

# Terminal Enhancement Project (TEP) Request for Qualifications

Long Bag Device RFQ 2540 Window Wall RFQ 2541 Feature Wall RFQ 2542

DUE: December 5, 2025

## Terminal Enhancement Project (TEP) – Request for Qualifications

The Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority (GFIAA) is seeking qualifications from artists for three distinct permanent art opportunities as part of the Terminal Enhancement Project (TEP).

As part of this initiative, GFIAA has released three separate RFQs that are included in this document:

- Long Bag Device RFQ 2540
- Window Wall RFQ 2541
- Feature Wall RFQ 2542

Each RFQ represents a unique opportunity for artists to contribute to this transformative project and to help define the travel experience at Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GFIA). *Interested artists are encouraged to review the details of each RFQ and apply to one or more opportunities that align with their expertise and artistic vision.* 

# **GFIA Art Program**

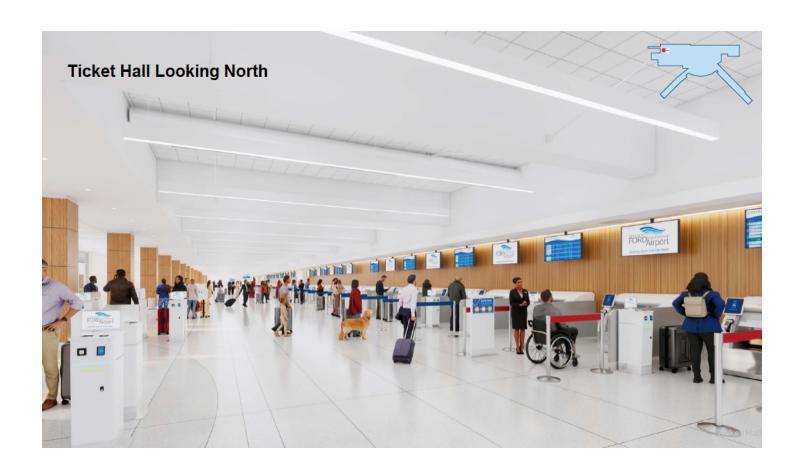
The GFIA Art Program features both permanent and rotating exhibitions that enrich the airport environment while supporting local artists, art students, and cultural institutions.

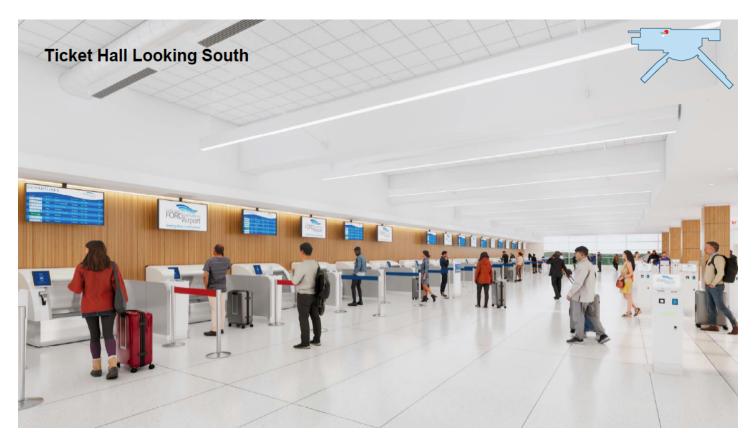
The program is a partnership between the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority and the Frey Foundation, with oversight provided by a committee of four representatives appointed by the Airport Authority President & CEO and two appointed by the Frey Foundation. Together, the Airport and the Frey Foundation collaborate with artists throughout the region to offer guests an enriched experience and a warm welcome that reflects the character of West Michigan.

## What is the Terminal Enhancement Project?

Terminal Enhancement Project, or TEP, will expand the west end of the terminal, aiming to increase capacity and incorporate sustainable elements to further optimize operations, minimize the Airport's environmental footprint and enhance the guest experience. The expansion includes:

- A Consolidated Baggage Inspection System, or CBIS, on the lower level of the terminal, streamlining the checked luggage process from the airline ticketing counter through screening and onto the aircraft.
- An Individual Carrier System, or ICS, for baggage handling screening. This will make the GFIA the
  first small-hub airport in the U.S. to install an ICS.
- New ticket counter spaces and the consolidation of all airline ticketing counters to the west end of the terminal.
- Expanded baggage claim area with larger carousels to facilitate a more seamless and modernized baggage claim process for arriving passengers.





