public Art Team.
- ☐ In partnership with The Conservancy and public art staff, fully oversee and administer the fabrication, installation, and deinstallation of the artwork, inclusive of any necessary equipment rental or infrastructure development. *Photo credit: Hills3*



#### 3a. Artist Eligibility

- ☐ This project is open to artists or artist/design teams of no more than two (2) people.
- ☐ Artist(s) with community engagement experience, especially with communities of color and/or immigrant communities, are encouraged to apply.
- ☐ Experience working in the public realm is strongly encouraged **but not required**.
- ☐ Artist(s) from various cultures, affinity groups, and racial and ethnic backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Artists must demonstrate awareness and consideration of the culture, history, and conditions of Boston's Chinatown and/or AAPI Communities.
- ☐ Artist(s) must be legally able to work in the United States, at least 18 years of age, and be readily available during the project timeline.

## 4. Selection Process and Criteria

Once the application closes (**February 23, 2023**), all applications will be screened for completeness, and all complete applications will be shared with the artist selection panel (Year of the Dragon Jury Committee) composed of representatives from the Chinatown community. The selection panel will review all proposals to select the artist(s). The selection of Artist Finalists is expected to occur by March 31, 2023. We expect to notify all applicants of the results and decision by April 7, 2023, barring any alterations to this schedule.

The selection committee will prioritize artist(s) whose past work and process demonstrate a capacity to engage and/or represent the Chinatown community in this work. Upon approval of the design, the artist(s) will oversee the fabrication and installation of their project. The artist(s) will work in collaboration with the Conservancy's Public Art team to ensure the appropriate on-time, on-budget fabrication and production of this project.

The artist will work with Chinatown community organizations and the Conservancy to connect with the Chinatown community in the development of conceptual themes for this work. The artist will work in an iterative design process, utilizing community input along with structural and design input sought engineers and the Conservancy. The artist will work with members of the Conservancy staff in coordinating the installation and deinstallation of the artwork, as well as the restoration of the site upon completion of the project.

### 4a. Selection Criteria

- ☐ **Artistic Merit/Originality:** creativity and uniqueness of artistic thought and approach; Does the artist have a unique or appropriate cultural, geographic or artistic perspective?
- ☐ **Capacity/Feasibility:** demonstrated capacity to carry out this project as planned; Does the artist have a proven track record or ability to complete the work on time and within budget?
- ☐ **Placemaking/Placekeeping:** demonstrated understanding of the community and site context, including history, identity, geography and cultures; has the artist's previous work engaged communities and cultural settings?
- ☐ **Community Vitality/Collaboration:** demonstrated experience working in communities with diverse populations; do past projects foster audience engagement and interaction, bring people together, reflect diverse communities and histories, and/or create gathering spaces?

### 4b. Sources for Additional Information

All applicants are strongly encouraged to review the community driven and grassroots Chinatown Master Plans from [2020](#) and [2010](#), and [Chinatown: A Toolkit for Community Empowerment](#) in order to gain a better understanding of the recent and robust history of community development and grassroots activism in Chinatown. Applicants are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with [public art installations on The Greenway](#) as well.

## 5. Application Process

All applications will be processed on [Form Assembly](#).

*Only one application per artist or artist team. Artists will be required to submit the following:*

- ☐ **Contact Information:** Artist(s) name, pronouns, address, phone, email address, website.
- ☐ **Biography:** What would you like to share about your personal background, history, and/or story? (max 250 words)
- ☐ **Artist Statement:** What guides you artistically? What mediums do you work in? Why/how do you approach community-based work in your practice? (max 250 words)
- ☐ **Narrative Statement or Video:** What important elements do you feel you and your practice bring to this project? Why are you driven towards community-based creative work? How and why are you prepared to work with Boston's Chinatown community? (max 500 words). May also be submitted as a video (max 4 minutes).
- ☐ **Professional Resume/CV:** (PDF preferred, max 2 pages per artist).
- ☐ **Examples of Past Work:** Up to 10 .jpg images of recent work that best reflect the skills of the artist(s) involved.
  - ☐ Each image must be a separate file; no collaged images will be reviewed. Links to videos should be submitted in the section for optional support material.
  - ☐ Please make and list file names under your name with the order you would like them to be viewed (i.e. name01.jpg; name02.jpg; ... name10.jpg). **Max image size 1.8 MB.**
  - ☐ Descriptive text for each image should be included on the image list (details included in next bullet point).
- ☐ **Image List with Descriptions of Past Work:** (PDF preferred, max 1 page per artist); For each image you upload, please list the file name, artist name(s), title of work, date, materials, dimensions. If applicable, include commissioning agency, location, and commission cost.
- ☐ **Two Professional Reference Contacts:** At least two professional references from past projects with contact information. *Photo credit: LD Tran.*





