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375 Millburn Avenue  
Millburn, NJ 07041

## TOWNSHIP OF MILLBURN

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### Art Installation at Taylor Park

#### Project Background

The Township of Millburn is soliciting Expressions of Interest (EOI) from prospective artists to design, fabricate and install artwork for placement alongside the Main Street side of Taylor Park. The proposed artwork is being coordinated by the Cultural Engagement Diversity and Arts Committee (CEDA) and the Art Advisory Committee (AAC).

CEDA was established in 2019. Its first program aimed at broader inclusive community engagement including often underrepresented sub communities within the township, titled “Millwheels Rolling into Millburn”, sought the artistic talents of local organizations to take the blank canvas of a water wheel and make it their own, to be displayed in Taylor Park for two months. Twenty-four (24) organizations participated, with large numbers of the community coming out to see the showcased wheels and to celebrate the various organizations that took part. Each wheel was created by a different cultural group or local organization within the township and reflects a unique interpretation of the beauty of Millburn and our community. Pictures of the event can be found here: [twp.millburn.nj.us/MRIM](http://twp.millburn.nj.us/MRIM)

The Art Advisory Committee was formed in 1998 to advise and assist the Township Committee in developing and maintaining the township’s art collection. Its functions include appraisal, display, disposition, maintenance, security, and storage of the township’s art assets. The AAC has coordinated the installation of two public art displays at the Millburn Public Library, and presents a number of Millburn High School Senior and Junior AP Art students with merit scholarships annually. The Art Advisory Committee’s website can be found here: [mshartsadvisorycommittee.wordpress.com/](http://mshartsadvisorycommittee.wordpress.com/)

The Township of Millburn, CEDA, and AAC are arranging for the installation of a permanent art piece that will represent the town’s history, diversity, and as it is today. A brief history of the township can be found here: [twp.millburn.nj.us/history](http://twp.millburn.nj.us/history)

#### Project Description

Recognizing that art can bring people together, the installation of public art in Taylor Park offers a space that invites positive expressions of community inclusivity and public engagement.

Members of CEDA and AAC come from a wide variety of professions and backgrounds. What unites them is an interest in public art and community engagement. The township identified a patch of land along the Main Street side of Taylor Park as a suitable location for a permanent art piece.

The site's dimensions are 20' x 15', with clear visibility between Main Street and Taylor Pond. The engineering department noted that the site is located within a flood plain, and will advise the chosen artist to ensure that the piece conforms with necessary standards and guidelines. Photographs of the site, as well as a memo from the Township Engineer, are included at the end of this document.

The art installation shall be a three-dimensional object, with flexibility given to proposals that suggest a sculpture or other physical objects. Elements to be incorporated in the art piece should represent the township's history, such as by including or referencing a millwheel, though the millwheel is not a requirement. The art piece can be non-stationary and non-interactive, with elements that point to community engagement and diversity. Designs may also reflect the moment our community is in, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The art piece will be a permanent installation in Taylor Park, a 13-acre park dedicated in 1924 and located in the heart of Downtown Millburn, and will be promoted on the township's website, social media, as well as other promotional outlets. The township looks forward to working with the selected artist, and to highlight a place of public gathering with a prominent piece of art.

### **Locations for Art Installation**

The proposed location for art installation is in Taylor Park, at 100 Main St. in Millburn, NJ. A map is provided at the end of this document illustrating where in the park the piece would reside.

### **Art Installation Project Budget**

The Township of Millburn has allocated \$22,000 towards this project. These funds can be directed towards fees to the artist, materials, and site work.

Artists in the next round, selected to receive a Request for Proposals, shall be given a stipend of \$500 to prepare a mockup of their proposal. Up to five (5) finalists shall be selected for this round.

### **Anticipated Process**

Potential artists will be selected from those who submit expressions of interest. Artists who are selected will receive a request for proposal (RFP) to respond to their ability to approach the project in the art medium specified.

The township will rate each artist and their proposal based on the following criteria.

- Artistic quality of proposed artwork.
- Appropriateness of proposed artwork to the site and objective of the project.
- Experience with public art installations.
- Permanence, durability, maintainability and use of high-quality materials.
- Absence of hazards to the public.
- Recommended measures to protect against vandalism.

- Innovation in use of materials and techniques.
- Willingness of the artist to carry out the project in coordination with the project team or any ongoing/pending construction by the Township of Millburn.
- Ability of the artist to create and install the artwork within the established timeframe.
- Fabrication price within budget constraints.