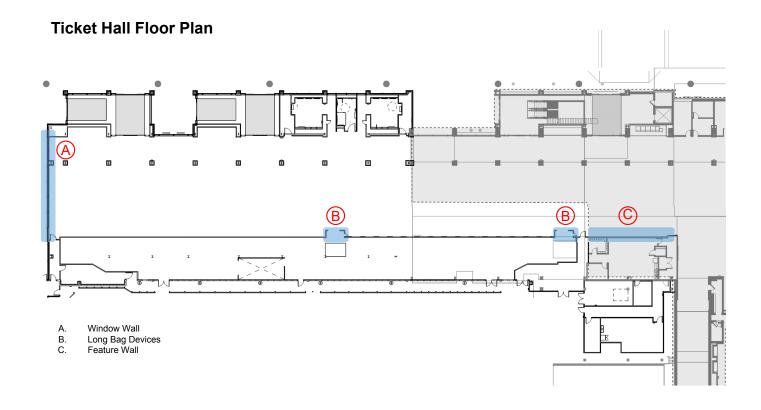
# **TEP Design / Theme**

The Temporary Enhancement Project (TEP) will be one of the first experiences guests encounter as they begin their journey. Travelers are focused on finding their airline, checking their bags, and ensuring they meet requirements. The artwork should serve as a calm, welcoming presence in this busy setting, offering beauty, grounding, and a sense of place.

Artists selected from these RFQs will be asked to create site-specific, contemporary artworks that evoke the textures, colors, and atmosphere of the West Michigan lakeshore. This is not a call for literal depictions, but for creative interpretations that respond to the region's natural elements – the lakeshore's shimmering waters, sculpted dunes, swaying grasses, vibrant seasonal transitions, and expansive horizons.

While some visitors may engage with the work while standing in line, others may pass by quickly. Either way, the artwork should leave an impression. Whether as a moment of quiet reflection or a subtle visual landmark that aids in orientation and wayfinding. Through abstraction, materiality, light, or form, the work should both reflect the unique spirit of West Michigan and enhance the traveler's experience with a sense of connection and ease.

## **Locations of Artwork Opportunities**



# **TEP Project Goals**

- Reflect the highest level of artistic quality that is original in concept, strong in vision, and showing clear mastery of craft and technique, while drawing people in and holding their attention.
- Be thoughtful about the work's relationship to the surrounding architecture and design elements.
- Make a lasting impression, giving travelers something they will remember long after their visit.
- Contribute to the Airport's mission: to create an exceptional travel experience for our passengers, and growth and prosperity for all of West Michigan.
- Serve as a natural wayfinding anchor.
- Highlight what makes West Michigan distinct from anywhere else in the world.
- Bring the outside in, whether through literal or abstract references to water, dunes, light, or landscape, and reinterpret the expansiveness of the natural world for the rhythm and movement of an airport environment.

## **Artist Experience**

Artists should ideally be mid-career or beyond, with a demonstrated record of successful work and an established portfolio.

# Eligibility

Applicants must be 21 years of age or older. Artists must either reside in West Michigan or have a strong tie to the region. Questions about eligibility may be directed to Art Project Manager, Katie Moore at katie@mooreartconsulting.com.

#### Questions

Questions regarding this solicitation are to be submitted in writing to the Art Project Manager, Katie Moore **prior to 5 p.m. on November 21, 2025** at katie@mooreartconsulting.com.

GFIAA reserves the right to publish and respond to an inquiry, respond directly to the inquirer without publishing or not respond to the inquiry at its sole discretion.

It is the firm's responsibility to become familiar with and fully informed regarding the terms, conditions, and specifications of this solicitation. Lack of understanding or misinterpretation of any portions of this solicitation shall not be cause for withdrawal after opening or for subsequent protest of award. Addendums will only be published by the GFIAA Purchasing Department and available for review at www.flyford.org.

