

Date of Issue: April 2017  
**Walter L. Stasavich Science and Nature Center**  
**Wetland Mural Work for STEAM Lab**  
**Request for Proposals**  
**Due Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 by 3:00pm**

Project Manager Contact Information:  
Christopher Horrigan, Parks Coordinator  
Greenville Recreation and Parks  
Department Parks Division (252) 329-4562  
[chorrigan@greenvillenc.gov](mailto:chorrigan@greenvillenc.gov)

## **1.0 BASIS OF THE MURAL DESIGN**

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 the North Carolina Department of Cultural and Natural Resources provided notice that the Walter L. Stasavich Science and Nature Center, in partnership with Love A Sea Turtle (LAST), was awarded grant funds as part of the NC Science Museums Grant program. The grant will establish a dedicated Water Quality and STEAM Discovery Lab at River Park North; allowing schools, teachers, homeschool groups and non-profits to conduct teacher and student trainings and lessons throughout the year. When not in use for trainings or by school groups, the lab will function as a modern, hands-on, STEAM center for visitors of all ages, facilitated by volunteer docents. Experiences include wetland mural work, augmented reality sandbox, youth friendly microscope, water quality testing equipment, field collection tools, and a myriad of rotating hands on STEAM modules. This permanent exhibit will expand our ability to engage the public with our message of wetland habitat and water conservation and support and enhance our existing summer camps, birthday party, and public program offerings.

### **1.1 About River Park North**

Recreational and educational opportunities abound at Greenville, North Carolina's premier science and nature facility, River Park North. Located on 324 acres with 1.2 miles of frontage on the Tar River, River Park North includes 250 acres of rich bottom land forest, 50 acres of small ponds, and over 20 acres of open grassland. The Walter L. Stasavich Science & Nature Center houses a 70-seat theater along with a variety of exhibits including a turtle touch tank, Waterfowl of the Atlantic Flyway, a 10,000 gallon freshwater aquarium, live snake exhibits, a discovery room, North American Wildlife diorama, and a shell exhibit.

River Park North and the Walter L. Stasavich Science and Nature Center is rated the number two, "thing to do in Greenville, NC," by Trip Advisor and has approximately 66,000 visits annually, providing significant visibility for the selected artist's work.

## 2.0 PROBLEM STATEMENT

The City of Greenville Recreation and Parks Department is issuing a Request for Proposals to qualified mural artists to design and install a unique, site-specific, wetland mural for an indoor Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) lab. The design must be capable of being a stand-alone exhibit allowing guests to search for, and identify, common flora and fauna native to Eastern North Carolina Cypress-Gum swamps and provide an immersive experience. This type of work takes a very specific skillset; not just any painter can paint murals. Applicants must have experience working with the required medium and accurately rendering flora and fauna in paint. In some cases, illustrators experienced working in paint may also wish to apply.

The designs shall be designed based on the following criteria:

- a). The design shall create an immersive experience of being present in an Eastern North Carolina Cypress-Gum swamp in the Spring or Summer.
- b). Designs should be realistic in nature, incorporate a representative diversity of flora and fauna native to the Cypress-Gum swamps of Eastern North Carolina, and be of sufficient detail as to be able to identify the species depicted. A list of preferred species is identified in Appendix D. The City will provide photography of the priority species identified for inclusion.
- c). Artists shall submit a rough sketch of design, a list of all species (Common and Scientific names) included in the work, and their anticipated location.
- d). The installation is permanent and must resist wear, vandalism, graffiti, and require minimal maintenance. The mural will be painted directly on the classroom walls.
- e). The mural is not intended to be a single floor to ceiling mural, instead approximately five murals ranging from 20 square feet to 130 square feet in size on multiple walls for a total of approximately 250-275 square feet of mural. Mural(s) will be painted directly on the wall.
- f). Artist's timeline for implementation, ideally work will be completed by August 31<sup>st</sup>, and take no longer than 4 weeks (28 consecutive days). This timeline may be negotiable based on the proposed scope of the project and the availability of the artist. Identify site access needs.
- g). Total cost of the mural work may not exceed \$7,000 (labor) and up to \$500 for materials. Provide the total cost of labor, labor cost by square foot, and anticipated materials cost.
- h). (Optional) In addition to traditional office fluorescent lighting the room is equipped with blacklights which presents the opportunity for creative highlights to create a nocturnal experience.
- i). (Optional) Artist may submit a separate budget that includes repainting the classroom walls a solid background color from floor to ceiling prior to painting the murals. *At minimum artist should recommend a background color and paint for an external contractor or park staff to paint the walls with prior to the mural installation.*
- j). (Optional) Artist may submit a separate budget for a detailed, illustrated rendering of their proposal.

