



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2143, **Agenda Item #:** 15.

6/11/2020

Posting Language

Authorize the negotiation and execution of an agreement with Beili Liu, in an amount not to exceed \$155,000 for artwork for the Terminal/Apron Expansion and Improvement Project at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.

Lead Department

Economic Development.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$155,000 is available in the 2019- 2020 Capital Budget of the Aviation Department.

For More Information:

Sylvia Holt-Rabb, Acting Director, Economic Development Department, 512-974-3131; Susan Lambe, Manager, Art in Public Places Program, 512-974-7852.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

On February 3rd, 2020, the Art in Public Places Panel unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Terminal/Apron Expansion and Improvement Project at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, AIPP Phase IIb Project, naming Beili Liu as the selected artist and Steve Parker and Margo Sawyer as first and second alternate artists for the \$155,000 commission, respectively. (Motion by Barnes, second by Lemmo; approved 7-0-0).

On April 20th, 2020, the Arts Commission unanimously approved the selection process recommendation, naming Beili Liu as the selected artist and Steve Parker and Margo Sawyer as first and second alternate artists for the \$155,000 commission, respectively. (Motion by Mok, second by Fonte; approved 8-0-0; Barnes absent).

Additional Backup Information:

Art in Public Places (AIPP), of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department (EDD) sought to commission a local professional visual artist to design, fabricate and install artwork for the Terminal/Apron Expansion and Improvement Project at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, AIPP Phase IIb. The goal of the project is to commission an Austin-based artist or artist team who will, in collaboration with Aviation staff and community stakeholders, design artwork that 1) enhances travellers' experience by piquing curiosity and/or conveying a sense of wonder; 2) distinguishes Austin-Bergstrom International Airport and reflects the nature and character of Austin; 3) supports the Airport's commitment to sustainability; 4) contributes to a local, regional and national contemporary art dialogue; and 5) serves as a significant piece within the artist's oeuvre.

This public art opportunity was open to local Austin artists previously selected for the 2018-2020 Local Pre-Qualified Artist Pool who are not currently contracted with the City of Austin for a permanent public artwork commission. Artists selected for the 2018-2020 Local Pre-Qualified Artist Pool are at least 18 years of age and live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties. The total budget available for this project is \$155,000.

On October 29th, 2019, the jury reviewed 29 applications and recommended eight artists as project finalists. On January 17th, 2020, the jury interviewed finalists and recommended Beili Liu as the selected artist of one of three Art in Public Places opportunities for local artists for the Terminal/Apron Expansion and Improvement Project at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. Steve Parker and Margo Sawyer were selected as first and second alternate artists for the \$155,000 commission, respectively.

This project aligns with several strategies of the City of Austin's SD23, including:

- Culture and Lifelong Learning Strategy #7: Assist artists and creatives in all disciplines in developing a road map to secure capital, patronage, and build capacity to ensure their long-term prosperity
- Economic Opportunity and Affordability #1: Influence the supply of jobs to support availability of and access to middle-skill jobs and expansion of jobs/employers to benefit communities experiencing high unemployment or lacking access to jobs.
- Culture and Lifelong Learning Strategy #3: Strengthen our portfolio of culture and lifelong learning programs, events and facilities by engaging and building trust with the community to ensure equitable access and participation, and that services are aligned with community expectations.

Strategic Outcome(s) :

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.