Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services

Item No. 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with Connie Arismendi and Laura Garanzuay for artwork, in an amount not to exceed $75,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Holly Good Neighbor Fund.

For More Information: Vincent Kitch, EGRSO, 974-9310; Megan Crigger, EGRSO, 974-9312

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Austin Arts Commission.

Prior Council Action: 04/06/06 Council approved resolution allocating Holly Mitigation Funds for improvements at the Terrazas Library honoring Cesar Chavez.

In 2006, Council passed a resolution allocating Holly Mitigation Funds for improvements at the Terrazas Library honoring Cesar Chavez, including an artwork honoring Cesar Chavez to be located at the library. The project is being facilitated through the Art in Public Places (AIPP) program.

A Request for Proposals was announced to professional visual artists who live or work in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California. The call was announced by postcard to artists in the Art in Public Places Artist Registry, AIPP e-newsletter, state and local public art programs, media contacts such as local newspapers and national publications, and on the Art in Public Places website. A total of 36 artists successfully submitted proposals by the deadline, November 2, 2007. The Selection Panel made up of three art and design professionals and Advisors (listed below) met November 16, 2007 to review qualifications (resume, past work, references) and proposals, and recommended the artist team of Connie Arismendi and Laura Garanzuay for commission, with Cindy Debold as alternate. The Art in Public Places Panel and the Austin Arts Commission approved the Selection Panel’s recommendation of Connie Arismendi and Laura Garanzuay for the project and Cindy Debold as the alternate at their regular meeting on December 3, 2007 and January 28, 2008, respectively. The artists will be placed under a Design/Commission Contract, and the final design shall be reviewed and approved by the AIPP Panel and Arts Commission before a fabrication is authorized to begin. The total project budget is $75,000.

SELECTION PANEL
Risa Puleo, (AIPP Panel Member, Austin)
Sandra Martinez (University of Texas at Austin, Professor, Department of Art and Art History, Austin)
Margarita Cabrera (Artist, El Paso)

ADVISORS
Angel Quesada (Mexic-Arte Museum)
Melissa Westmoreland (Austin Energy, Holly Good Neighbor Fund)
Steve Reich (Head Librarian, Terrazas Library)
Crystal Pirone (City Facilities Planning Dept, Austin Public Library)
Al Moser (Representative, East Cesar Chavez Community)