Thursday, June 5, 2008

Neighborhood Planning & Zoning RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 21

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Neighborhood Planning and Zoning Department Capital Budget of Ordinance No. 20070910-004 to appropriate \$200,000 for the Second Street Streetscape Art in Public Places Project.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$100,000 for Public Art is available from AMLI Residential Properties pursuant to the Block 22 lease agreement; and \$100,000 for Public Art is available from Stratus Block 21 Investments pursuant to the Block 21 sale agreement.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Greg Guernsey, 974-2387; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by Arts Commission.

Under the terms of the Block 22 Ground Lease between the City and AMLI Residential Properties, dated December 31, 2003, AMLI contributed \$100,000 toward the Second Street Streetscape Art in Public Places Project. The City used a

competitive selection process and chose artists Roger and Jerolyn Colombik (Wimberley, TX) to design and construct a sculptural water feature for Block 22 to align with the Second Street District Streetscape Improvement public art master plan. The Second Street District Improvement public art master plan calls for large, permanent public art that references Austin's water aquifers and springs. The artists will construct their art from steel, bronze, and water. Their design will also include seating and a water fountain for respite along the street. Final design is tentatively scheduled for approval by the Art in Public Places Panel and Austin Arts Commission in June 2008.

Under the terms of the Block 21 Agreement to Sell and Purchase between the City and Stratus Block 21 investments, dated August 18, 2006, Stratus also contributed \$100,000 toward public art. The City used a competitive selection process and chose artists Jill Bedgood (Austin, TX), Ryah Christensen (Austin, TX), and Sun McColgin (Austin, TX) to design and install sidewalk enhancements to be placed at the northeast corners where Second Street intersects with Lavaca, Guadalupe, and San Antonio Streets. Each work of art will be made of materials such as bronze, tile, and concrete. The artwork will interpret the social history and ecology of the corresponding street name. The work will be installed flush to the ground and will comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Art in Public Places Panel and Austin Arts Commission approved the selection of the artists on December 3, 2007 and January 28, 2008.