## 6. Application and Project Timeline

February 2, 2023	RFQ Released and Distributed
February 8, 2023	6-8pm (ET) Online Office Hours - <a href="#">Sign up with Calendly</a>
February 9, 2023	9-11am (ET) Online Office Hours - <a href="#">Sign up with Calendly</a>
February 13, 2023	12-2pm (ET) Online Office Hours - <a href="#">Sign up with Calendly</a>
February 15, 2023	5:30pm-6:30pm (ET) Online Q & A Session: <a href="#">RSVP here for Zoom link</a>  Recording will be posted on the Conservancy's <a href="#">YouTube</a> channel by February 15, 2023.
February 16, 2023	5pm (ET) Deadline for submission of questions
February 17, 2023	Posting of questions and answers on the <a href="#">Conservancy website</a>
<b>February 23, 2023</b>	<b>Deadline for artist submission by 11:59 PM (ET)</b> <b>Apply online via <a href="#">Form Assembly</a></b>
March 8 - March 18, 2023	Community jury convenes to select finalists
March 20 - March 30, 2023	Interviews and reference checks
March 31, 2023	Finalists are offered a proposal contract with a stipend
April 7, 2023	All applicants are notified of results and status
April 13 - April 15, 2023	Finalist group site visit (exact dates TBD)
May 7, 2023	Finalist Proposals Due
May 9 - May 12, 2023	Artist presentations; jury deliberation and selection
May 16, 2023	Commissioned Artist(s) announced
June - Dec. 2023	Project design, engineering review, and fabrication
January 2024*	Installation completed
February 2024*.	De-installation

*\*exact dates TBD*

### 6a. Questions & Inquiries

Please direct all questions to Sheila Novak, Associate Curator of Public Art at the Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy at [snovak@rosekennedygreenway.org](mailto:snovak@rosekennedygreenway.org). No calls please.

