



PROCESS SUMMARY

Dove Springs Recreation Center Art In Public Places Project

PROJECT SUMMARY

The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department (EDD) seeks to commission a professional visual artist, or artist team, to design and fabricate artwork for the Dove Springs Recreation Center at 5801 Ainez Drive Austin, TX 78744. The City of Austin requests qualifications from professional visual artists, or artist teams, who live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties. The total budget available for this project is \$44,000. The call opened on July 18, 2017. Submission deadline is 5:00 pm on Thursday, September 14, 2017 and was extended to October 19, 2017.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Located in District 2 in south east Austin, Dove Springs Recreation Center offers Youth, Adult and Senior Programs as well as Sports Leagues and Special Events. The Parks and Recreation Department is expanding the existing building to provide a commercial grade kitchen and add flexible spaces to meet the desires for new and expanded programming from the \$1.75M in funding allocated in the 2012 GO Bond for a renovation and expansion of the Recreation Center. The building expansion will be integrated with improvements to the park and play-scape, which opened in spring 2015. Construction on the expansion is scheduled to begin in October 2017 and continue through October 2018. The facility will be closed to the public during construction.

ARTWORK GOALS

AIPP Project is to select an artist/artist team who will design artwork that:

- » Create an iconic artwork that heightens awareness of the facility;
- » Demonstrate an interest in sustainable materials and builds upon the vision of the on-site wildlife habitat;
- » Integrate educational elements that promote an investigation of the natural environment (educational elements could be physically or visually interactive);
- » Consider the diverse community served by the center and the surrounding neighborhood;
- » Enriches or adds to the depth/breadth of the City of Austin's public art collection

BUDGET

The AIPP 2% for this project is generated from the 2012 GO Bond for a renovation and expansion of the Recreation Center. The total award for an artist contract is \$44,000, inclusive of design, fabrication and installation, including engineering and permitting fees, travel and shipping expenses, insurance and other project-related costs.

SELECTION PANEL

- » Jack White, visual artist
- » Stephanie Kingpetcharat - Manager of Special Projects, The Contemporary Austin
- » Agustina Rodrigues, architect

PROJECT ADVISORS

- » Kevin Johnson – Project Manager, Parks and Recreation Department
- » David Smythe-Macaulay – Project Manager, Public Works
- » DWayne Anderson – Dove Springs Recreation Center Program Supervisor, Parks and Recreation Department
- » Gina Saenz - Recreation Programs Manager, Parks and Recreation Department
- » Lucas Massie – Acting Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department
- » Al Godfrey – Architect, Limbacher and Godfrey Architects
- » George Morales – Dove Springs Community

SELECTION PROCESS

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was released on July 18, 2017 to professional visual artists and artist teams, at least 18 years of age, who live or work in the seven county Austin Metro Area. Artists were required to submit qualifications via www.publicartist.org to include 10 images of past work, resume, and letter of interest. Deadline for the applications was 5pm CDT on September 14, 2017 and was extended to October 19, 2017.

RFQ announcement outreach:

- » Press Release of the RFQ was published through EDD on 7/19/17
- » The AIPP website featured the opportunity for the duration of the RFQ period.
- » Notice was included AIPP Pulse and AIPP Call to Artist subscription lists.
- » Announcement of RFQ was posted on the AIPP and CAD Facebook pages.
- » A Facebook event was created for the Artist Information Meeting held on August 8, 2017.
- » Call to Artists listing on Glasstire.com 07/27/17
- » KXAN advertisement
- » English/Spanish 11x 17 poster
- » English/Spanish ¼ pg ad TODO

An **Artist Information Meeting** was held on Tuesday, August 8th from 5 to 6 p.m., at the Cultural Arts Division Offices at 201 E. 2nd St.

The Selection Panel met with Advisors on Monday, November 13, 2017 to review the **22** eligible applications submitted, including images of past work, resume and letters of interest.

The Selection Panel met with Advisors on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 to interview the selected 3 finalists, in no particular order, for interviews: Yareth Fernandez, Jonathan Muzacz, and Melissa Borrell. The Selection Panel voted unanimously for Yareth Fernandez as the finalists and Jonathan Muzacz as the alternate.

Selection Panel Comments:

Finalist: Yareth Fernandez

“Your clear interest in exploring the natural world and understanding that the Dove Springs community is a tight, multi-generational one really impressed me. I hope this will give you the opportunity to create a permanent work that will benefit the Doves Springs community. Your drawing, execution and activity for “Ring of Life” was excellent.”

“Beautiful aesthetic and very strong interest in the natural environment. Very strong interest in the community and interactive art. In many ways, OF the community.”

“Visual stunning three –d work, appealing to younger and older individuals, can be beginning of a great art career.”

Alternate: Jonathan Muzac

“Wonderful that he is an active listener and your previous experience with Dove Springs and Totally Cool, Totally Art is wonderful to have for this project. Your willingness to go into the community is wonderful too.”

“Technically very gifted, professional and articulate.”

“Various styles of work, well suited for mural project, best examples show very strong draftsmanship. Limited commissions but still capable for a project of this magnitude. Superb resume, experience outstanding.”

Approval Process

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PANEL (Prospectus)

On July 10, 2017, this project was first presented to the AIPP Panel for discussion of artwork opportunities. Kevin Johnson, project manager for PARD, presented the scope of the sponsor project. Anna Bradley presented the AIPP prospectus including goals and selection process. Discussion ensued about clarifying goals and adding recommended selection panelists.

Panel Member Frank made a motion to approve the prospectus. Panel Member Little seconded the motion. Motion approved (6-0). Panel Member McCray was absent.

AUSTIN ARTS COMMISSION (Prospectus)

On July 17, 2017, Commissioner Flores made a motion to approve the AIPP Panel’s recommendation for the prospectus. Commissioner McCain seconded the motion. Motion Passes 8-0. Commissioners Chris Bryan, Felipe Garza, and Amy Mok were absent. Item 6.a.ii

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PANEL (Selection Process)

On January 8, 2018, Panel Member Frank made a motion to approve the Selection Process Recommendation for the Dove Springs Recreation Center Art in Public Places Project. Panel Member Rubin seconded. 5-0-0. Panel Members Barnes, and Little were absent.

AUSTIN ARTS COMMISSION (Selection Process)

On January 22, 2018, Commissioner Polgar made a motion to approve the AIPP Panel's recommendation for the Selection Process Recommendation for the Dove Springs Recreation Center Art in Public Places Project. Commissioner Reeves seconded the motion. Motion Passes 7-0. Commissioners Barnes, Fonte, and Garza were absent. Item 6.a.i.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PANEL (Mid Design)

On February 4, 2019 the artist presented her Mid Design to the AIPP Panel for feedback. No action taken.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PANEL (Mid Design)

On October 7, 2019 the artist presented her revised Mid Design to the AIPP Panel for feedback. No action taken.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PANEL (Final Design)

On January 6, 2020 the artist presented her Final Design to the AIPP Panel for approval. Vice Chair Rubin made a motion to approve. Panel Member Lemmo seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.