

AGENDA



Thursday, June 18, 2009

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

Item No. 17

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of a commission agreement with Chris Doyle (New York, NY), in an amount not to exceed \$230,850.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$230,850 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Financial and Administrative Services Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Rodney Gonzales, Acting Director / EGRSO, 974-2313; Megan Crigger, Art in Public Places Administrator/ EGRSO, 974-9312

Boards and Commission Action: The Art in Public Place Panel approved the artist's final design on May 4, 2009; The Austin Arts Commission approved the artist's final design on May 18, 2009.

PROJECT SUMMARY

The public art project is funded as part of the Public Safety Training Facility CIP Project for the Fire, Police and EMS departments located at 4800 Shaw Lane, Austin, TX. The public art component will provide a shade structure and cooling mechanism using the element of water for the officers and cadets in training at the facility. A Request for Nominations was released to public arts professionals, curators, and arts organizations seeking nominations of artist/artist teams living in the U.S. with the creative vision and skills necessary to be considered for the design and construction of sculptural water feature. Fifty-eight artists and teams were nominated by the deadline of April 18, 2008. The nominated artists/teams were then invited to submit qualifications by July 7, 2008. The Selection Panel and Project Advisors (see list below) met on August 8, 2008 to review the qualifications of 30 artist/artist teams and selected four finalists: Chris Doyle (New York, NY); Matthew Geller (New York, NY); Michael Singer Studio (Wilmington, VT); and Johnny Walker (Austin, TX). These finalists were interviewed on September 5, 2008. The Selection panel recommended Chris Doyle for commission and Matthew Geller as the alternate. The Art in Public Places Panel unanimously approved the selection panels recommendation of artist and alternate on September 8, 2008. The Arts Commission unanimously approved the Art in Public Places Panel recommendation of artist and alternate on September 15, 2008.

The artist was placed under a design contract and worked with the participating City departments to design an artful pavilion that honors the cadets and provides shade and the opportunity to be cooled and refreshed with water.

Selection Panel

Mel Ziegler, Artist + Chair Art Department, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
Martha Peters, Public art Director + Artist, Ft. Worth, TX
Jason Sowell, Landscape Architect, Professor, Architecture, UT-Austin, Austin, TX

Advisors

Rossy Farina-Strauss, Public Works Project Manager
Claire Walpole, BLGY Architects, Project Architect
Greg Hager, Austin Fire Department representative

David Cudzilo, Austin Police Department representative
Jeff Steele, Commander, Austin-Travis County EMS