

Project Name: Accessibility in Nature - Revitalization of East Side Park

Issued By: Ruffner Mountain Nature Coalition, Inc.

Request for Proposals (RFP): Landscape Design & Construction Plan for East Side Park

1. Introduction

Ruffner Mountain Nature Coalition Inc. (Coalition) is seeking proposals from qualified landscape architecture firms for the design and development of comprehensive landscape plans and construction documents for East Side Park. This project aims to create a vibrant, accessible, and sustainable public space that supports community well-being, natural habitat, and environmental stewardship.

2. Scope of Work

The selected firm will be responsible for:

1. **Due Diligence:** Visit the property and review background material and data to become familiar with the site and adjacent neighborhood. Perform topographic survey, utility survey, and survey of existing conditions
2. **Design and Planning:** Development of conceptual landscape design plans, incorporating civil, landscape, irrigation, electrical, hardscape, and structural elements as necessary.
3. **Collaboration and Revisions:** Working closely with Staff to incorporate feedback and generate final construction documents for distribution.
4. **Community Engagement:** Attend, present, and prepare materials for two community meetings or workshops for the presentation of the design. Attend, participate, and prepare materials for one community event hosted on-site at the future park location.
5. **Material Preparation:** Prepare concepts for environmental education, signage, and a park logo. Produce and provide to Coalition any documents, handouts, graphics, slide presentations, and other materials required for city approval of park plan and concept design.

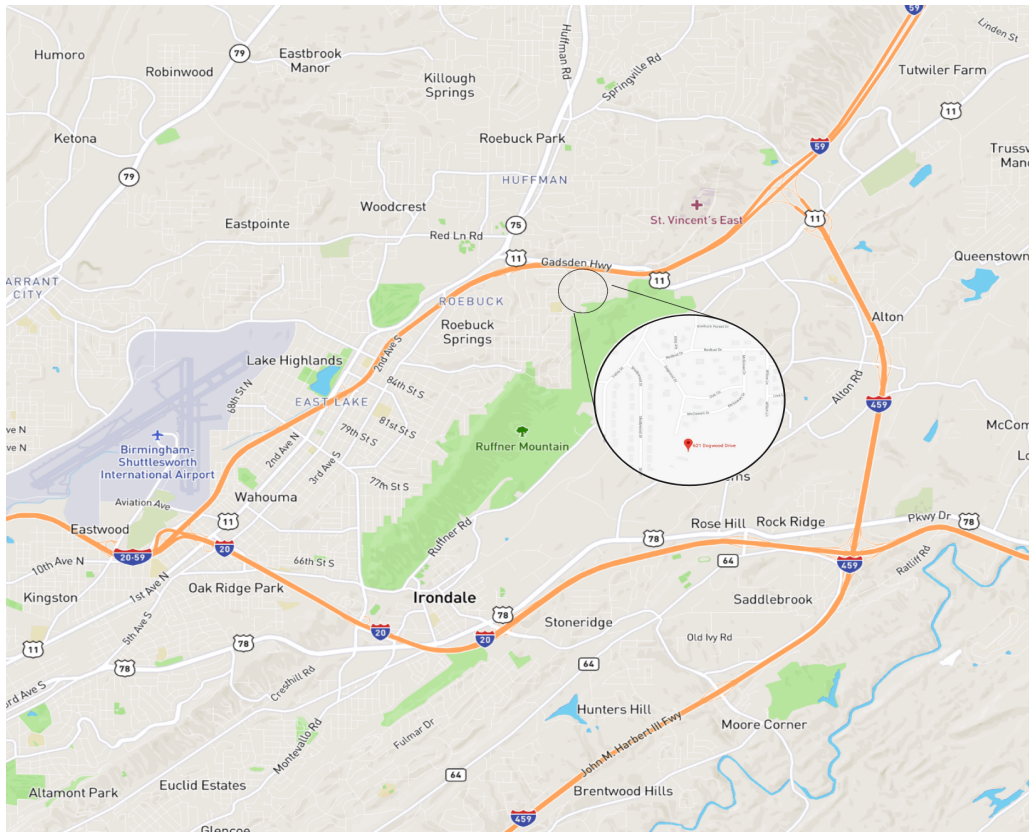
- 6. ***Construction Plan and Documents:** Preparation of complete construction documents and specifications in digital PDF format for bidding purposes. This includes layout, grading, construction details, irrigation and planting plans, plant list, specifications, cost estimates, and a written narrative describing design elements and maintenance requirements.

*The Coalition may contract for construction documentation services based on this plan at a later date.

3. Project Details

Location: East Side Park, 621 Dogwood Drive, Birmingham, AL 35206 near I-59 and Highway 11, Roebuck Springs-South Roebuck neighborhood.

Size: 6.5 acres.



 **East Side Park**
621 Dogwood Drive
Birmingham, AL 35206

4. Vision

The foundation of East Side Park will be accessibility in nature. Providing access for people of all abilities, their families, friends, and caregivers. With over 5,000 feet of wheelchair-accessible trails that will connect various immersive learning and natural sensory hubs. Visitors to East Side Park will find everything from low-impact walking trails, a large sensory garden, edible permaculture, and birding, to kid-friendly areas like nature play. In addition, East Side Park may one day serve as another entry portal to Ruffner Mountain's 14-mile trail system via a "rails to trails" easement along the former Birmingham Mineral Rail Line.

5. Goals and Objectives

1. Community Impact: Addressing health disparities, disability inclusion, and providing services to impacted communities.
2. Equity and Inclusion: Creating an accessible and inclusive environment for all community members.
3. Environmental Sustainability: Promoting ecological stewardship and resilience.

6. Timeline

February 19, 2024: Firm Selection

April 15, 2024: Present initial conceptual landscape design

June 1, 2024: Submission of the Project Plan, including conceptual designs, to the City

Post- June 1, 2024: Awaiting feedback from the City; make adjustments to the plans

7. Proposal Submission Requirements

Firm Qualifications: Demonstrated experience in landscape architecture, particularly in accessible and sustainable design.

Project Approach: Outline of proposed methodology and understanding of project goals.

Portfolio: Examples of previous similar work.

Budget and Timeline: Detailed cost estimate and project timeline.

References: Contact information for previous clients.

8. Submission Deadline and Contact Information

Proposals must be submitted by 5:00 pm February 15th, 2024. Email one PDF to Janet Simpson - Janet@ruffnermountain.org and Carlee Sanford - Carlee@ruffnermountain.org

Once we have reviewed the proposals, we will invite the shortlisted firms for interviews with our partners before making a final decision. Please direct questions regarding this RFP to Janet Simpson - Janet@ruffnermountain.org by **February 8th, 2024.**

- Paper/hardcopy proposals will not be accepted or considered.
- This request for proposal is non-binding.

This RFP represents a significant opportunity to contribute to a transformative project that will enrich the lives of the local community and set a standard for inclusive and sustainable public spaces. We look forward to receiving innovative and impactful proposals.

Please review the attached resources for background information about the project:

- Context Map
- Site Photos

March 18, 2016



**After Cleanup & Invasive
Removal Efforts**





East Side Park
Phase Two: Revitalization