## 2.1 Project Deliverables

- a). 250-275 square feet of mural work as described above, please provide the total cost of labor, labor cost by square foot, and anticipated materials cost.
- b). A rough sketch of design, a list of all species (Common and Scientific names) included in the work, and their location.
- c). (Optional) Detailed, illustrated rendering of their proposal.

## 3.0 CITY AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Site Assessment/Analysis: Interested artists should visit the project site at River Park North, 1000 Mumford Road, Greenville, NC and schedule a meeting with Christopher Horrigan, Park/Project Coordinator to become familiar with the representative environment being depicted and perform a site assessment/analysis to aid in the project design.

Initial Schematic Drawings: The Greenville Recreation and Parks Department requests initial rough sketches and plans, including a species list, location of murals, and square feet of each mural, for the proposed art. This should include a color schematic drawing of the proposed mural(s), examples of previous mural work depicting natural environments, and any other documentation explaining the proposed mural or the artist's experience.

Please include a hard copy and a PDF document on CD with all relevant contact information.

Please provide a Letter of Interest with all contact information for the applicant. Due Date of Proposed Design: Designs are due to the contact person no later than **Monday, June 19th, 2017 by 3:00pm** to Christopher Horrigan at [chorrigan@greenvillenc.gov](mailto:chorrigan@greenvillenc.gov) or 1000 Mumford Road, Greenville, NC 27834. Designs must be a PDF document and either emailed or sent on a CD.

3.1 City of Greenville Responsibilities: The City of Greenville will be responsible for the following things:

All designs will be reviewed by a selection panel. Three finalists will be chosen from the initial designs, artists are encouraged to meet with the panel to discuss their vision, experience, and project timeline prior to their selecting a finalist.

The chosen artist will have a budget of **\$7,000 (labor)** to complete the design and installation of the final mural and up to **\$500 for materials**.

The City of Greenville will present each finalist with a contract of expectations by July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

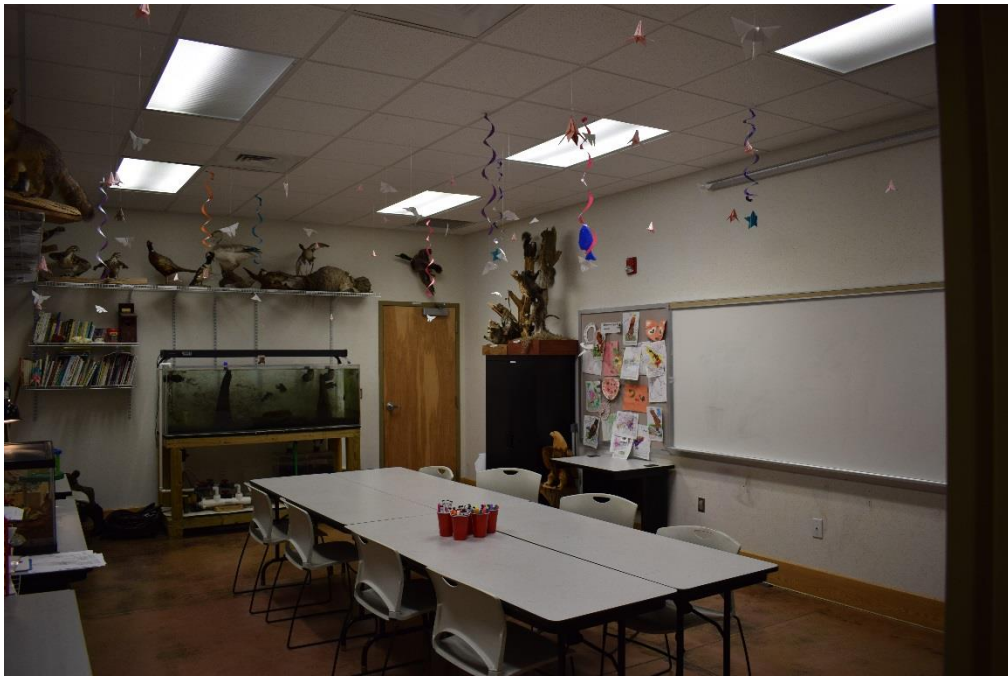
The City of Greenville, through the site manager, Christopher Horrigan, will work closely with the finalists to answer questions, make decisions, provide guidance and assist with coordination and site access to complete the mural as needed.