# Appendix A

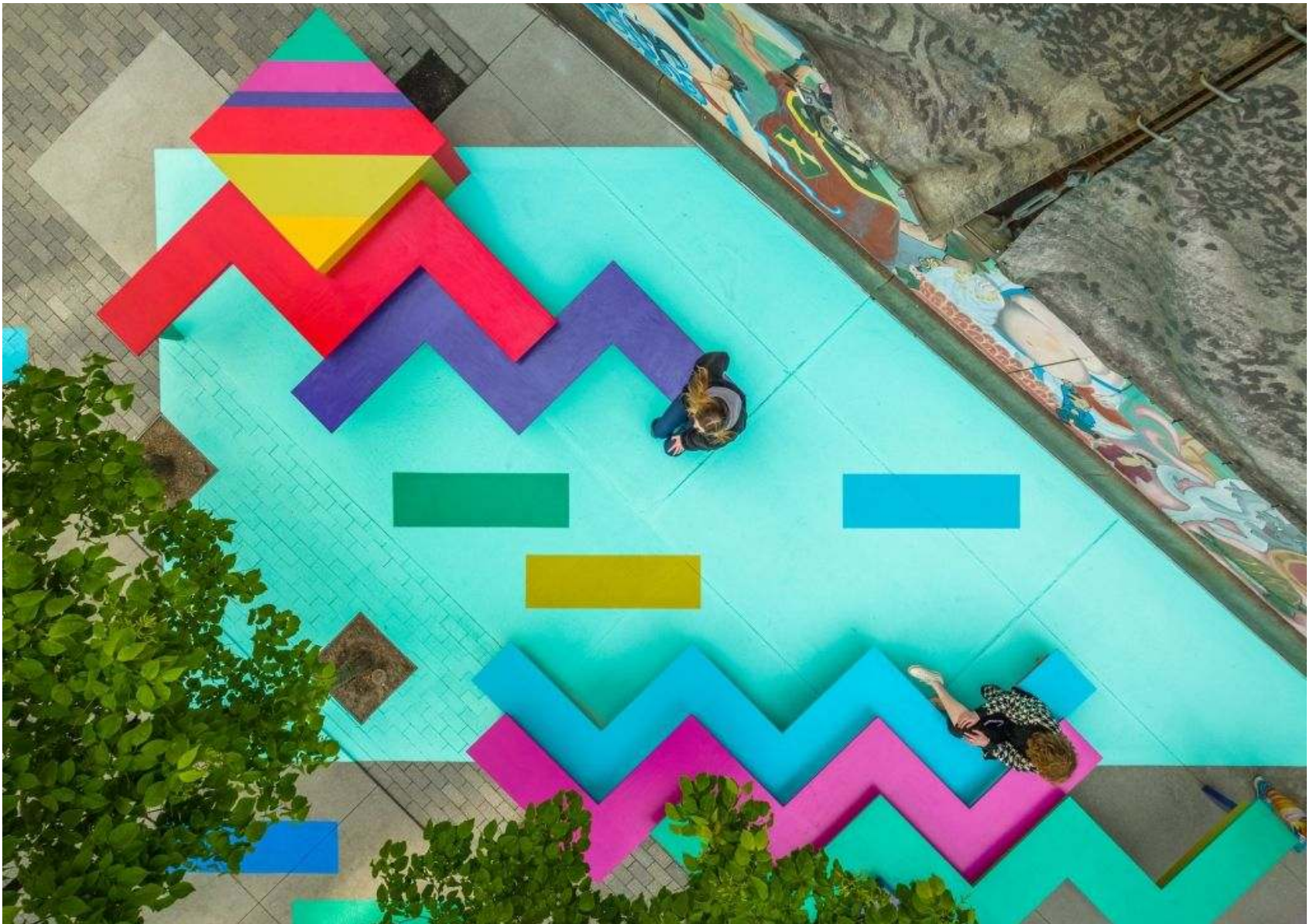
Past Chinatown Public Art Projects





***VISIONS/VOICES: Year of the Tiger Performance Series***  
[Multiple Artists](#) (2022)





## ***YEAR OF THE TIGER***

[Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong](#) (2022)





## ***Lantern Stories***

[Yu-Wen Wu](#) (2020, 2022)





**The Herd**  
[Andy Li](#) (2021)





***A Mouse with Ears and Tail***

[Furen Dai](#) (2020)





***Year of the Pig***

[Elliott Kayser](#) (2019)





**Year of the Dog**  
[Risa Puno](#) (2018)





***Make and Take***  
[Chris Templeman](#) (2017)





**Monkey See**  
[Don Kennell](#) (2016)





***Wandering Sheep***  
Kyu Seok Oh (2015)

# Appendix B

## Community Activations





# Chin Park:

## *Chinatown's Cultural Hub*

Boston's Chinatown is the geographic heart of AAPI cultural life in the region. Situated at the iconic Chinatown gates, the Greenway's 1-acre Chin Park reflects its connection to AAPI & APIDA histories and cultures through public art, architectural design, and horticultural choices.





## Chin Park: *Chinatown's Backyard*

Chinatown has a deficiency of green space: only 2.2 acres per 1,000 residents compared to the city average of 7.6 acres per 1,000. As such, Chin Park is a critical public asset for residents, many of whom refer to Chin Park as their “backyard” or “living room”





# Chin Park:

## ***Annual Festivals and Events***

Chin Park is the epicenter of the community's annual cultural festivals and large events, including the August Moon Festival, the Chinatown Main Street Festival, and the Lantern Festival.



