



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2386, **Agenda Item #:** 35.

7/29/2021

Posting Language

Authorize the negotiation and execution of an agreement with Wanda Ann Montemayor, for artwork for the Corridor Construction Program South Lamar Boulevard Improvements (SoLa C2) Art in Public Places Project, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$116,000.

Lead Department

Economic Development.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$116,000 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 (AIPP) Panel unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Construction Program (SoLa C2), AIPP Project, naming Wanda Montemayor as the selected artist and Liza Fishbone as the alternate artist for the \$116,000 commission. (Motion by Barnes, second by Carr; approved 7-0-0).

May 17, 2021 - Arts Commission unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the South Lamar Boulevard Corridor Construction Program (SoLa C2), AIPP Project, naming Wanda Montemayor as the selected artist and Liza Fishbone as the alternate artist for the \$116,000 commission. The item passed on consent. (Motion by Commissioner Flores, second by Commissioner Zisman; approved 9-0-0, Commissioner Barnes absent).

Additional Backup Information:

AIPP sought to commission a local professional visual artist to design, fabricate and install artwork for one Corridor Construction Program South Lamar Boulevard Improvements AIPP Project. Corridor Construction projects are funded by the 2016 Mobility Bond. The total artist budget for the project is \$116,000, 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 an Austin-based artist or artist team per project who will, in collaboration with City staff and community stakeholders, design artwork that highlights and celebrates the history of iconic music venues, businesses, and legacies that compose South Lamar. The artwork should represent and reflect the cultural and environmental landscapes along South Lamar and unite and weave together layers of the area's history and growth. 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 15, 2021, the South Lamar Boulevard Jury reviewed 47 applications from the Corridor Pool and recommended four artists as project finalists. On April 21, 2021, the South Lamar Boulevard Jury interviewed the finalists and recommended Wanda Montemayor as the selected artist for the Corridor Construction Program South Lamar Boulevard Improvement (SoLa C2) AIPP Project. Liza Fishbone was selected as the alternate artist.

South Lamar Boulevard Jury:

- Leea Mechling, South Austin Museum of Popular Culture, Community Advisor*
- David Piper, Zilker Neighborhood Association, Community Advisor*
- Victoria Schmidt, South Austin Music, Community Advisor*
- Rick Van Dyke, Austin Arts Commissioner, District 5
- Fernando Cantero, Project Manager, Corridor Program Office, City of Austin

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

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability; Culture and Lifelong Learning.