Contact Information: Christopher Horrigan  
River Park North, Park Corrdinator  
1000 Mumford Road, Greenville, NC 27834  
Phone – (252) 329-4562, E-mail – [chorrigan@greenvillenc.gov](mailto:chorrigan@greenvillenc.gov)

## EXHIBIT – A

### Photo of existing lab/meeting space

***All existing furniture and elements in the photos will be removed and replaced as part of the redesign with the exception of the white board. New furniture/exhibits/aquariums will be installed and animal mounts and posters will not be returned upon completion of the mural. The room will be painted floor to ceiling with a new coat of paint.***

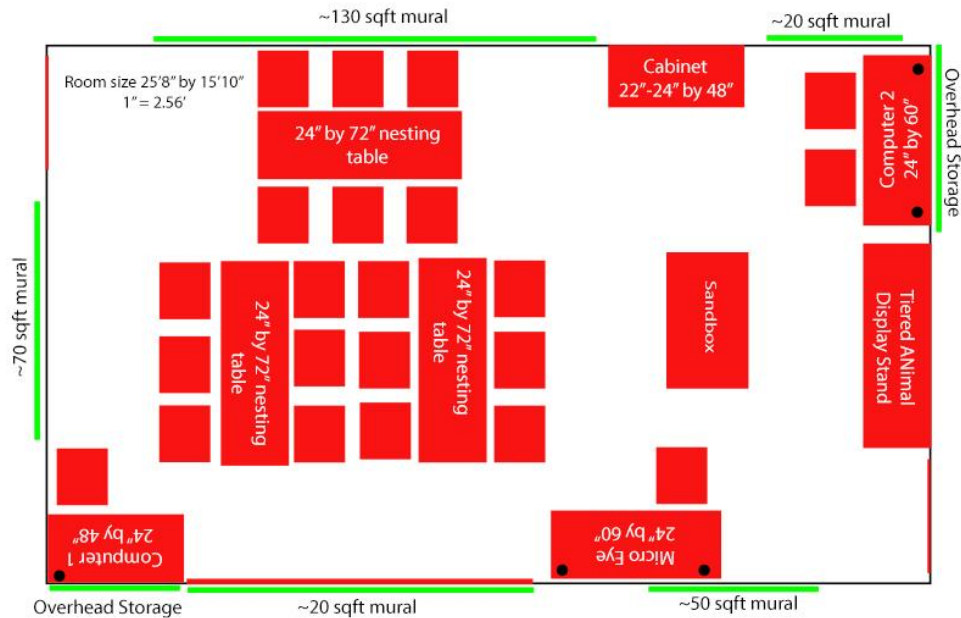


## EXHIBIT – B

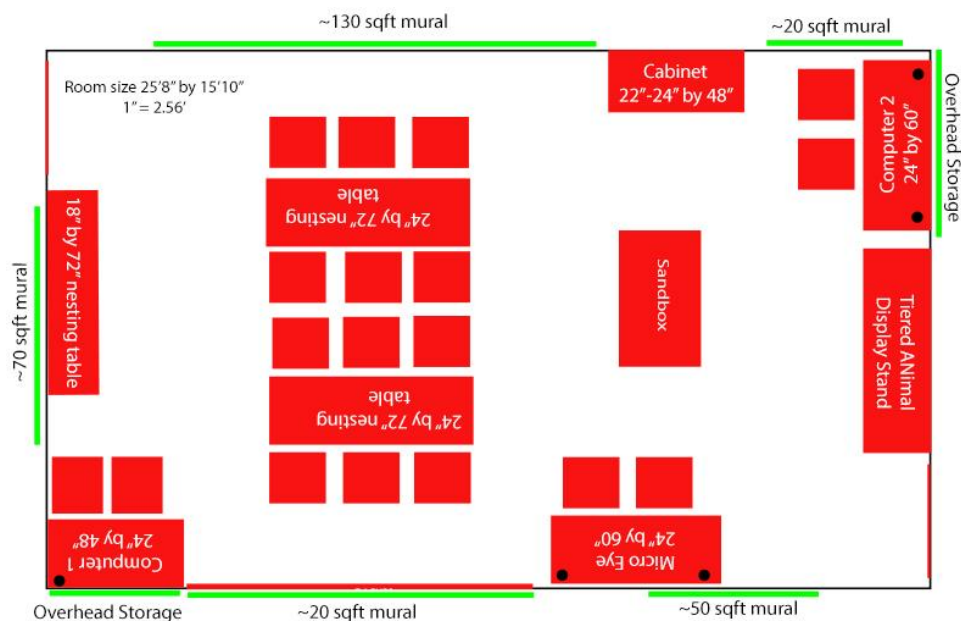
### Potential mural locations and alternate STEAM lab layout(s).

Square footage of murals labeled below was calculated by the maximum height and width of the mural and is an exaggerated estimate of the actual square footage of a mural in that location.

Classroom program ~18 participants



Open Lab Layout





**EXHIBIT – C**

**Photos of River Park North Cypress-Gum swamps**

*Additional photos and onsite visit available upon request*



Swamp trees with buttressed trunks



*Taxodium knees and Osmunda fern in the swamp*

