



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-2398, **Agenda Item #:** 12.

7/28/2022

Posting Language:

Authorize the negotiation and execution of an agreement with Liz Santamaria for artwork for the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation Art in Public Places Project, in an amount not to exceed \$104,000.

Lead Department:

Economic Development Department.

Fiscal Note:

Funding in the amount of \$104,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Budget of the Austin Parks and Recreation Department.

For More Information:

Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, Director, Economic Development Department, 512-974-3131 and Marjorie Flanagan, Acting Program Manager, Art in Public Places Program, 512-974-8706.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

On November 1st, 2021, the Art in Public Places Panel unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation Art in Public Places Project, naming Liz Santamaria as the selected artist and Hollis Hammonds as the alternate artist for the \$104,000 commission. (Panel Member Carr motioned for approval and Panel Member Lemmo seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0. Arts Commission Liaison Barnes and Panel Member Villanueva were absent.)

On November 15th, 2021, the Austin Arts Commission unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation Art in Public Places Project, naming Liz Santamaria as the selected artist and Hollis Hammonds as the alternate artist for the \$104,000 commission. The item passed on consent. (Commission Member Flores motioned for approval and Commission Member Gray seconded. Motioned passed 9-0-0.).

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 or artist team to design, fabricate and install artwork the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation AIPP Project. The budget for this artwork is \$104,000, all-inclusive of artist time, design, insurance, and all fabrication and installation related costs.

The goal of the project is to commission an Austin-based artist and/or artist team who, in collaboration with community stakeholders and City staff, will design artwork that integrates with the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation Project.

This public art opportunity was open to Austin artists previously selected for the 2021-2023 Local Pre-Qualified Artist Pool who are not currently contracted with the City of Austin for a permanent public artwork commission. A Request for Opt-In was distributed on July 20, 2021, to 164 visual artists and artist teams in the 2021-2023 Pre-Qualified Artist Pool who live and work in Williamson, Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Burnet and Blanco counties. Thirty-six (36) eligible artists/artist teams opted-into the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation

Opportunity.

On August 26, 2021, Jurors and Advisors met via Zoom and reviewed 36 applications for artists that opted-into the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation opportunity. Upon review of the applicants, the Jury recommended five artists for interviews (in alphabetical order): Melissa Borrell, Ryah Christensen, Hollis Hammonds, Dawn Okoro, and Liz Santamaria. Due to competing obligations, Dawn Okoro withdrew from consideration. The Jury and Advisors convened again on October 12, 2021, via Zoom and interviewed the four artists. The Jury recommended artist Liz Santamaria as the commissioned artist for the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation opportunity, and Hollis Hammonds as the alternate artist.

Jurors

- Mike Cannatti, Advocacy Chair, Friends of Barton Springs
- Mohammad Firoozi, Barton Springs Community Member and daily swimmer
- Karen Kocher, Living Springs Documentary Filmmaker
- Emily Little, Partner Emerita, Clayton Korte
- Courtney Moreau, Native Austinite and Weekly Barton Springs Swimmer
- Judith Sims, Barton Springs Conservancy Representative
- Sarah Carr, Art in Public Places Panel Liaison
- Elen Colfax, Project Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Austin
- Jessica Gilzow, Culture and Arts Education Manager, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Austin
- Celina Zisman, Vice Chair of Arts Commission, District 8

Project Advisors

- Al Godfrey, Architect, Limbacher + Godfrey, Consultant on the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation Project
- Jodi Jay, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Austin
- Riley Triggs, Project Manager, Public Works Department, City of Austin
- Curtis Roberts, Exhibition Designer, Consultant on the Barton Springs Bathhouse Rehabilitation Project.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability & Culture and Lifelong Learning Strategy.