



# City of Austin

## Recommendation for Action

---

**File #:** 24-5928, **Agenda Item #:** 15.

11/7/2024

---

### **Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract for an artwork survey and conservation report with Debora Rodrigues d/b/a Past Matters, LLC d/b/a Past Matters, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$150,000.

### **Lead Department**

Financial Services Department.

### **Client Department(s)**

Economic Development Department.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$150,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Operating Budget of the Economic Development Department.

Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

### **Purchasing Language:**

The Financial Services Department issued a Request for Proposals solicitation RFP 5500 AMA3013 REBID for these services. The solicitation was issued on May 20, 2024, and closed on June 20, 2024. Of the six offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the best evaluated responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a log of offers received, is available for viewing on the City's website. This information can currently be found at [https://financeonline.austintexas.gov/afo/account\\_services/solicitation/solicitation\\_details.cfm?sid=140932](https://financeonline.austintexas.gov/afo/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=140932).

### **MBE/WBE:**

This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9B (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). For the services required for this solicitation, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established.

### **For More Information:**

Direct questions regarding this Recommendation for Council Action to the Financial Services Department - Central Procurement at [FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov](mailto:FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov) or 512-974-2500. Respondents to the solicitation and their Agents should direct all questions to the Authorized Contact Person identified in the solicitation.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

This contract will provide a comprehensive conservation study of the City's Art in Public Places (AIPP) collection. The goals of the study are to catalogue the condition of each artwork in the collection, prioritize maintenance needs, recommend repair methods, estimate repair costs, and generate an effective and regular schedule for ongoing maintenance and conservation of the collection.

The AIPP collection includes over 400 unique objects located in all 10 Council Districts, and it continually grows as new artworks are added on a regular basis. The artworks are made from a variety of materials, including bronze, wood, steel, mosaic, and painted murals, and several pieces with electronic elements. Many artworks are in high traffic areas, such as Austin's downtown area, local parks, Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, streets, Austin Convention Center, public libraries, and recreation centers. The size, diversity of artistic media, and geographic dispersal of the collection makes it difficult for staff to effectively monitor and maintain the artworks without the baseline of its condition and strategies for managing its conservation that this study will provide.

This is a new contract. Requested authorization was based on contractor pricing for the City's estimated amount of artwork.

An evaluation team with expertise in this area evaluated the offers and scored Debora Rodrigues d/b/a Past Matters, LLC d/b/a Past Matters as the best to provide these services based on proposed concept and strategy, experience, personnel, and project management structure, price, local business preference, and small business preference.

Delay in contract award could lead to the further deterioration and loss of artworks in the AIPP collection due to lack of timely conservation and maintenance.