



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 23-2158, **Agenda Item #:** 15.

7/20/2023

### Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Dixie Friend Gay for artwork for the Longhorn Dam Wishbone Bridge Art in Public Places project., in an amount not to exceed \$190,000.

### Lead Department

Economic Development.

### Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Capital Budget of the Austin Transportation Department.

### For More Information:

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

### Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

On December 5, 2022, the Art In Public Places (AIPP) Panel unanimously approved the selection process recommendation of Dixie Friend Gay as the recommended artist and Reginald Adams as the recommended alternate for the Longhorn Dam Wishbone Bridge AIPP Project. Panel Member Villanueva motioned approval and Panel Member Carr seconded 5-0-0). Panel members No Muzacz was absent.

On December 15, 2022, the Austin Arts Commission unanimously approved the selection process recommendation of Dixie Friend Gay as the recommended artist and Reginald Adams as the recommended alternate for the Longhorn Dam Wishbone Bridge AIPP project. The motion to approve the item on consent was approved on Commissioner Polgar's motion, Commissioner Flores seconded on a 8-0-0 vote with Commissioner Barnes 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 Longhorn Dam Wishbone Bridge Art in Public Places Project. The budget for this artwork is \$190,000 all-inclusive of artist time, design, insurance, and all fabrication and installation related costs.

The goal of the project is to commission a Texas-based artist and/or artist team who, in collaboration with City staff and community stakeholders, to design artwork located on the new wishbone-shaped pedestrian and bicycle bridge over Lady Bird Lake near the Longhorn Dam on Pleasant Valley Road. The artwork should reflect the natural elements of the environment and history of the surrounding community. 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 June 7, 2022, a Request for Qualifications was published via Publicartist.org and closed on August 18, 2022. Thirty-one applications were received and reviewed by a selection panel of five jurors and eight project advisors who selected four applicants to advance to interview: Reginald Adams, Candy Kuo, Dixie Friend Gay, and Suzy Gonzalez.

On November 15, 2022, the selection panel met via Zoom to interview the finalists. Dixie Friend Gay was recommended as the selected artist and Reginald Adams was selected as the alternate, with one vote for Susy Gonzalez as the artist and Dixie Friend Gay as the alternate.