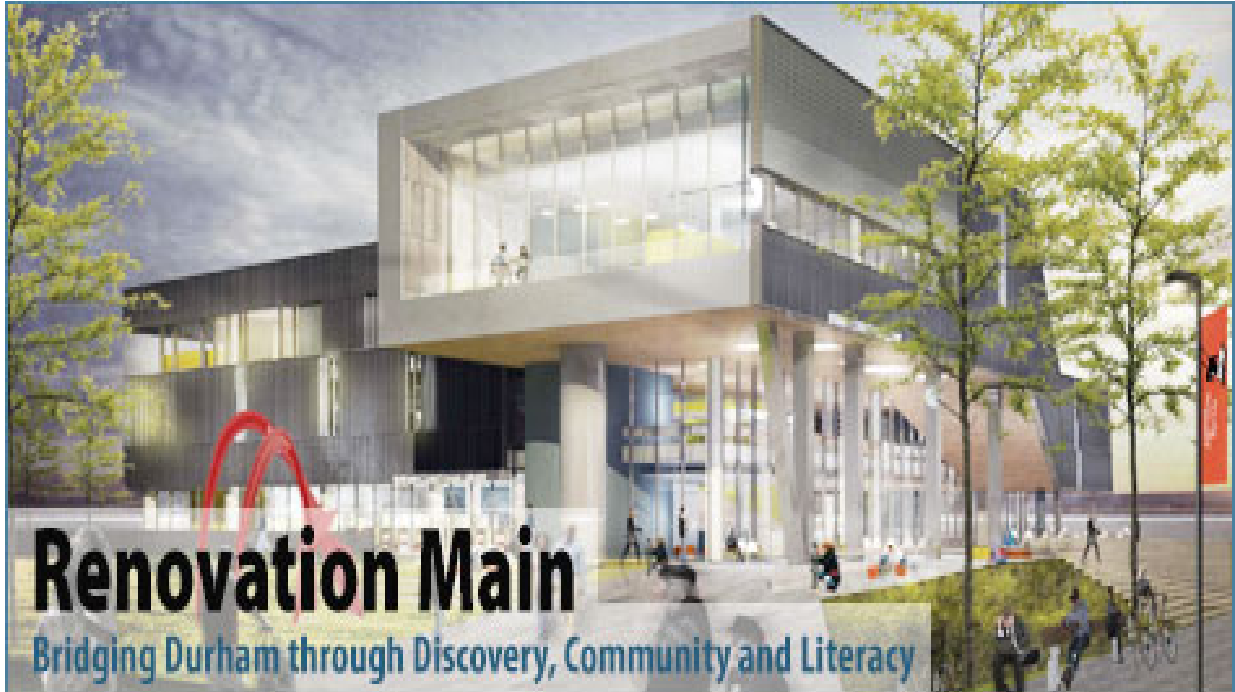


**DURHAM COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA**



**Request for Qualifications**

**Public Art at the Durham County Main Library  
300 N. Roxboro Street, Durham NC 27701  
RFQ No. 19-016**



**Issue Date: January 29, 2019  
Deadline for Submissions: February 26, 2019  
Project Budget: \$100,000.00**

**Proposal Schedule**  
**(Note: The dates below are subject to change)**

**Public Art at the Durham County Main Library**  
**RFQ 19-016**

<b>Advertisement Date</b>	<b>January 29, 2019</b>	
<b>Last Date for Questions</b>	<b>February 15, 2019 by 3:00 P.M. (EST)</b>	
<b>Proposal Due Date</b>	<b>February 26, 2019 by 5:00 P.M. (EST)</b>	



January 29, 2019

**Request for Submission of Qualifications for Public Art at the  
Durham County Main Library  
RFQ No. 19-016**

Dear Proposer:

You are invited to submit qualifications online via Call for Entry (located at <https://callforentry.com>) to be received not later than **5:00 P.M.(EST)** on February 26, 2019. Submittals received after the date and time specified cannot be accepted.