*Lantern Festival, hosted by Chinatown Main Street*



*Experience Chinatown Boston, hosted by BCNC*



*Films at the Gate, hosted by ACDC's teen program, A-VOYCE*



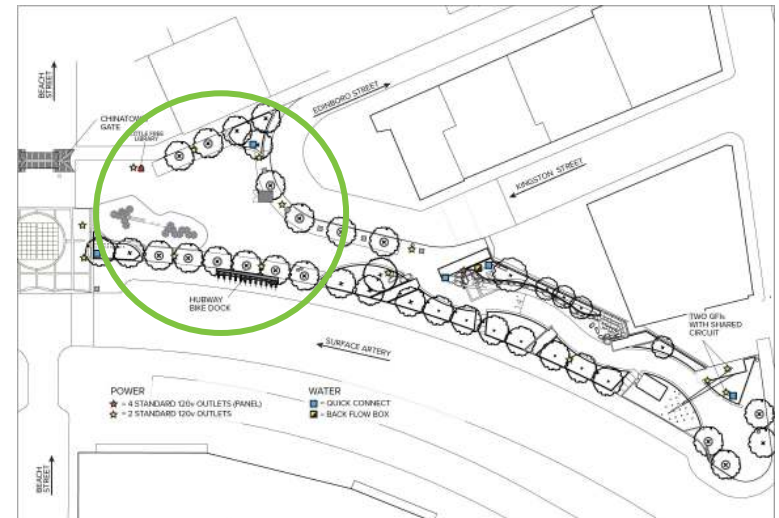
*Bow Sim Mark World Tai Chi Day*





## Chin Park: *Programs and Events*

*Films at the Gate* is planned by the Asian Community Development Corporation AVOYCE youth program. The Conservancy produces weekly play sessions for children from May to September and work with AVOYCE teens to run monthly SaturPLAY programs in Mary Soo Hoo Park.



# Appendix C

## Site Context and Considerations



# Chin Park: *Site Context*

## Location

The Greenway intersects with Boston's Chinatown neighborhood on Parcel 23D, which is delimited by Essex Street to the north and Kneeland Street to the south.

## History and Context

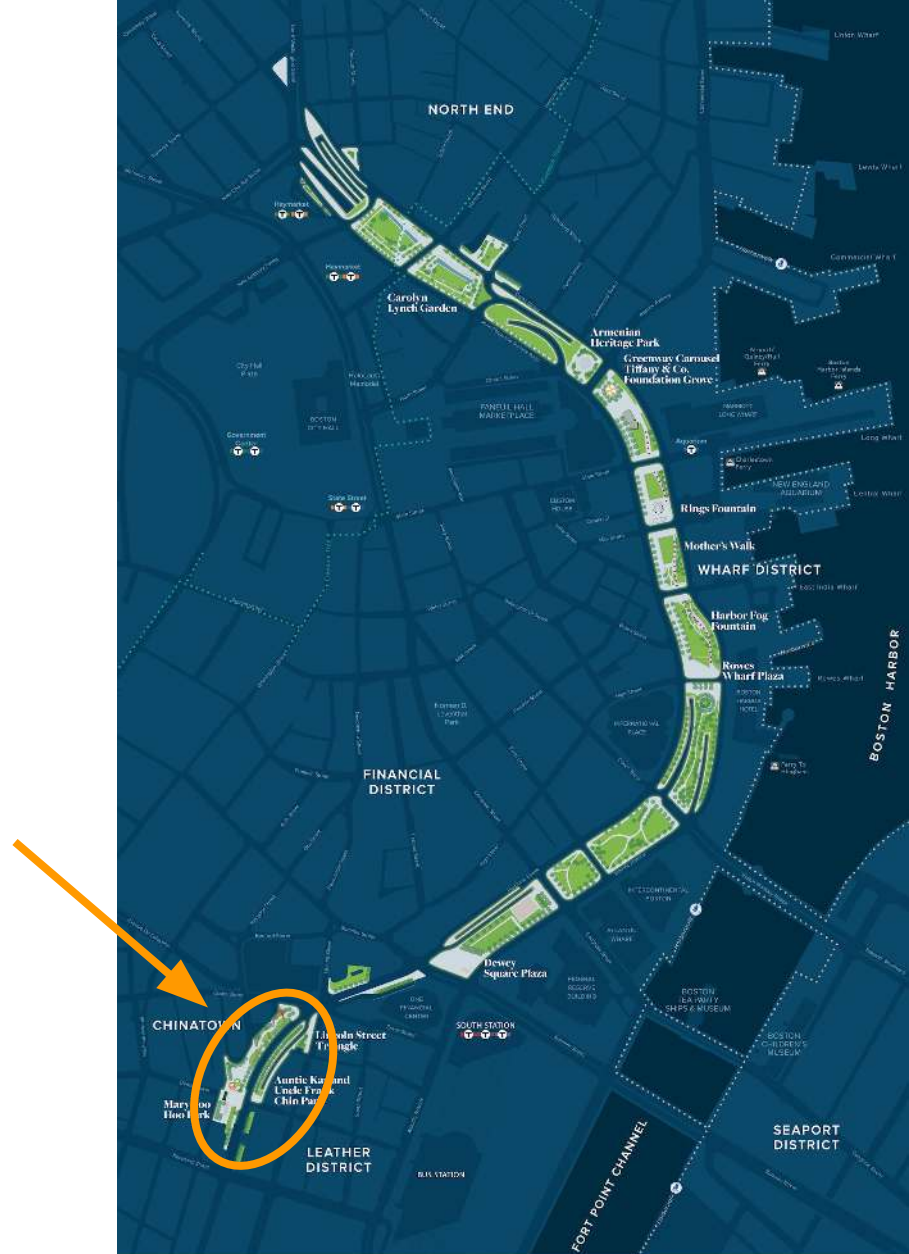
This parcel was designed by Carol R. Johnson and Associates, with principle design elements drawn from Asian traditions and artwork, including inspiration from rice fields and plants found in the Imperial Palace Gardens.

