

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION Item No. 12

Subject: Approve an ordinance accepting Austin Parks Foundation grant funds in the amount of \$10,000; amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office (EGRSO) Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance 20080908-002 to appropriate \$10,000 in grant funds; and amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 EGRSO Capital Budget of Ordinance 20080908-003 to appropriate \$10,000 from the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 EGRSO Special Revenue Fund for the Susanna Dickinson House Art in Public Places project.

Amount and Source of Funding: The total grant amount of \$10,000 will be provided by the Austin Parks Foundation. This grant does not require any local match.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Megan Crigger, EGRSO, 974-9312

Boards and Commission Action: The Austin Arts Commission approved selection on March 16, 2009.

Prior Council Action: Ordinance 20080908-002 and 200908-003, the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget, Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Special Revenue Fund.

The Susanna Dickinson House Art in Public Places (AIPP) project is funded through the Capital Improvement Project 'percent for art allocation' generated from the AIPP Ordinance. This AIPP project will consist of permanent public art that will function as a courtyard, connecting the Susanna Dickinson House to the neighboring O. Henry Museum and reveal the sites' historical context within early 19th century Texas. The courtyard area is intended to provide space for programs and events related to the two historic homes, O. Henry Museum and Susanna Dickinson Museum, and to Brush Square. These programs and events include the O. Henry Pun-off, poetry readings, and fundraisers for future park improvements. At the request of the Austin Parks Foundation and the Parks and Recreation Department, AIPP has agreed to expand the scope of work of the artists and accept the additional grant funds, upon Council authorization.

Artist team Hawkeye Glenn and Lizzie Martinez were selected through an open competition for visual arts and design professionals living in Austin and surrounding area within a 100 mile radius. Their selection was recommended by the Art in Public Places Panel on February 2, 2009. The Austin Arts Commission approved this selection on March 16, 2009.

Funds from the Austin Parks Foundation of \$10,000 will be used to enhance the planned public art project increasing the total project cost to \$30,000 for artists' design and commission.