

## AGENDA



Thursday, July 23, 2009

**Contract and Land Management  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 29**

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**Subject:** Authorize execution of a construction contract with BARECKY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, Wimberley, TX, for Elisabet Ney Museum Building, ADA Accessibility and Landscape Improvements in an amount not to exceed \$285,553.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

**Fiscal Note:** A fiscal note is attached.

**For More Information:** Robin A. Camp 974-7830; Tony Arnold 974-9471; Robin Field 974-7064; April Thedford 974-7141

**Purchasing Language:** Lowest responsible bid of six (6) bids received

**MBE/WBE:** This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9A of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 18.80% MBE and 5.20% WBE subcontractor participation.

**Boards and Commission Action:** Recommended by the Landmark Commission.

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The Elisabet Ney Museum, known as Formosa, is a designated National Historic Landmark and a National Trust Associate Site based on the significance of Elisabet Ney as an established 19th Century woman artist and as an influential early Texas advocate for the arts. The 3500 square foot museum, built in 1892 and owned by the City of Austin since 1941, is situated on a 2.5 acre site in the original Hyde Park subdivision.

In 1997, the Parks and Recreation Department contracted with Heritage Landscapes to research the history of the grounds and produce the Elisabet Ney Museum Historic Landscape Report. A comprehensive restoration of the former American studio/home of Elisabet Ney was cited as the priority goal in the Museum's long-range master plan developed in 1998. As a property in the National Historic Register, the Save America's Treasures program awarded \$250,000 in 2003 to support a comprehensive restoration of the building and landscape of the Elisabet Ney Museum. In 2006, the City of Austin contracted with Volz and Associates, Inc. for architectural services for Elisabet Ney Museum Comprehensive Preservation Master Plan Historic Structure Component.

The current improvements to the Elisabet Ney Museum building and landscape follow the guidelines and recommendations in the Elisabet Ney Museum Comprehensive Restoration Master Plan. The improvements comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and Guidelines for Cultural Landscapes as required by the museum's Landmark status.

This construction contract addresses long deferred subsurface conditions of the building with a waterproofing system, proper drainage and grading to correct water infiltration issues. Final grading will include Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible paths and the disturbed landscape will be improved in keeping with the Master Plan guidelines.

The contract allows 120 calendar days for completion of this project.