



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1217, **Agenda Item #:** 18.

3/25/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Laurie Frick, for artwork for the Corridor Construction Program's Airport Boulevard Improvements in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Lead Department

Economic Development.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$100,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Capital Budget of the Austin Transportation Department. A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information:

Sylvonia Holt-Rabb, Acting Director, Economic Development Department, 512-974-3131, Susan Lambe, Manager, Art in Public Places Program, 512-974-7852.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

On January 4, 2021, the Art in Public Places Panel unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Corridor Construction Program's Airport Boulevard Improvements Project, naming Laurie Frick as the selected artist for the \$100,000 commission. (Motion by Arts Commission Liaison Brett Barnes, second by AIPP Panel Member Stephanie Lemmo; approved 7-0-0).

On January 21, 2021, the Arts Commission unanimously approved the selection process recommendation, naming Laurie Fick as the selected artist for the \$100,000 commission.

Additional Backup Information:

Art in Public Places (AIPP), of the Economic Development Department's Cultural Arts Division, sought to commission a local professional visual artist to design, fabricate and install artwork for two Corridor Construction Program's Airport Boulevard Improvements. Corridor Construction projects are funded by the 2016 Mobility Bond. The total artist budget for each project is \$100,000, inclusive of all costs to complete the project including design, engineering, insurance, fabrication, transportation, and installation of the completed artwork. The goal of the two projects is to commission an Austin-based artist or artist team for each project who will, in collaboration with City staff and community stakeholders, design artwork that honors and shares the beauty and power of nature, the history of the land, and the histories, legacies and futures of Latinx, Black and African American communities of the area. The artist is also asked to design artwork that celebrates a sense of community and belonging, including the longtime locally-owned businesses along the corridor. The artwork is expected to help connect people to nature, the environment and hope for the future. The artwork should integrate seamlessly into the construction of the corridor and be made from durable and low maintenance materials while adding to the depth and breadth of the City's public art collection.

This public art opportunity was open to local Austin artists previously selected for AIPP's Corridor Construction Program's Artist Pool. Artists selected for the Pool are at least 18 years of age and live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties. The Pool is a tool for artist selection, streamlining artists' application time and effort by allowing Pool artists to apply once to be considered for

multiple public art commissions. The Pool also allows community members to vote in the selection of the artist who will create art for their community. Artists in the Pool remain eligible for Corridor Construction Program's AIPP Project opportunities until Corridor construction projects are complete (scheduled for 2024).

Corridor Construction Program Artist Pool Jury:

- Marsha Dorsey-Outlaw, Artist in Education, Texas Commission on the Arts, First Artist in Residence, Education Department, Museum of Fine Arts Houston
- Tres Hernandez, Design Associate, TBG Partners
- Karmimadeeborah McMillan, Visual Artist; Educator at Tufts University
- Kelly Porter, Urban Planner; Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Coka Trevino, Artist; Author; Curator/Director of Community Programing, Big Medium Austin

On December 2, 2020, the Airport Boulevard Jury reviewed 52 applications from the Pool and recommended six artists as project finalists. On December 21, 2020, the Airport Boulevard Jury interviewed the finalists and recommended Laurie Frick and Animalis Works, LLC as the two selected artists for the two projects. Steve Parker and Liza Fishbone were selected as the alternate artists.

Airport Boulevard Jury:

- Pam Benson-Owens, Director, Six Square; Airport Boulevard Community Advisor*
- Martha Ward, Sixth Generation Ridgetop Neighborhood Resident, Airport Boulevard Community Advisor*
- Carol Huntsberger, Airport Blvd. Business Owner; Airport Boulevard Community Advisor*
- Celina Zisman, Arts Commissioner, District 8; Airport Boulevard Community Advisor*
- Lulu Flores, Arts Commissioner, District 9
- Tammie Rubin, Chair, AIPP Panel; Visual Artist; Educator, St. Ed's University and AIPP Panel project liaison
- Paul McLandrich, Project Manager, Corridor Program Office, City of Austin

**Prior to serving on the Airport Boulevard Jury, the Airport Boulevard Community Advisors participated in a six week-long engagement process sharing stories about Airport Boulevard to inform artwork goals and inspire selected artists for the Corridor Construction Program Airport Boulevard Improvement AIPP Projects.*

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability; Culture and Lifelong Learning.