

# City of Austin



## Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-3467, Agenda Item #: 4.

11/15/2022

#### Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Melissa Borrell Design for artwork for the Givens Park and Pool Phase II Art in Public Places project, District 1, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$95,000.

## **Lead Department:**

Economic Development.

#### Fiscal Note:

Funding in the amount of \$95,000 derived from the 2018 Aquatic Master Plan is available in the capital improvement budget of the Parks and Recreation Department, Aquatics Division - Pool Renovation, Prop. C, 2018 Bond.

### For More Information:

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

### Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

On July 11, 2022, the Art in Public Places (AIPP) Panel unanimously approved the selection process recommendation of Melissa Borrell Design as the recommended artist and Sam Gaddis of Official Science as the recommended alternate for the Givens Park and Pool Renovation Project AIPP project. Panel Member Villanueva motioned approval and Panel Member Carr seconded (5-0-0). Panel members Nolan and Lemmo were absent.

On July 18, 2022, the Austin Arts Commission approved on consent the selection process recommendation of Melissa Borrell Design as the recommended artist and Sam Gaddis of Official Science as the recommended alternate for the Givens Park and Pool Renovation AIPP project. The motion to approve the item on consent was approved on Commissioner Polgar's motion, Commissioner Castillo's second on a 7-0 vote with Commissioners Barnes, Flores, Garza, and Keeton absent.

#### Additional Backup Information:

AIPP, of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department (EDD), sought to commission local professional visual artist to design, fabricate and install artwork for the Givens Park and Pool Phase II Art in Public Places project. The budget for this artwork is \$95,000 all-inclusive of artist time, design, insurance, and all fabrication and installation related costs.

The goal of the project is to commission an Austin-based artist and/or artist team who, in collaboration with City staff and community stakeholders, will design artwork that integrates with the Givens Park and Pool Phase II. The artwork should also respect wildlife and integrate with the natural beauty of the corridor. The artist will collaborate with community stakeholders, the project team and City staff to design and create artwork that adds additional value to the site.

On February 1, 2022, an opt-in Request for Qualifications was distributed to 115 pregualified artists in the AIPP Pre-Qualified Artist Pool. 65 artists applied via a Microsoft Forms application by the close date of

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February 17, 2022.

On June 2, 2022, City staff and the Jury met via an online Zoom meeting and reviewed artist applications for the opportunity. Upon review of the applicants, the Jury recommended artist Melissa Borrell Design to be commissioned for the Givens Park and Pool Renovation AIPP project, and Official Science as the alternate. The selection of the artists and artist teams was based on whose qualifications best met the requirements for the project.

## Strategic Outcome(s):

Culture and Lifelong Learning, Government that Works for All.