- Pavers are shaped like fans.
- Waterfall was designed to reflect the mountains and streams of China.
- Sculptural lighting element was designed to resemble Chinese sailboats.

Parcel 23D is divided into two smaller parks, each named in honor of important Chinatown community figures:

**Auntie Kay and Uncle Frank Chin Park** was renamed in 2019 for these well-known advocates in the Chinatown community. This park is the proposed site for the 2024 Year of the Dragon project.

**Mary Soo Hoo Park** designed by Stephen Stimson Associates, this area contains seating to facilitate conversation and game tables. This site contains a forty-five foot high vent structure that services the highway that runs below the site, which is wrapped in an image of a 14th century Chinese landscape painting from Boston's Museum of Fine Art's collection.



THE  
GREEN  
WAY

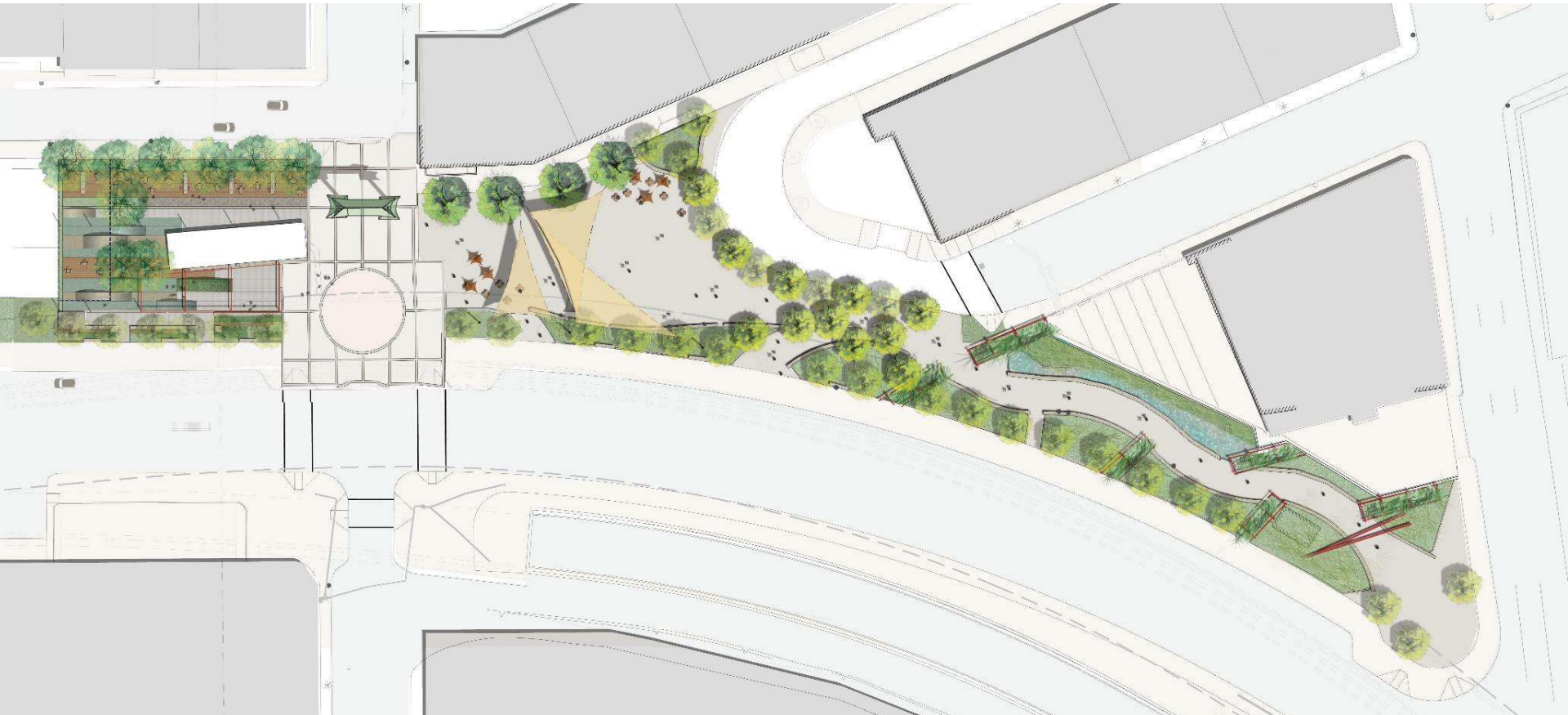


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# Chin Park: *Existing Landscape*

