

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: November 15, 2018

Item Number: **008**

Economic Development Department

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Studio Modo, in an amount not to exceed \$212,000, for artwork for the Parking Garage and Administration Building Project at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.

District(s) Affected: District 2

Lead Department	Economic Development.
Fiscal Note	Funding is available in the Aviation Department’s Capital Budget
Prior Council Action	May 18, 2017 - Council passed a motion authorizing negotiation and execution of an agreement with Marc Fornes, dba THEEVERYMANY, in an amount not to exceed \$1,550,000 for artwork at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport Parking Garage/Administration Building Project.
For More Information	Rebecca Giello, Interim Director, Economic Development Department, 512-974-3045; Susan Lambe, Art in Public Places Program, 512-974-7852.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	July 9, 2018 - Art in Public Places Panel unanimously approved the Selection Process Recommendation for the Parking Garage and Administration Building Phase II AIPP Project, naming Studio Modo as the selected artist and Margo Sawyer Inc. as the alternate artist (6-0-0); July 16, 2018 - Arts Commission approved the Selection Process Recommendation (9-0-0 with Commissioners Bryan and Rice absent).

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Additional Backup Information:

Art in Public Places (AIPP), of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department (EDD) sought to commission a professional visual artist to design, fabricate and install artwork to be located in an exterior location to be proposed by the artist working in collaboration with project stakeholders and City staff. The total budget available for this project is \$220,500. The opportunity was open to Austin artists selected for the AIPP 2018-2020 Local Pre-Qualified Artist Pool to create artwork that aligns with the physical presence of the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, creates a unique experience for site visitors and passengers approaching the terminal, and reflects the nature and character of Austin.

On April 17, 2018, the Selection Team reviewed 57 eligible and interested professional visual artists and artist teams from the 2018-2020 Local Pre-Qualified Artist Pool and selected 5 finalists. Each finalist was paid a \$1,500 stipend which included attendance at a finalist orientation meeting and submission of a conceptual proposal. On May 31, 2018, the five finalists (Melissa Borrell, John Christensen, Ion Art Inc., Studio Modo, and Margo Sawyer) presented their conceptual proposals to the Selection Team, who recommended Studio Modo as the commissioned artist and Margo Sawyer, Inc. as the alternate.

Studio Modo will partner with a local LaunchPAD artist, to be selected and contracted separately with the City, to provide project support. The program is an ongoing effort to provide training and opportunities for local artists seeking a career in the field of public art. This requirement to work with the LaunchPAD artist will be incorporated into the agreement with Studio Modo.

Local Pre-Qualified Artist Pool Selection Panel:

- § Fernando Andrade, San Antonio Artist
- § Leslie Moody Castro, Independent Curator
- § Julia Hendrickson, Associate Curator, The Contemporary Austin
- § Alex Rubio, San Antonio Artist
- § Phillip Townsend, co-founder Neon Queen Collective; Research Fellow in African American Art, Blanton Museum

The selection team using the 2018-2020 Local Pre-Qualified Artist Pool included:

- § Robert Mercado, Architect; Aviation Project Manager, COA
- § Cory Hurless, Curator; Culture & Arts Education Coordinator, Aviation, COA
- § Burton Jones, Architect; Public Works Project Manager, COA
- § Emily Little, AIPP Panel Liaison
- § Jaime Castillo, Curator, Arts Commission member (appointed by Garza)
- § Cris Ruebush, Principal and LEED Architect, PGAL, Design Team member

§ Charles Meyer, LEED Architect, PGAL, Design Team member

Studio Modo was founded by Clay Odom in 2009. Clay Odom is a professor at the University of Texas School of Architecture and Studio Modo has completed projects in interior design, branding, conceptual art, and furniture. Clay is an accomplished artist and architect whose current work explores immersive space and interactive data usage. Clay Odom represented Austin and the City of Austin Cultural Arts Division at the UNESCO “Data City” exhibition in Enghien-les-Bains, France, April-July 2017. His interactive sculpture, Flowering Phantasm, went on to be exhibited across Europe in several locations.