



NEWS RELEASE

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Community Input Sought in Meridian's Public Art Project

Meridian, ID - (May 22, 2013) – Voting is now open for the Meridian Split Corridor Public Art Project. The City of Meridian wants to hear from the public before selecting an artist to install either one or two large-scale sculptures in downtown Meridian following the completion of the Meridian Split Corridor Project.

People can view and vote on the final proposals online at www.meridiancity.org or the community can see the three-dimensional proposals in person by visiting the Initial Point Gallery, on the third floor of Meridian City Hall. The final day to vote will be June 28.

A selection panel narrowed down dozens of submissions for the project to three finalists, Delia DeLapp, C.J. Rench and the team of Joseph Castle and Marty Lyon. Each finalist has submitted a three-dimensional proposal for either one or two downtown Meridian locations. The designated public art locations are the southwest corner of Ada and Main Streets and the northeast corner of Main Street and Fairview Avenue.

“Because this is public art, everyone in Meridian will have ownership of the winning sculpture,” said Brad Hoaglund, Meridian City Council President. “We think it is very important to have community input in this selection process so we can have a work of art all residents will be proud of. I am looking forward to seeing what people in Meridian think of the finalists.”

The public vote will be one factor the selection committee considers when recommending a final proposal to the Meridian Arts Commission. City Council will review and approve the recommendations of the selection committee and the Meridian Arts Commission before work starts on the final artwork. It is scheduled to be installed in downtown Meridian by May 2014.

The Meridian Split Corridor Public Art Project was funded through a \$75,000 energy savings rebate from Idaho Power and a \$20,000 grant from Meridian's Community Recycling Fund.

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The City of Meridian is located at the center of the Treasure Valley in southwest Idaho, minutes from the State Capitol. Founded in 1893 and incorporated as a city in 1903, Meridian is now one of Idaho's largest and fastest growing communities. As the home to many young families, Meridian is a vibrant community whose mission is to be a premier city to live, work and raise a family. Family Circle Magazine has selected Meridian as one of their Top 10 Best Cities for Families, Money Magazine's named it one of the 100 Best Places to Live, and America's Promise Alliance and ING have named Meridian one of the nation's 100 Best Communities for Young People five times. For more information about Meridian, visit www.meridiancity.org.