## **Terms and Conditions**

GFIAA reserves the right to require that its standard terms and conditions apply to any actual order placed in response to a firm's submission. No attempt to modify GFIAA's Standard Terms and Conditions shall be binding, absent agreement on such modification in writing and signed by GFIAA.

No payment shall be made to the Respondent for any extra material or services, or of any greater amount of money than stipulated to be paid in the contract, unless changes in or additions to the contract requiring additional outlay by the Respondent shall first have been expressly authorized and ordered in writing by contract amendment or otherwise furnished by the GFIAA.

The intent of these specifications is to solicit a properly designed and all-inclusive response. Any requirements not in the specifications, but which are needed for such a response, are to be included in the submission.

The Gerald R Ford International Airport Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that for any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises and airport concession disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The Respondent shall not discriminate against an employee or applicant for employment with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment, or a matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, marital status, or disability that is unrelated to the individual's ability to perform the duties of a particular job or position.

The Respondent shall observe and comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations at all times during the completion of any contract with the GFIAA. The terms of this request shall be interpreted, construed and enforced pursuant to the laws of the State of Michigan, and the Parties irrevocably consent to the jurisdiction of the federal and state courts presiding in Michigan.

The GFIAA is tax-exempt and a regional airport authority organized under 2015 P.A. 95, being MCL 259.137 et. seq.

Vendor Representation and Warranty Regarding Federal Excluded Parties List: The Respondent acknowledges that the GFIAA may be receiving funds from or through the Federal Government; such funds may not be used to pay any Respondent on the Federal Excluded Parties List (EPLS). The Respondent represents and warrants to the GFIAA that it is not on the Federal EPLS. If the Respondent is in non-compliance at any time during execution or term of this agreement (including any extensions thereof), the Respondent shall be in breach and the GFIAA shall be entitled to all reme-dies available to it at law or equity, specifically including but not limited to recovery of all moneys paid to the Respondent, all consequential damages (including the loss of grant funding or the requirement that grant funding be returned), and attorney fees (including the costs of in-house counsel) sustained as a result of the Respondent's non-compliance with this warranty and representation.

Pursuant to the Michigan Iran Economic Sanctions Act, 2012 P.A. 517, by submitting a bid, proposal or response, Respondent certifies, under civil penalty for false certification, that it is fully eligible to do so under law and that it is not an "Iran linked business," as that term is defined in the Act.

Insurance requirements are posted on the Documents and Forms page of the GFIAA website within the Purchasing Terms and Conditions document.

Termination For Cause: Should the firm fail to perform the Work as required by and in accordance with the schedule or time requirements, or otherwise violate any of the terms set forth in the Solicita-tion Request, it shall constitute breach of the Contract. Other than in force majeure situations, Respondent shall have five (5) calendar days to cure a breach of the Contract (the "Cure Period") follow-ing issuance of GFIAA written notice. Failure to cure a breach of the Contract within said Cure Period shall allow the GFIAA to, without further notice to the Respondent, declare the Contract terminated and proceed with the replacement of the Respondent and the GFIAA shall be entitled to all remedies available to it at law or in equity including a claim against any required payment/performance bonds. Termination Without Cause: Notwithstanding any other provision, at any time and without cause, GFI-AA shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate the contract by giving sixty (60) days written notice.

Although it is the intent to contract with one provider, the GFIAA reserves the right to contract with alternate sources if the Respondent is unable or unwilling to service its obligation, or it is deemed by GFIAA to be in its best interest to use alternate sources.

Assignment: Neither party shall assign or delegate any of its rights or obligations under this Agree-ment without the prior written consent of the other party.

Respondent warrants that they are an authorized provider of products or services of his/her submission.

## **Michigan Freedom of Information Act**

Information submitted in this solicitation is subject to the Michigan Freedom of Information Act and may not be held in confidence after the Respondent's submission is opened. A submission will be available for review after the project has been awarded.

GFIAA cannot assure that all of the information submitted as part of or peripheral to the Respondent's submission will be kept confidential. Any Respondent submission language designated as confidential is considered automatically invalid and void. GFIAA is subject to the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, which prohibits it from concealing information on or associated with responses, successful or unsuccessful, once they are opened.

# **Evaluation, Status Updates / Awards Notification**

The Authority reserves the right to request additional information it may deem necessary after the submissions are received.