Application materials will be submitted online via Call for Entry and include:

1. Statement of Interest
2. Annotated samples of work relevant to this project
3. Project personnel resumés
4. References

All questions and requests for clarifications relative to this RFQ should be submitted in writing via email to Hilda W. Williams [purchasinggroup@dconc.gov](mailto:purchasinggroup@dconc.gov) by 3:00 P.M., on February 15, 2019. **All responses to questions will be submitted online via Call for Entry (located at <https://callforentry.com>).**

Should you have any questions concerning this Request for Qualifications, please do not hesitate to send me an email.

Sincerely,

*Hilda W. Williams*

Hilda W. Williams  
Senior Procurement Specialist  
919-560-0054



## ANNOUNCEMENT

### **Request for Submission of Qualifications for Public Art at the Durham County Main Library**

The County of Durham, North Carolina, invites qualified artists or artist teams to submit Qualifications for the design, fabricate, and installation of art to enhance the public spaces of the Durham County Main Library.

#### **Project Goals**

Create artwork inspired by the Durham County Library System's 120-year journey to twenty-first century technology, resource innovation, and citizen enrichment. Install original work that will artistically promote the new Durham County Main Library as a vibrant, modern learning environment and vital component of the downtown culture.

#### **Project Description**

The County of Durham, North Carolina is seeking artists or artist teams (“Candidates”) to design, fabricate, and install permanent public artwork at the Durham County Main Library currently under construction. Candidates should have experience creating public art that fosters a unique sense of place. The Main Library is located on approximately 4 acres on North Roxboro Street between Liberty Street and Holloway Street, and is expected to be completed in the Fall of 2019 (Exhibit A).

The main entrance to the Library is from the Liberty Street side. Two areas have been identified for Public Art. The first area identified for Public Art is at the intersection of North Roxboro and Liberty Streets. Adjacent to this corner is a large entry plaza with bench seating which provides a unique opportunity for engagement and interaction with the Public. The second area is inside the Library is directly across from the main entrance along the monumental stair wall (Exhibit B). These installations will be highly visible to all pedestrians, passing traffic and visitors to the Library and downtown Durham.

#### **Budget**

The total budget for this Public Art project is \$100,000. This allocation is inclusive of all costs associated with this project, including materials, equipment, labor, permits, engineering documents, insurance, taxes, travel, installation, shipping, identification plaque, maintenance instructions document, and written and professional photographic documentation of the completed project.

#### **Definition**

Durham County defines Public Art as original visual art including, but not limited to, sculptures, murals, photographic renderings, mosaics, lighting and electronic art installations installed on a permanent basis in spaces which are visible from public streets and pedestrian walkways, free of any admission fee, through a public process providing opportunity for community input.

Commissioned artwork should be respectful of the values and mission of Durham County and its Library system. The work should be culturally responsive and make visible strides to engage with and connect to the public by activating and enhancing the facility's grounds. Interested Candidates should be mindful of the operational activities and regular daily use of the facility and seek to create an inviting civic statement that welcomes visitors, building staff, and passersby.

### **Project Background**

The transformation of the Main Library represents a significant capital project costing approximately \$44.3M. Designed by the firm of Vines Architecture, the new 85,000 square foot state-of-the-art "Library for the Future" will replace the 65,000 square foot 1980 Main Library building that had reached the end of its useful life. Funds for the project were approved in the 2016 bond referendum.

The new Library will be LEED Certified and includes an auditorium with telescopic seating to allow flexibility in its utilization, and an amphitheater to extend Library programming into the outdoors. Technologies planned for the new Library include computer use and training areas as well as gaming spaces, conference areas, 3D printing/maker spaces, video production areas, recording areas, and the capacity to incorporate emerging technologies. The North Carolina Collection will be permanently housed in the new facility.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.dconc.gov/government/departments-a-e/engineering-and-environmental-services/project-management-division/current-projects/main-library>

### **About the Durham County Library System:**

The Durham County Library system is committed to creating a community of lifelong learners. Their mission is Encourage Discovery, Connect to the Community, and Lead in Literacy by promoting comprehensive literacy for the residents of Durham. In addition to the traditional aspects of reading, the Library desires to be a significant resource for all areas of literacy including cultural, technological, business, and others. The Library is S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) focused while encouraging creativity and innovation among both users and staff. As a department of Durham County Government, the Library furthers GOAL 1 of the County's strategic plan by enhancing cultural, educational, and creative opportunities.

