

## A G E N D A



## Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	33129	Agenda Number	14.
Meeting Date:	6/12/2014		Department:	Economic Development
Subject				
<p>Authorize negotiation and execution of a design and commission agreement with Urban Matter Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$88,000 for artwork for the Seaholm Redevelopment Project located at 800 Cesar Chavez Street.</p>				
Amount and Source of Funding				
<p>Funding in the amount of \$88,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Capital Budget of the Economic Development Department. Seaholm Power LLC provided the funds for this project as part of the Master Agreement with the City of Austin.</p>				
Fiscal Note				
<p>A fiscal note is attached.</p>				
Purchasing Language:				
Prior Council Action:				
For More Information:	Kevin Johns, Director / Economic Development Department, (512) 974-7802; Meghan Wells, Art in Public Places Administrator / Economic Development Department (512) 974-9314			
Boards and Commission Action:	April 21, 2014 - Approved by the Austin Arts Commission on a 6-0 vote with Commissioner Tinnon absent.			
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				
Additional Backup Information				

## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department sought to commission a professional visual artist/artist team to design, fabricate and install artwork that incorporates light in the 3-level public entrance stairwell of the underground parking structure that accesses the public plaza at the Seaholm Redevelopment site. The total budget for artwork is \$88,000.

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

AIPP staff solicited locally and nationally for nominations from public art and curatorial professionals of artists in the U.S. who have successfully worked with light as an artistic medium. An Invitational Request for Qualifications was sent to 55 artists requiring them to submit qualifications with a submission deadline of January 27, 2014. The Selection Panelists and Advisors met on March 12, 2014 to review the letters of interest, resumes, references, and images of the 30 eligible artists/teams who submitted qualifications. Four finalists were selected to be interviewed: Peter Erskine, Joe O'Connell, Matthew Schreiber, and Urban Matter Inc. (Shagun Singh, Valerie Bianco, Richard Lin). The Selection Panel and Advisors met on March 21, 2014 to interview the Finalists via Skype. They unanimously recommended Urban Matter Inc. as the artist team and Peter Erskine as the alternate. On April 7, 2014 the Art in Public Places panel unanimously approved the recommended artist and alternate and added Joe O'Connell as a second alternate.

## **SELECTION PANEL**

Lisa Retrum, Architect, STG Design (Project Architects), Austin

Zack Booth Simpson, Artist and software engineer, Austin

Rachel Adams, Independent Curator; former Assoc. Curator, The Contemporary Austin

## **PROJECT ADVISORS**

Fred Evins, Economic Development Department, City of Austin

Toni Thomasson, Economic Development Department, City of Austin

Greg Kiloh, Economic Development Department, City of Austin

John Rosato, Southwest Strategies Group; Seaholm Power LLC

Bill McCann, Bury + Partners

Liana Kallivoka, Austin Energy, Green Building, City of Austin

Steve Grassfield, Transportation Department, City of Austin

Hollis Hammonds, AIPP Panel Liaison