As part of the evaluation process, Respondents may be requested to make an oral presentation, at the Respondent's expense, to an evaluation committee. Key staff to be assigned to this project must participate in this presentation unless otherwise waived by the Authority. The presentation may be followed by a question-and-answer session.

The Authority reserves the right at its discretion to waive irregularities of this solicitation process. In the event of extension errors, the unit price shall prevail and the Respondent's total offer will be corrected accordingly. In the event of additional errors, the extended totals will prevail and the Respondent's total will be corrected accordingly. Respondents must check their submission where applicable. Failure to do so will be at the Respondent's risk. Submissions having erasures or corrections must be initialed in ink by the Respondent. Respondents are cautioned to recheck their submissions for possible errors.

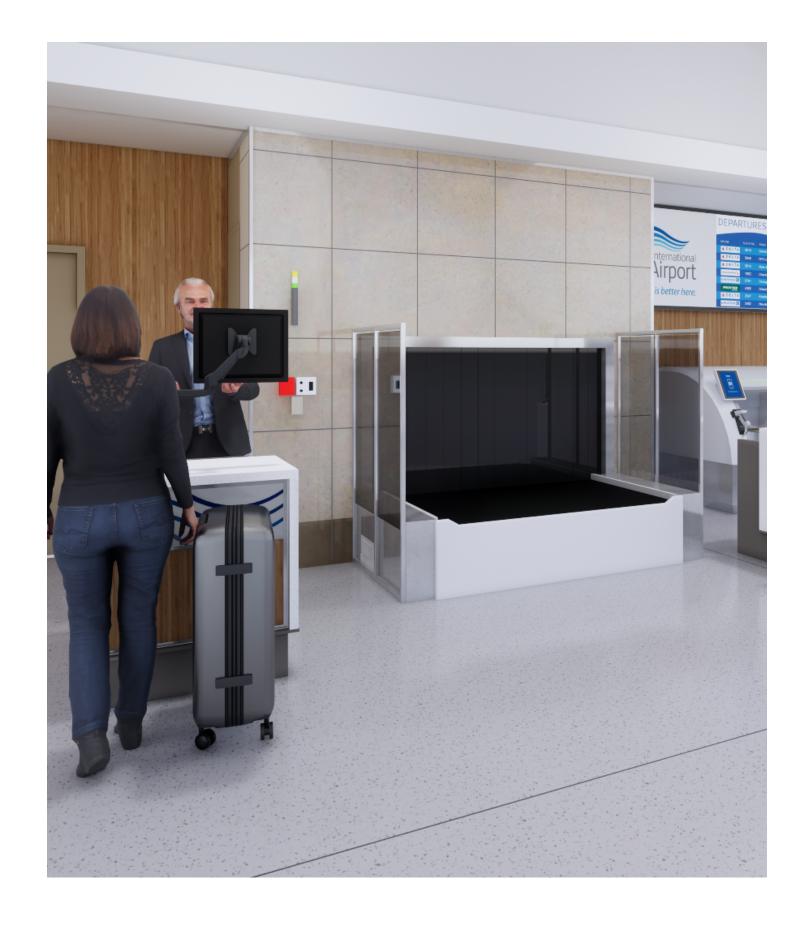
The Respondent shall not be allowed to take advantage of error, omissions or discrepancies in the specifications.

The Authority, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to award to the Respondent whose response is deemed most advantageous to the Authority. The Authority, at its sole discretion, shall select the most responsive and responsible Respondent and evaluate all responses based on the requirements and criterion set forth in this solicitation while reserving the right to weigh specifications and other factors in the award. The Authority reserves the right to reject any and all submissions as a result of this solicitation.

The Authority reserves the right to award by line item when applicable and to accept or reject any or all parts of a submission.

Accelerated discounts should be stated at the time of submission. If quick-pay discounts are of fered, The Authority reserves the right to include that discount as part of the award criterion. Prices must, however, be based upon payment in thirty (30) days after receipt, inspection, and acceptance. In all cases, quick-pay discounts will be calculated from the date of the invoice or the date of acceptance, whichever is later.

Award notifications are posted on the Authority website. It is the Respondent's responsibility to monitor the website for status updates.



