

AGENDA



Thursday, January 31, 2008

**Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 9

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with CONNIE ARISMENDI, Austin, TX, for artwork in the amount not to exceed \$106,250.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the Holly Good Neighbor Fund, from Austin Energy, in accordance with the Art in Public Places Ordinance.

For More Information: Vincent Kitch, Cultural Arts Program Manager, 974-9310 / Megan Crigger, AIPP Administrator, 974-9312

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Art in Public Places Panel. To be reviewed by the Austin Arts Commission on January 28, 2008.

Prior Council Action: Council approved a resolution for expenditures on artwork at five locations on May 25, 2006.

A Call for Proposals was announced to regional artists who work in sculptural media such as ceramic, stone, metal, or bronze. The call was announced by postcard to artists in the Art in Public Places Slide Registry, media contacts such as local newspapers and national publications, and on the Art in Public Places website. A total of six artists submitted qualifications by the deadline, December 8, 2006. The Selection Panel and Advisors, made up of three art and design professionals (listed below), met January 10, 2007 to review written materials and images of past work. On January 26, 2007, the Selection Panel and Advisors interviewed three finalists: Reynaldo Alaniz, Connie Arismendi and Gary McElhaney. The Art in Public Places Panel and the Austin Arts Commission approved the Selection Panel's recommendation of Connie Arismendi for the project and Gary McElhaney as the alternate at their regular meeting on February 5/February 12, 2007 respectively.

Arismendi was placed under a Design Contract to further develop the concept; working closely with the project design team to find ways to successfully integrate the artwork with the park sites. On December 3, 2007 the Art in Public Places Panel approved the final design to be commissioned for the three designated sites: Mexican American Cultural Center Perez and Ramos Central Plaza, Nash Hernandez Road, and Roy Montelongo Scenic Overlook. The Austin Arts Commission is scheduled to review the final design and take action on January 28, 2008.

SELECTION PANEL
Rodolfo Ybarra, Austin Artist / Architect
Ricardo Soliz, Division Manager, PARD
Sylvia Orozco, Director, Mexic-Arte Museum

ADVISORS

Dora Hernandez, Hernandez family member
Delia Perez-Meyer, Perez family member
Mary Montelongo, Montelongo family member
Alfred Candelas, Montelongo family member
Raul Alvarez, former Councilman and ALMA representative
Jeanne Henry, Acting Cultural Affairs Division Manager