



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-3468, Agenda Item #: 5.

11/15/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Capitol View Arts for artwork for the Colony Park Aquatics Facility Art in Public Places project, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$135,000.

Lead Department :

Economic Development.

Fiscal Note :

Funding in the amount of \$135,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Budget of the Austin Parks and Recreation Department.

For More Information:

Sylvia Holt-Rabb, Acting 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, 2021, the Art in Public Places (AIPP) Panel unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Colony Park Aquatics Facility AIPP project, naming Capitol View Arts as the selected artist and Ryah Christensen as the alternate for the \$135,000 commission. (Motion by Vice Chair Villanueva, second by Carr; approved 5-0-0; Panel Member Lemmo and Panel Member Nolan were absent).

On July 18, 2022, the Austin Arts Commission unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Colony Park Aquatics Facility AIPP project, naming Capitol View Arts as the selected artist and Ryah Christensen as the alternate for the \$135,000 commission. The item passed on consent. (Motion by Commissioner Polgar, second by Commissioner Castillo; approved 7-0-0. Commissioners Barnes, Flores, Garza, Keeton were absent).

Additional Backup Information:

AIPP, of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department (EDD), sought to commission a work of art of redeeming quality that advances public understanding of visual art and enhances the aesthetic quality of public places through the selection of an artist or artist team who can innovatively and thoughtfully respond to the design of the Colony Park Aquatics Facility project. The aquatics project is funded by the 2018 Aquatics Bond. The total artist budget for the artwork is \$135,000, 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 who will, in collaboration with City staff and community stakeholders, design artwork that creates a colorful and family friendly experience at the Givens Park community, is inclusive of the entire community and incorporates nature, nearby schools or peace. The artwork should integrate seamlessly into the construction of the aquatics facility and be made from durable and low maintenance materials while adding to the depth and breadth of the City of Austin's public art collection.

Along with Givens Park Aquatics Facility and Bathhouse Renovation AIPP projects, this public art opportunity was open in February 2022 to local Austin artists previously selected for AIPP's Pre-Qualified Artist Pool. Through a rigorous selection process, the AIPP program developed the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool of exceptional emerging and established public artists working in a variety of visual media and artistic

approaches. Pre-Qualified Artist Pool artists eligible for the Colony Park Aquatics Facility AIPP project are at least 18 years of age; and live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties. The Pre-Qualified Artist Pool is a tool for artist selection, streamlining artists' application time/effort by allowing artists in the Pool to apply once in order to be considered for multiple public art commissions. Use of the Pool also allows community members to vote in the selection of the artist who will create art for their community.

2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool Jury:

- Nicole Awai, Artist and Assistant Professor at The University of Texas at Austin (Austin, TX & New York, NY)
- Cievel Xicohtencatl, Artist and Community Engagement Manager for The Laundromat Project (New York & Mexico)
- Regina Agu, Artist and Writer (Chicago, IL)
- Jaime Palomo, Principal, CasaBella Architects (Austin, TX)
- Ruri Yampolsky, Waterfront Program Arts Manager, Office of the Waterfront and Civic Projects, City of Seattle (Seattle, WA)

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Jury for Colony Park Aquatics Facility, Givens Park Aquatics Facility and Bathhouse Renovation AIPP project:

- Rona Rougeheart - Visual Arts Professional and D1 Community Member
- Lindsay Bailey - Arts enthusiast and D1 community member
- Barbara Scott - Longtime D1 resident and community activist
- Jodi Jay - Aquatics Supervisor, Parks Department, City of Austin
- Scott Sinn - Project Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Austin
- D'Anne Williams - Project Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Austin
- Greg Houston - Marmon Mok Architecture
- Jacob Villanueva - AIPP Panel Liaison
- kYmberly Keeton - Austin Arts Commission, District 1

On June 3rd, 2022, the Jury reviewed 49 applications from the eligible Pre-Qualified Artist Pool for the Givens Park Aquatics Facility, the Givens Park Bathhouse renovation and the Colony Park Aquatics Facility artwork opportunities. The Jury recommended Ryah Christensen, David Stromeyer, Sam Gaddis and Capitol View Arts (in no particular order) as finalists for the Colony Park Aquatics Facility. On July 8th, 2022, the Jury interviewed three finalists (Sam Gaddis withdrew his application from contention) and unanimously recommended Capitol View Arts as the selected artist team for the Colony Park Aquatics Facility Art in Public Places Project. Ryah Christensen was selected as the alternate artist.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability and Culture and Lifelong Learning Strategy.

