

Sarah Hope, Capital Projects Consultant
Greater Baybrook Alliance
3430 2nd Street
Baltimore, MD 21225



Proposal for RFQ | Gateways to Change: Hanover Street Design Competition

Dear Sarah et al.,

EnviroCollab is pleased to submit this package of materials for consideration for the Gateways to Change: Hanover Street Design Competition. We are excited to showcase our experience as a full-service firm of landscape architects, urban designers/planners, artists, graphic designers, and placemakers.

Critical thinking and creative problem-solving are core tenets of our company; rooted in our values of deep collaboration with project partners, we present an enthusiastic team of qualified professionals who are primed and poised to deliver services ranging from visioning and concept design to stakeholder engagement, construction documentation and administration. If selected, central to our process will be to work in partnership with the Greater Baybrook Community and build upon our existing collaborations with Greater Baybrook Alliance.

EnviroCollab specializes in the development of places that are contextually sensitive and site-specific; we believe in pursuing a participatory co-design process that encompasses and fully integrates the artful ideas and values of those who experience and cherish these spaces. Each site along Hanover is unique as is the corridor as a whole within a larger neighborhood context, and EnviroCollab sees the possibilities inherent in bringing the community, artists, and designers together to engage in rich discussions about the Baybrook peninsula's layered identity. Together we would explore how it could be expressed through both placemaking and placekeeping practices that may be more art- and storytelling-centric, and/or through interventions in the landscape that serve to beautify the corridor, connect communities, and enhance the environment.

Our approach for working in collaboration with the neighborhood community, the Greater Baybrook Alliance, other consultants, and stakeholders to realize project goals and objectives include three driving strategies:

- Center an equitable, representative, and joyful(!) design process where we function as co-facilitators. Designers and those outside the community are de-centered, and the community's voices, ideas, values, and needs are embodied in both the process and ultimately the concept for the sites as a whole, and individually.
- Observe and ultimately amplify the relationship between the multiple scales that each site is nested within. Apply both a context and site-specific lens to understand and link the sites through incorporation of unifying design gestures that will serve to both connect them and individually foreground site-specific stories and values.
- Function as stewards of the creative process, building on the foundation of our current collaborations with GBA, and engaging with one or several local public art practitioners that we have partnered with on previous projects such as Graham Projects, Whitney Grace Frasier, Bruce Willen, Annie Howe, Made by Saba, Andy Dahl, and others.

We appreciate your consideration of our unique approach, and look forward to the prospect of engaging in this process together!

Sincerely,

Heidi Thomas, PLA, ASLA



COMPANY LOCATION

EnviroCollab, LLC
Landscape Architecture, Urban Planning +
Social Design
111 E. 25th Street, Ste. 1A
Baltimore, MD 21218

CONTACT INFORMATION

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BACKGROUND

EnviroCollab, LLC was established in 2018 with the goal of creating a platform for landscape architects and urban designers to collaborate on projects and social justice initiatives aligned with environmental and cultural sustainability. Our work is grounded in community-led projects, and driven by the values of inclusivity, equity, and diversity. We seek to co-design creative, contextually sensitive environments, which serve social, cultural, and environmental functions.

EnviroCollab's objective is to work closely with project partners to ensure that the collective project vision for the site not only resonates and feels context specific, but that it is an artistic vision of the community.

EnviroCollab as a woman-owned business, is a certified WBE (#22379867) in Baltimore City, is certified (#SB20-007576) with the Small Business Reserve (SBR) program through Maryland's Department of General Services (DGS), and is a certified DBE/MBE (#23-577) through the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT). EnviroCollab is licensed and insured in the state of Maryland.

FIRM QUALIFICATIONS

EnviroCollab's team consists of licensed landscape architects, urban designers, and planners with backgrounds in community engagement, public art, and industrial design. If selected, Heidi Thomas would serve as the Design Director for EnviroCollab, and Cherrisse Otis and Amanda Foran would serve as Project Managers. Supporting team members include Julie Shapiro, Zoe Roane-Hopkins, and Amy Sametshaw.

The scope as outlined in the Gateways to Change: Hanover Street Design Competition is very much in alignment with our mission, our interests, and our experience as a design firm.

We are poised to deliver full-service landscape architecture and urban design services during all phases of this project's process, including prime consulting and project management, concept design, design development, construction documentation and administration, and public/stakeholder engagement.

The work samples in this proposal reflect site projects in Baltimore and regionally that prioritized a participatory, community-led design process featuring layered landscape, public art, community storytelling, and interpretive signage interventions.

Should our team be selected for the opportunity to compete, our proposal will focus on the depth and quality of engagement with project partners, neighbors and the community; site-specific, artistic interventions conceived through community ideas at each site; and insuring a cohesive thread from these ideas that resonates across the sites. Our goal is to ensure that a high quality, implementable design will be a treasured amenity for the local community. In the following pages, we share more about our team's collective methodologies for this process.