## **EXHIBIT – D**

Priority list of flora and fauna common to Cypress-Gum swamps of Eastern NC

Items in green are priority species requested for inclusion in the mural work, inclusion of additional suggestions are welcome.

### **Flora**

#### **Trees**

Water tupelo  
Bald cypress  
Carolina water ash  
Red maple  
Swamp cottonwood  
Ironwood  
Box Elder  
Swamp Chestnut Oak

#### **Vines, shrubs, gasses, and forbs**

Poison Ivy  
Lizards Tail – *Saururus cernuus*  
Smallspike false nettle – *Boehmeria cylindrical*  
Trunk Moss – Generic

### **Fauna**

#### **Reptiles**

Brown Water snake  
Eastern Kingsnake  
Spotted Turtle  
Broad headed Skink

#### **Birds**

Great Egret  
Great Blue Heron  
Pileated Woodpecker  
Prothonotary Warbler  
Wood Duck

#### **Mammals**

Fox Squirrel  
Cotton Mouse  
Rafinesque's Big-eared bat

#### **Amphibians**

Two-toed Amphiuma  
Dwarf salamander  
Bull Frog  
Tadpoles

#### **Fish**

Bowfin  
Eastern mudminnow  
Black-banded sunfish  
Eastern mosquito fish

#### **Invertebrates**

Dragonflies  
Crayfish  
Toe-biter/Giant water bug  
Water scorpions  
Isopods

#### **Interesting features**

Crawfish mounds  
Cypress knees  
Hollow cypress and tupelo trees  
Rotten/fallen trees  
Buttressed Trees  
Flood lines  
Water