Long Bag Device RFQ 2540

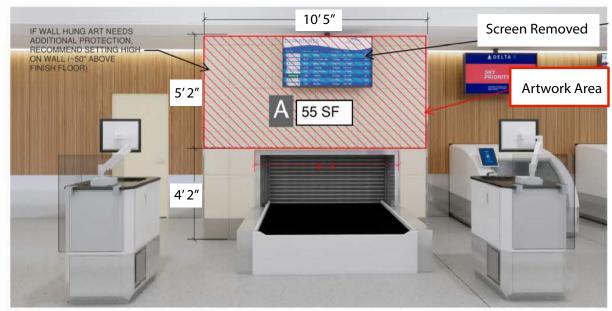
# Long Bag Device RFQ

RFQ Due Date: December 5, 2025

As part of the Terminal Enhancement Project, there are two Long Bag Devices (LBDs) located within the terminal. The selected artwork will be installed above and around each LBD, serving both as a visually impactful artwork and as a point of wayfinding for travelers.

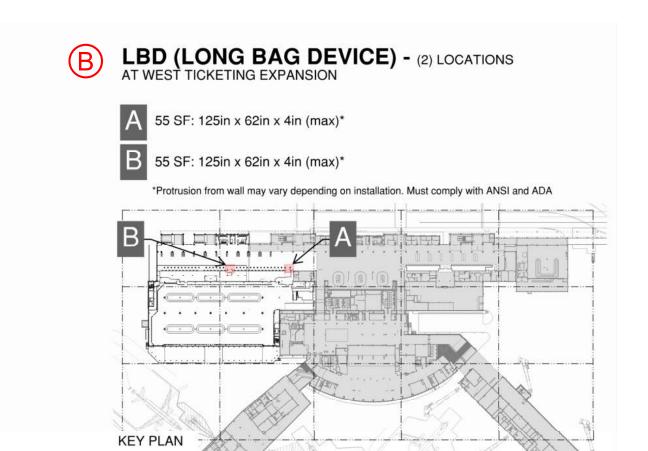
The installation site offers opportunities for both two-dimensional and three-dimensional work. The space includes a shallow bulkhead (6 inches) and a vertical face extending up to the suspended ceiling. Artists are encouraged to consider sculptural elements that extend into the space while harmonizing with the architectural features.

In addition to the bulkhead and wall surfaces, artists may propose adding a vinyl application or glass etching to the protective barriers located around the mouth of each LBD.



INTERIOR ELEVATION - TICKETING SOUTH







#### Materials & Fabrication

Artists are encouraged to explore creative and innovative uses of materials, textures, and forms. While two-dimensional work is welcome, proposals that move beyond paint on a wall or a singular framed piece are strongly encouraged. The site offers opportunities for layered, dimensional installations—including suspended elements in front of the wall and extensions onto adjacent glass partitions.

The use of color is welcomed and may be integrated in bold or subtle ways to enhance the work's presence within the space. All materials must be durable, high-quality, and suitable for long-term installation in a busy public environment, with consideration given to maintenance, safety, and environmental conditions.

# **Budget**

The total budget for this project is up to \$75,000. This amount is inclusive of all costs associated with the artwork, including (but not limited to) artist fees, design, engineering, materials, fabrication, transportation, installation, and insurance.

GFIA, in coordination with the selected artist or artist team, may allocate additional funds on a case-by-case basis to cover specific project needs.

Artists invited to move forward in the selection process will be required to provide a detailed budget proposal outlining anticipated expenses and allocation of funds. This budget will be reviewed in collaboration with GFIA to ensure feasibility and alignment with project goals.

GFIA will own the completed artwork.

## Solicitation and Project Schedule

RFQ Issue Date : October 2025
RFQ Due Date : December 5, 2025

First Round Artists Selected : January 5, 2026

In-Person Meeting: January 20, 2026 3:00PM at the Gerald R Ford International Airport

• First Round Artist Proposals Due: March 1, 2026

Final Artist Selected : Mid - March 2026

Selected Artist Kick-Off Meeting: Late March 2026

LBD Wall One Installation : Fall 2026
 LBD Wall Two Installation : Fall 2027

#### **Selection Process**

Completed applications will be reviewed by the GFIA Art Committee. Up to four artists will be invited to move forward to the second round.