### **About the Library Service District and surrounding neighborhoods:**

"The Main Library is an integral part of the downtown community" said Tammy Baggett, Library Director. With recent or planned renovations occurring close to the Library site, and future development being explored or proposed, the need to fully connect the Library into the greater context of Durham will be key. The building will be a signature component of downtown for generations to come. Visitors will arrive to the building from the heart of downtown to the south and west, and from neighborhoods to the north.

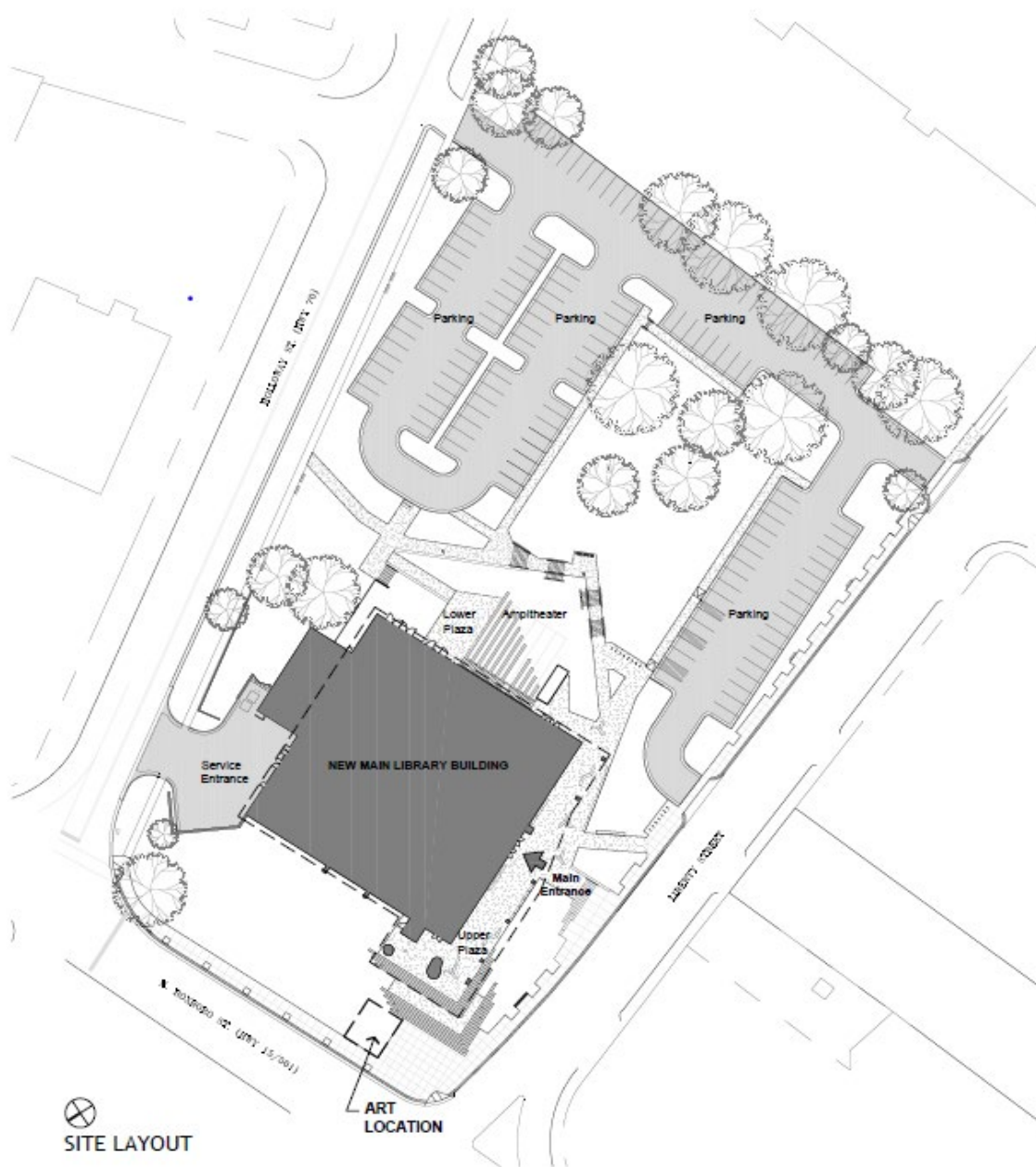
### **Durham's History:**

A booming County in North Carolina's thriving Research Triangle, Durham began in 1864 as a small rail depot village. Tobacco drove the early economic development of Durham; the distinctive voice of the Piedmont Blues music grew to entertain workers, and the largest black-owned insurance company in the country opened its headquarters on Parrish Street in 1906. Drawing on this rich and diverse history, Durham has reimaged and repurposed its earlier tobacco and textile warehouses and prominent landmarks to create a vibrant downtown. Southern Living Magazine wrote: "With a reverence for life's everyday pleasures (we're talking coffee, beer, pizza, and pie here), a passionate mix of chefs, farmers, brewers, bakers, and baristas have quietly transformed Durham into one of the hottest food destinations in the South.

Part of what makes Bull City compelling is the confluence of old and new: Its foodie future is gradually wiping out its tobacco past, yet remnants of the town's first industry provide a backdrop for its current scene. Both the [American Tobacco Historic District](#) and [Brightleaf Square](#), two mixed-use developments brimming with restaurants, bars, and live music venues, are housed in former tobacco warehouses that date back to the 1800s and 1900s." Four local Chefs recently became James Beard Foundation Award semi-finalists, and two national award-winning micro-breweries and craft distilleries have located downtown. Since 2000, the County has experienced exponential growth with a total of \$1.3 billion in investments.

