Kansas City Launches Design Competition for Twin Creeks

Open to Design Teams of Architects, Urban Planners, Landscape Architects, Engineers & Others

Up to $24,000 will be awarded to winning teams

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Kansas City, Mo. - Kansas City launched the Twin Creeks Linear Park Design Competition today. The competition seeks conceptual designs for a potential new 7 mile-long park in the undeveloped Twin Creeks area. Kansas City recently completed $43.5 million in infrastructure improvements in this area and is sponsoring the design competition to generate ideas for a walkable, vibrant space in Twin Creeks.

Professional designs will be selected through a competitive process. Three winning concepts will be selected and awarded prizes totaling $24,000. Student teams are also encouraged to apply and will be considered for the overall awards and for a student-only Honorary Mention.

Located in Twin Creeks, this potential new public open space could serve as a high quality amenity for residents and visitors, setting a vision for future
sustainable development in Kansas City's Northland. City leaders hope design concepts for the linear park will reflect a range of experiences, including walking and biking paths; playgrounds and recreational areas; gateways to future neighborhood centers with shops, cafes, and local businesses; and connections to the KC Trails network.

“This is going to be significantly different from your typical park,” Mayor Sly James said. “We want the Twin Creeks Linear Park to reflect the creativity and sustainability we see in Kansas City today, while also creating an exciting addition to our nationally recognized parks and boulevards system.”

Submissions will be reviewed by a jury of leading local and national design professionals and must include an overall park vision, and four design scenarios within the park. Winning teams will present their designs at a public event in Kansas City this fall. A Technical Advisory Committee, representing local stakeholders and professional organizations, will help advise the competition.

“This is an opportunity for emerging architects, planners and artists to get their designs in front of the leading industry innovators,” said Jeff Williams, Director of City Planning and Development. “The final design has the potential to be a springboard for future design opportunities, which could lead to broad exposure for the finalists.”

The linear park will be centered in Twin Creeks, a predominantly rural area encompassing 15,000 acres in Kansas City's Northland. The City's infrastructure improvements in the area are projected to attract up to 75,000 new residents in the next 20 to 30 years. The ideas submitted will continue the work of the Twin Creeks Task Force, which developed a blueprint for future business and economic development in the area.

“This area is ripe for innovative ideas from emerging designers,” said Alicia Stephens, Executive Director of the Platte County Economic Development Council, which led the effort in identifying Twin Creeks opportunities. "They will basically have a blank template to create a design for the future; a design that could set the tone for the adjacent thousands of acres.”

Kansas City Departments of City Planning and Development, Parks and
Recreation, Water Services, and Public Works are sponsoring the competition, which is organized by the Mayor’s Office and Office of the City Manager.

To apply or find additional information on the competition and associated materials visit, http://kcmo.gov/designtwincreeks. Final submissions are due July 8, 2016 and must be submitted online.

For media inquiries, contact Petrina Parker, Public Information Officer, City Planning and Development Department, by email at petrina.parker@kcmo.org or by phone at 816-513-8829.
Kansas City, Missouri is excited to launch a City-sponsored design competition to help develop visions for a new linear park in Twin Creeks, a developing area in the Northland of Kansas City. This competition is open to professionals and students. Interested submitters can participate in this competition as an individual or a team.

#DesignTwinCreeks | Please visit the Competition Website
KCMO.GOV/DESIGNTWINCREEKS/
(Left) The Twin Creeks area with Second Creek highlighted by the yellow dotted line
(Right) Current conditions in Twin Creeks (Photo Courtesy: KCMO Planning and Development)
Our mailing address is: communications@kcmo.org

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