Artists selected for this round will receive a \$600 stipend to develop a full concept proposal. Selected artists will be required to attend an informational meeting at the Gerald R. Ford International Airport on January 20, 2026 at 3:00 PM, where they will receive detailed site plans and additional project information.

One artist will ultimately be selected to complete both LBD walls. Further revisions may be required based on stakeholder feedback.

# **Application Requirements**

Applicants should submit the following materials (no proposals required at this stage):

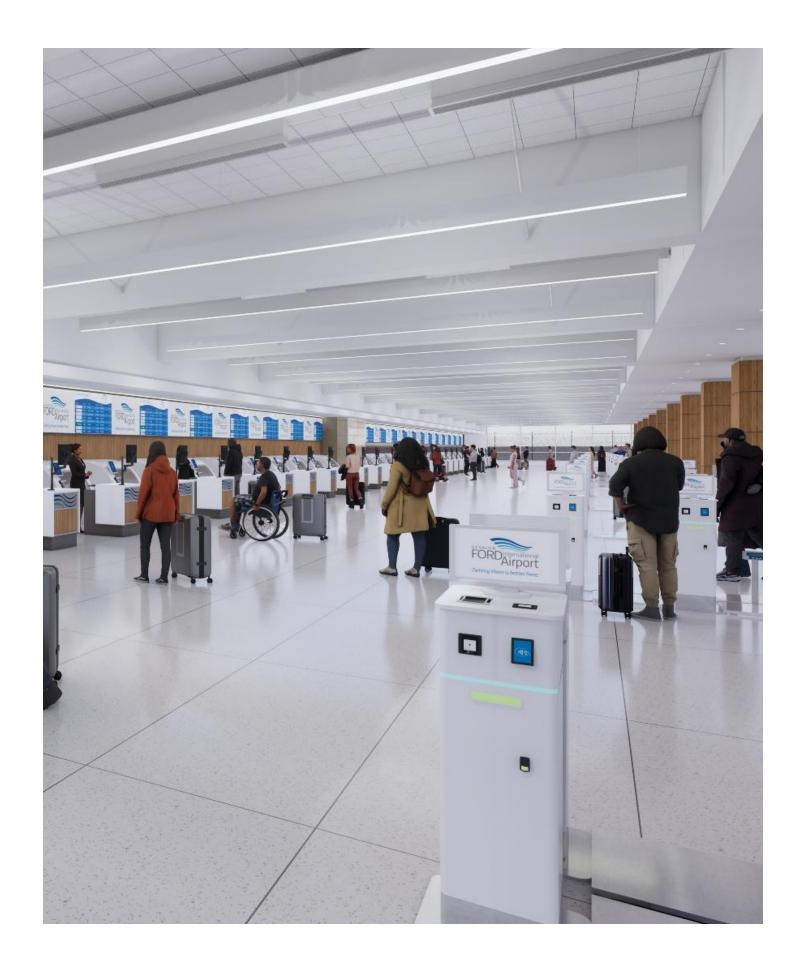
- Contact Information: Artist name, address, email, website (if applicable), and phone number.
- **Resume or CV**: A 1–2 page résumé or CV highlighting relevant experience.
- Work Samples: 10–15 images of completed projects that demonstrate artistic voice and technical expertise.
- Image List: The image list should include the name of each work, medium and year created.
- **Professional References:** Contact information for three (3) professional references, including name, email, and phone number, along with a brief statement about your working relationship. Written recommendations may be requested later in the process.

Application materials must be submitted as one **single PDF** document and be labeled with the artist's last name and RFQ number. **Example**: **Moore RFQ 2540.pdf** 

Please upload application materials to the designated GFIA Dropbox : <u>HERE.</u>

The firm certifies the response submitted has not been made or prepared in collusion with any other respondent and the prices, terms or conditions thereof have not been communicated by or on behalf of the respondent to any other respondent prior to the official opening of this request. This certification may be treated for all purposes as if it were a sworn statement made under oath, subject to the penalties for perjury. Moreover, it is made subject to the provisions of 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, relating to the making of false statements.