Artists interested in participating in the project shall submit letters summarizing their interest and experience in the creation of public artworks. The letter shall include a list of at least 3 references (name, contact information – phone number and email address) for similar projects. In addition to the letter the artist should include other pertinent information including their resume, photographs/images (minimum: 4, maximum: 6) of examples of installations of public art, website links, etc. Any materials submitted will not be returned. Please do not provide original documents.

Proposals can be submitted by emailing [administrator@millburntwp.org](mailto:administrator@millburntwp.org), or by mailing a packet to 375 Millburn Avenue, ATTN Alexander McDonald, Millburn, NJ 07041. For questions call 973-564-7088.

**Anticipated Schedule**

Posting date:	June 3, 2020
Closing Deadline:	July 15, 2020
Selection of Finalists:	August 1, 2020
Notification of RFP to selected artists:	August 3, 2020
Closing of RFP:	September 15, 2020
Notice to Proceed (NTP):	October 1, 2020

It is anticipated that the artists shall provide periodic updates as to the progress of the design and fabrication of the art.

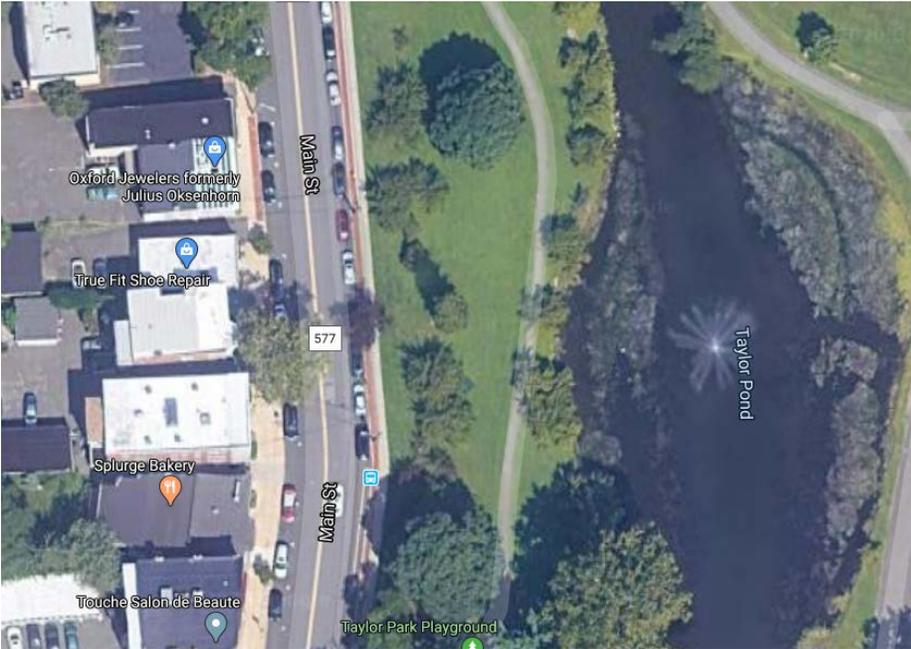
(All dates are subject to change)

Images

View from Main Street



Satellite View







## THE TOWNSHIP OF MILLBURN

375 MILLBURN AVENUE  
MILLBURN, NEW JERSEY 07041

OFFICE OF TOWNSHIP ENGINEER  
MARTHA J. CALLAHAN, P.E., C.M.E.

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**Memorandum To:** Jesse Moehlman  
**From:** Martha Callahan, P.E., Township Engineer  
**Date:** May 20, 2020  
**Re:** Taylor Park Art Installation

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Earlier this year I met with the Millburn Mayor, Jackie Lieberberg, and Town Hall staff members at Taylor Park where we inspected various locations that might be suitable for the installation of a 3D piece of artwork which is yet to be commissioned. The purpose of this memo is to articulate certain site parameters for a prospective artist to consider when envisioning an art installation.

The area to be used is a space between the west bank of Rahway River and Main Street. There is a large, open, fairly flat space that is bordered by a large evergreen tree to the south, a large deciduous tree to the north, an asphalt sidewalk to the east (between the space and the river) and a few small ornamental flowering trees to the west. The proposed area dedicated for the artwork is approximately 15' x 20' within the space described above.

The area does have a slight upward slope from east to west so some kind of provision must be made to create a level platform to mount a piece.

In addition to the slope, the space is located within a Special Flood Hazard Area of the Rahway River with a base flood elevation determined to be approximately El. 120.5 (based on NAVD 88). The existing grade elevation in that area is approximately El. 118.0, a differential of 2.5 feet. As this area is occasionally subject to moving flood waters during extreme weather events the artist will have to take that into consideration when choosing materials and mounting methods.

Access to the site is available via asphalt pathways currently in the park.