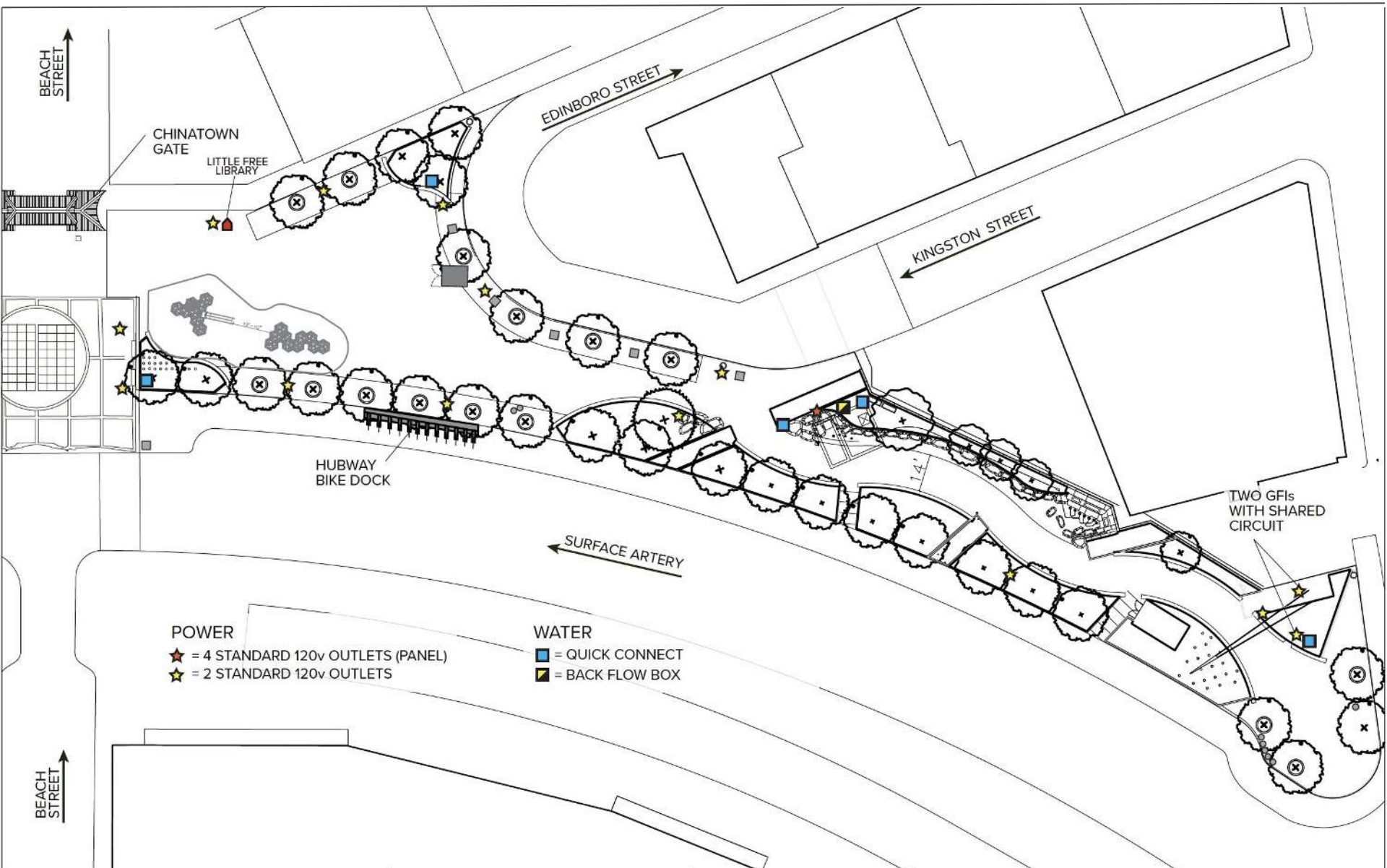


The selected artist and applicants (on request) will be provided the Conservancy's Best Practices and Recommendations for public art installations document. For general information, please review the Greenway Conservancy [Park Use Guidelines](#).

The current design of the space, such as existing trees, benches, walkways, and infrastructure, may not be moved or disturbed. The artist(s) may propose additional structural elements to support a installation as well as the use of existing infrastructure, pending structural review of these elements. Any additional structural elements must be approved by the Greenway Conservancy to ensure the plaza's safety, programmatic, and aesthetic needs are met.



# Chin Park: Site Map and Utility Access Points



## Appendix D: Additional Information on Artist Selection

**NOTE TO ARTISTS:** As artists and arts administrators ourselves, the Conservancy's Public Art team recognizes that artists do not always have access to the resources or support needed to parse through and fully vet terms of contracts, RFQs, and RFPs which often contain legal jargon.

We are happy to provide support in these areas at any time by being available to answer questions or assist Artists in fully understanding any of the terms outlined here.

If Artists and/or Respondents have any questions about the information included below in Appendix D, please reach out directly to Sheila Novak, Associate Curator, [snovak@rosekennedygreenway.org](mailto:snovak@rosekennedygreenway.org).

The Conservancy reserves the right to reject any or all responses if it determines that such action is in the best interest of the Conservancy. The Conservancy reserves the right to modify, suspend or cancel this procurement at any time at its sole discretion. Responses which do not meet basic requirements or those which fail to meet minimum standards on any single evaluation criteria may be disqualified. In addition, the Conservancy may reject any response that contains contingencies, additions not called for, omissions, errors, or irregularities of any kind; provided, however, that the Conservancy reserves the right to waive any and all informalities or irregularities, and may elect to accept any omitted materials or information subsequent to submission.