Submissions may be withdrawn by written request only if the request is received on or before the opening date and time. Submissions not meeting these criterions may be deemed non-responsive. GFIAA is not liable for any costs incurred by any prospective firm prior to the awarding of a contract, including any costs incurred in addressing this solicitation.



Window Wall RFQ 2541

#### Window Wall RFQ 2541

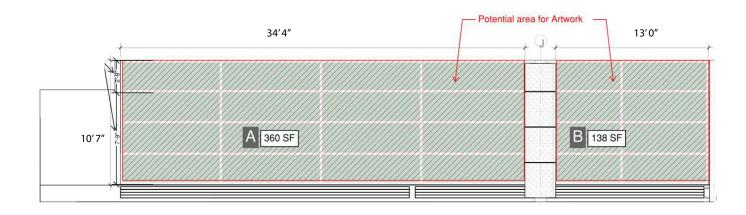
RFQ Due Date: December 5, 2025

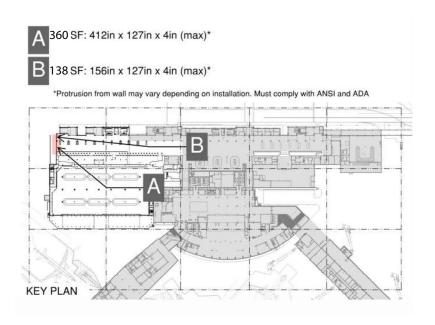
#### Window Wall

The Window Wall, located at the far end of the terminal, serves as a capstone element of the Terminal Enhancement Project. As one of the most prominent architectural features in the space, it will act as a focal point for travelers and should create a bright, captivating presence.

The recommended medium is a vinyl application or another transparent or semi-transparent material. The ideal design will interact gracefully with natural light, partially covering the windows in an organic, flowing manner that filters sunlight while still maintaining views of the outdoors.

In addition to enhancing the terminal's atmosphere, the artwork should function as a visual landmark that supports intuitive wayfinding and establishes a memorable sense of place. Guests should experience the Window Wall as both a moment of beauty and an orientation point within their journey.





# **Budget**

The total budget for this project is up to \$50,000. This amount is inclusive of all costs associated with the artwork, including (but not limited to) artist fees, design, engineering, materials, fabrication, transportation, installation, and insurance.

GFIA, in coordination with the selected artist or artist team, may allocate additional funds on a case-by-case basis to cover specific project needs.

Artists invited to move forward in the selection process will be required to provide a detailed budget proposal outlining anticipated expenses and allocation of funds. This budget will be reviewed in collaboration with GFIA to ensure feasibility and alignment with project goals.

GFIA will own the completed artwork.

## **Solicitation and Project Schedule**

• RFQ Issue Date : October, 2025

• RFQ Due Date : December 5, 2025

First Round Artists Selected: January 5, 2026

In-Person Meeting: January 20, 2026 3:00PM at the Gerald R Ford International Airport

• First Round Artist Proposals Due: March 1, 2026

Final Artist Selected : Early April 2026

Selected Artist Kick-Off Meeting: Late April 2026

Window Wall Installation : Fall 2026

#### **Selection Process**

Completed applications will be reviewed by the GFIA Art Committee. Up to four artists will be invited to move forward to the second round.

Artists selected for this round will receive a \$600 stipend to develop a full concept proposal. Selected artists will be required to attend an informational meeting at the Gerald R. Ford International Airport on January 20, 2026 at 3:00 PM, where they will receive detailed site plans and additional project information.

One artist will ultimately be selected to complete the Window Wall. Further revisions may be required based on stakeholder feedback.

## **Application Requirements**

Applicants should submit the following materials (no proposals required at this stage):

- Contact Information: Artist name, address, email, website (if applicable), and phone number.
- **Resume or CV**: A 1–2 page résumé or CV highlighting relevant experience.
- Work Samples: 10–15 images of completed projects that demonstrate artistic voice and
- technical expertise.
- Image List: The image list should include the name of each work, medium and year created.
- **Professional References:** Contact information for three (3) professional references, including name, email, and phone number, along with a brief statement about your working relationship. Written recommendations may be requested later in the process.