For more information about Durham, please visit: <http://downtowndurham.com>

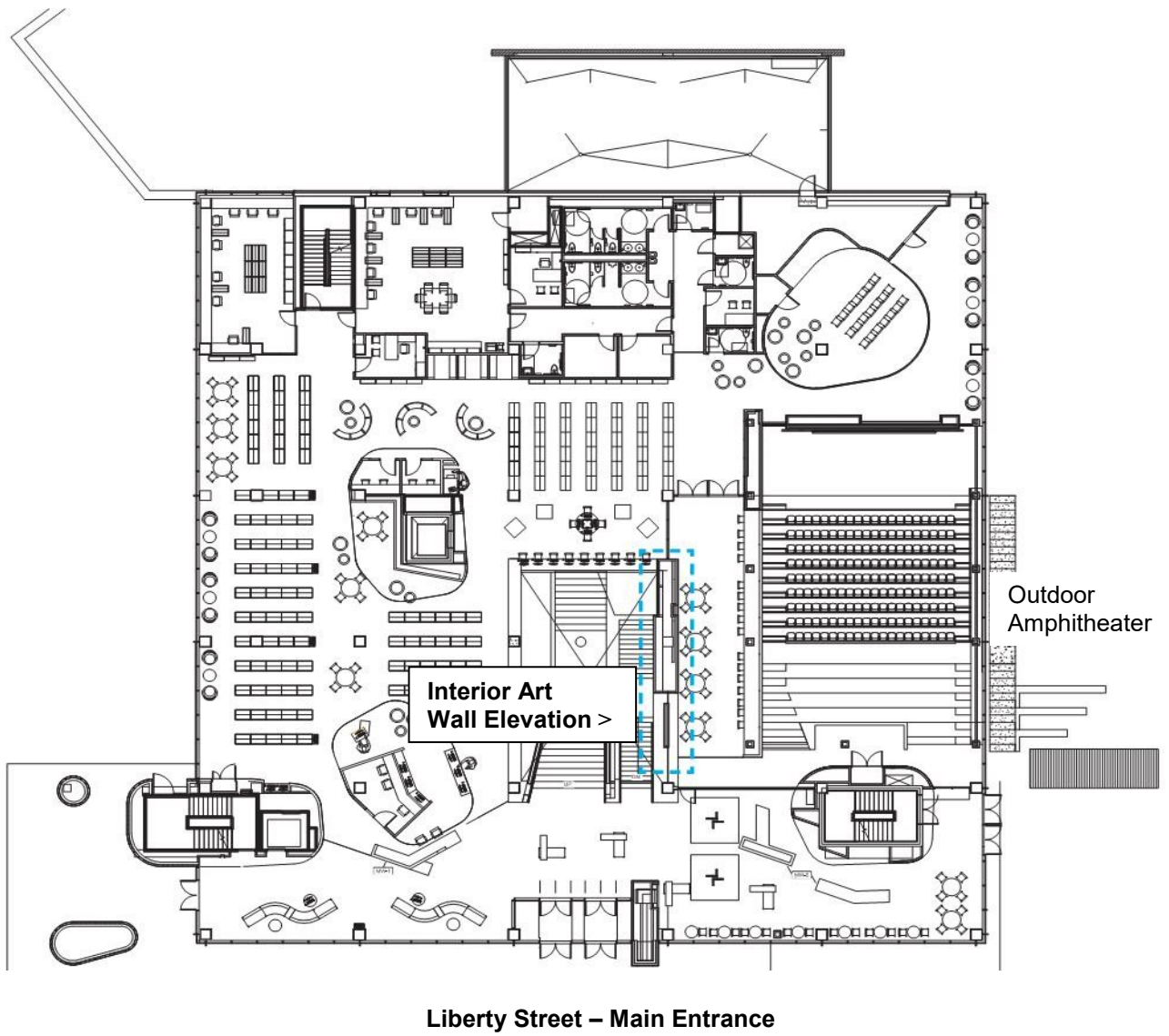
**Main Library Pictorial**



Engineering and  
Environmental Services  
Project Management Division

DURHAM COUNTY MAIN LIBRARY TRANSFORMATION

Site Plan –EXHIBIT A



First Floor Plan – Interior Art location  
EXHIBIT B







**Main Entry Plaza at North Roxboro Street/Liberty Street and Public Art Location**



**Movie Night on the lawn**

## **Eligibility**

- Candidates must be professional artists or designers as stated in your resume
- Candidates must be age 18 or older and are eligible regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, gender identification, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical ability.
- Candidates must be eligible to work in the United States

## **Other Project Considerations**

Maintenance and Durability: The selected artwork must be able to sustain, over time, natural weather conditions and require minimum maintenance.

Safety and Security: The selected artwork will be evaluated on the overall safety and security of the finished work. Objects that provide places to hide or places that are obscured from lines of sight to the public are discouraged.

## **Submission Requirements**

Application materials must be received on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 by 5:00 P.M., EST, via the submission portal on <https://callforentry.com>. Items required shall include the following:

1. **Statement of Interest: Including Statement of Thematic Concept and Planned Medium: Narrative**  
Outlining interest and qualifications for this project, including experience in community engagement around public art. This should include a brief statement on your concept of for the artwork, including any particular theme or themes that it might include. If appropriate, include which medium (s) you plan to use in the artwork and description.
2. **Work Samples:** visual representations of past artwork that demonstrate qualifications for this project, including experience in community engagement around public art. In order to be considered for this project, candidates must upload a total of 10 images that represent no more than 5 previously completed projects. Slides, prints, or any physical submissions of artwork will not be accepted. Each sample should have an accompanying summary of the title, location, cost, materials/media, and timeline associated with that piece.