Respondents retain copyright to all application materials, including but not limited to images of past work or past proposals, and writing, renderings or images of proposed work. Please note that the Conservancy may be subject to requests of disclosure pursuant to the Massachusetts Public Records Law, and in those cases, The Conservancy will have no obligation to treat information submitted to it in response as confidential.

After receipt of proposals, the Conservancy may, at its discretion, interview one or more Respondents, during which time Respondents will have the opportunity to present their proposal and respond to questions; no statement by a Conservancy employee at any such interview is binding on the Conservancy. The Conservancy reserves the right to award final contracts on the basis of initial responses received, without discussions or requests for best and final offers. Selection of a Respondent does not imply that every element of that proposal has been accepted.

The Respondent's proposal in response to this RFQ may be incorporated into a final contract between the Conservancy and the selected Respondent(s). If a Respondent is selected but proves unable to meet requirements necessary for contract signing, the Conservancy reserves the right to select another Respondent. **Respondents not selected within this RFQ process may be engaged for future opportunities that arise.**

The Conservancy will not be responsible under any circumstances for any costs incurred by any Respondents to this RFQ.





*Chinatown Main Street's Lantern Festival, 2017*

Interested in applying for this opportunity?  
Please do so online via [Form Assembly](#).

Please direct all questions to Sheila Novak:  
snovak@rosekennedygreenway  
by **5:00pm ET on February 16, 2023.**

# Thank You!