Application materials must be submitted as one **single PDF** document and be labeled with the artist's last name and RFQ number. **Example**: **Moore\_RFQ\_2540.pdf** 

# Please upload application materials to the designated GFIA Dropbox : HERE.

The firm certifies the response submitted has not been made or prepared in collusion with any other respondent and the prices, terms or conditions thereof have not been communicated by or on behalf of the respondent to any other respondent prior to the official opening of this request. This certification may be treated for all purposes as if it were a sworn statement made under oath, subject to the penalties for perjury. Moreover, it is made subject to the provisions of 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, relating to the making of false statements.

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Feature Wall RFQ 2542

### Feature Wall RFQ 2542

RFQ Due Date: December 5, 2025

#### Feature Wall

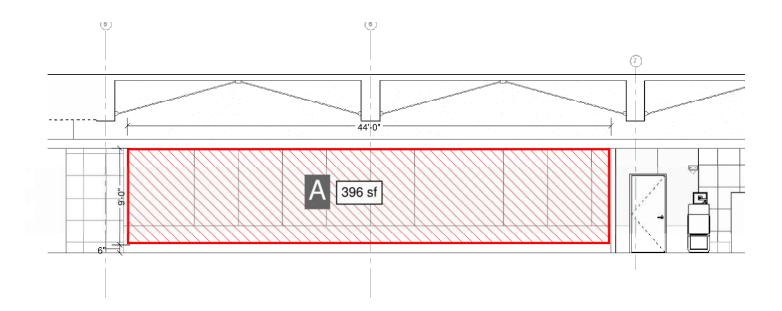
The Feature Wall is the first focal point guests encounter as they enter Gerald R. Ford International Airport. This artwork should not only guide travelers visually into the updated terminal but also act as a welcoming gesture, setting the tone for their journey.

The artwork should be visually striking from a distance while also offering layered details that reward closer viewing. Artists are encouraged to explore innovative uses of material, texture, and form to achieve both impact and durability in this high traffic environment.

As with the other opportunities, there is no prescribed medium. However, the use of durable, high quality materials suited for permanent installation is required. The final work should harmonize with the architectural design of the terminal while celebrating the natural beauty, textures, and spirit of West Michigan.

In addition to serving as a powerful focal point, the Feature Wall may function as a visual guide that supports intuitive wayfinding and helps establish a memorable sense of place for travelers.

The artist should also consider how the artwork could be designed and fabricated to allow for future relocation. Because the site may be expanded in 5–10 years, the work should be movable and able to be reinstalled without compromising its integrity or visual impact.

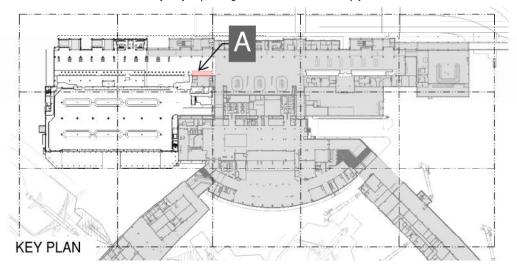






396 SF: 528in x 108in x 4in (max)\*

\*Protrusion from wall may vary depending on installation. Must comply with ANSI and ADA



# **Budget**

The total budget for this project is up to \$90,000. This amount is inclusive of all costs associated with the artwork, including (but not limited to) artist fees, design, engineering, materials, fabrication, transportation, installation, and insurance.

GFIA, in coordination with the selected artist or artist team, may allocate additional funds on a case-by-case basis to cover specific project needs.

Artists invited to move forward in the selection process will be required to provide a detailed budget proposal outlining anticipated expenses and allocation of funds. This budget will be reviewed in collaboration with GFIA to ensure feasibility and alignment with project goals.

GFIA will own the completed artwork.

## **Solicitation and Project Schedule**

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First Round Artists Selected: January 5, 2026

In-Person Meeting: January 20, 2026 3:00PM at the Gerald R Ford International Airport

First Round Artist Proposals Due: May 1, 2025

Final Artist Selected: June 2026

Selected Artist Kick-Off Meeting: June 2026

Feature Wall Installation : Fall 2027

#### **Selection Process**

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Artists selected for this round will receive a \$600 stipend to develop a full concept proposal. Selected artists will be required to attend an informational meeting at the Gerald R. Ford International Airport on January 20, 2026 at 3:00 PM, where they will receive detailed site plans and additional project information.

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