3. **Project Personnel Resume:** resumes for each artist/artist team member. If submitting as a team, compile all resumes into a single document.
4. **References:** each artist/artist team should provide three (3) current professional references or recommendation letters with contact information for each reference.

## **Tentative Project Timeline**

Issue date: January 29, 2019

Submittal deadline: February 26, 2019

Finalist selection: March 12, 2019

Finalist interviews: March 26-28, 2019

Artist selection: April 1, 2019

Concept design and development approval: April - May 15, 2019

Board of County Commissioners approval process May 2019

Fabrication and installation: May 2019-July 2019

Project Completion: August 2019

## **Selection Process and Evaluation Criteria**

Staff will preview application for completeness and may reject incomplete applications or non-responsive submissions.

An Artist Selection Committee (which may include staff from the Durham County Library system, Engineering Project Management, General Services, visual art/design professionals, and other community members) will review and evaluate Candidates' applications based on criteria that may include but is not limited to the following:

- Quality and strength of past work as demonstrated in submitted application materials
- Experience, success, and/or interest in community engagement in the process of creating public artwork
- Statement of thematic concept and planned medium(s)
- Proven track record of using the materials and methods appropriate for this project
- Demonstrated ability to manage projects with similar budgets on time and on budget

## **Artist Selection Committee**

The Artist Selection Committee will invite up to three (3) Finalists to Durham, North Carolina to view the site, meet with County and community stakeholders, interview with Artist Selection Committee members. Reasonable compensation for travel and accommodations will be provided.

