



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2354, **Agenda Item #:** 25.

7/29/2021

Posting Language

Authorize the negotiation and execution of an agreement with Steven Parker, LLC for artwork for the Corridor Construction Program Guadalupe Street Corridor Improvements Art in Public Places Project, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$63,000.

Lead Department

Economic Development.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$63,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Capital Budget of the Austin Transportation Department.

For More Information:

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

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

May 3, 2021 - Art in Public Places Panel unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Corridor Construction Program Guadalupe Street Corridor Improvements Art In Public Places Project, naming Steve Parker of Steven Parker, LLC as the selected artist and Nicholas Debruyne as the alternate artist for the \$63,000 commission. (Motion by Panel Member Nolan, second by Panel Member Carr; approved 6-0-0, Panel Member Villanueva absent).

May 17, 2021 - Arts Commission approved the selection process recommendation for the Corridor Construction Program Guadalupe Street Corridor Improvements Art In Public Places Project, naming Steve Parker of Steven Parker, LLC as the selected artist and Nicholas Debruyne as the alternate artist for the \$63,000 commission. The item passed on consent. (Motion by Commissioner Flores, second by Commissioner Zisman; approved 9-0-0, 1 vacancy).

Additional Backup Information:

Art in Public Places (AIPP), of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department (EDD), sought to commission works of art of redeeming quality that advance public understanding of visual art and enhance the aesthetic quality of public places through the selection of an artist or artist team who can innovatively and thoughtfully respond to the design within the context of the Guadalupe Street Corridor Construction project. Corridor Construction projects are funded by the 2016 Mobility Bond. The total artist budget for the project is \$63,000, inclusive of all costs to complete the project including design, engineering, insurance, fabrication, transportation, and installation of the completed artwork. The goal of the project is to commission a local artist or artist team who will, in collaboration with City staff and community stakeholders, design artwork that: educates people about the history of the neighborhood and especially the freedman community of Wheatville; engages local safety concerns around visibility and pedestrian safety; and creates a sense of community among the populations of transitory college students, longtime local businesses, and neighbors of the area. 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/breadth of the City of Austin's public art collection.

This public art opportunity was open to local Austin artists previously selected for AIPP's Corridor Construction Program Artist Pool. Artists selected for AIPP's Corridor Artist Pool are at least 18 years of age and live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties. The Corridor Artist Pool is a tool for artist selection, streamlining artists' application time/effort by allowing Corridor Artist Pool artists to apply once in order 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 AIPP's Corridor Artist Pool remain eligible for Corridor Construction Program 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 April 8, 2021, the Jury reviewed 48 applications from the Corridor Pool and recommended five artists as project finalists. On April 26, 2021, the Jury interviewed the finalists and recommended Steve Parker of Steven Parker, LLC as the selected artist for the Corridor Construction Program Guadalupe Street Corridor Improvements Art In Public Places Project. Nicholas Debruyne was selected as the alternate artist.

Guadalupe Street Corridor Jury:

- Kathleen Stimptert, Deputy Director, Landmarks, University of Texas
- Rowena Dasch, Executive Director, Neill-Cochran House Museum
- Michael Anowey, Community Advisor, Architecture student, University of Texas
- Don Mullins, Community Advisor, Laguna Gloria Board Member, Art Collector, District 9
- Maggie Stephens, Community Advisor, Artist and District 9
- Lulu Flores, Arts Commissioner, District 9
- Tammie Rubin, AIPP Panel Chair, Project liaison
- Hochul Shin, Project Manager, Corridor Program Office, City of Austin

**Prior to serving on the Guadalupe Street Corridor Improvements Jury, the Guadalupe Street Community Advisors participated in a six week-long engagement process sharing stories about the Guadalupe/24th Street/Lamar area to inform artwork goals and inspire selected artists for the Corridor Construction Program Guadalupe Street Corridor Improvements AIPP Project.*

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability; Culture and Lifelong Learning.