After the interviews, the Selection Committee will recommend a Finalist who will be invited to contract with the County for the commission of this work.

## **Scope of Services**

The services which will be required from Finalists during the selection process but are not necessarily limited to:

- visiting the site
- meeting with potential stakeholders
- interviewing with the Artist Selection Committee

The County of Durham will commission the Finalist with the best qualifications (referred to as "Awardee") to design, fabricate, and install the public art at the Main Library. We anticipate the contract to start between May 2019 and June 2019 and terminate upon completion of the project scheduled for August 2019.

The services which will be required from the Awardee(s) during the contract include but are not necessarily limited to:

- Collaborating with the County on the design concept
- Submitting final design concept, proposed budget, and project timeline
- Leading an engagement process to raise awareness within the community and gather input on the resulting installation
- Overseeing the installation of the selected artwork
- Devising a maintenance plan to ensure the proper conservation of the installation

## **Non-Contact Provision**

Candidates and Finalists are prohibited from contacting any County official or employee during course of the application period, interview process, or other processes of this solicitation, except to submit questions via the designated project managers listed at the beginning of this RFQ. Any such contact shall be grounds for disqualification of any Candidate who may have initiated such contact.

**Rights and Disclaimers**

The County reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. The County reserves the right (i) to negotiate changes of any nature with any Finalist or Awardee with respect to discrepancies between the designs selected for the contract and the art that will be commissioned by the County, and (ii) to enter into an agreement for some or all of the work with one or more Candidates who do not submit proposals. Although Candidates should make their best faith effort to comply with the requirements outlined in this call for artists, the County may, in its discretion, waive non-compliance. The evaluation criteria are intended to be used to make a recommendation to the entity or person within the County authorized to award the contract. That entity or person is not bound to use these criteria or to award on the basis of the recommendation. The County reserves the right to change the criteria and to otherwise vary from this procedure as it determines to be in the County’s interest. Unless the artist indicates otherwise all materials submitted to qualify for this Opportunity will be discarded after the conclusion of this solicitation. Under the terms of the contract, the Awardee(s) will agree to allow the County to incorporate the design and installation it has commissioned into the County’s permanent art collection.

Proposers are required to make a good faith effort to include Minority and Women Business Enterprises (M/WBEs) as part of their management team. Describe the program (plan) that your company has developed to encourage participation by M/WBEs to meet or exceed the goals set by the County of Durham’s M/WBE Program Ordinance. Include a copy of that plan in your response. Provide documentation of M/WBE participation that you have achieved over the past two years on both public and private construction projects. Outline specific efforts that your Company takes to notify M/WBE firms of opportunities for participation. Indicate the M/WBE participation goal that you expect to achieve on this project.

Durham County hereby establishes the following goals for the expenditure of funds with MWBE firms. Questions concerning M/WBE should be directed to **Rick Greene, Assistant Procurement Manager, at (919) 560-0059.**

Categories	Construction	Architect/ Engineer	Services	Goods	MWBE Availability % (Median Availability)
Black American	14.6	9.8	10.9	2.8	<b>10.4%</b>
Asian American	1.3	3.0	1.1	.43	<b>1.3%</b>
Hispanic American	4.2	1.8	1.1	.43	<b>1.5%</b>
American Indian	.65	.75	1.0	.5	<b>.70%</b>
White Female	13.8	11.0	9.5	7.1	<b>10.3%</b>
<b>Overall MWBE Participation Goal =</b>					<b>25.0%</b>

**Project Manager(s)**

**Primary**

Brenda Hayes-Bright, Durham County Engineering  
 919-560-7991  
[bbright@dconc.gov](mailto:bbright@dconc.gov)

**Secondary**

Peri Manns, Durham County Deputy Director of Engineering and Environmental Services  
 919-560-7996  
[pmanns@dconc.gov](mailto:pmanns@dconc.gov)

This RFQ does not obligate the County of Durham to pay any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response. Furthermore, the RFQ does not obligate the County of Durham to accept or contract for any expressed or implied services. The County of Durham reserves the right to reject any and all submittals. The County of Durham is committed to a program of equal employment opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, sex, age, nationality or disability.