



Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-3371, Agenda Item #: 8.

12/14/2023

Posting Language

Authorize the negotiation and execution of an agreement with Reinaldo Correa Studio LLC for artwork for the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport Playscapes Art in Public Places Project in an amount not to exceed \$625,820.

Lead Department

Economic Development Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Capital Budget of the Aviation Department.

For More Information:

Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, Director, Economic Development Department, 512-974-3131; Constance Y. White, Program Manager, Art in Public Places Program, 512-974-7852.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

On August 7, 2023, the Art in Public Places Panel unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport Playscapes Art in Public Places Project, naming Reinaldo Correa as the selected artist and Rickey Crum as the alternate for the \$625,820 commission. (Motion by Arts Commission Liaison Gray, second by Panel Member Lemmo; approved 6-0-0).

On August 21, 2023, the Austin Arts Commission unanimously approved the selection process recommendation for the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport Art in Public Places Project, naming Reinaldo Correa as the selected artist and Rickey Crum as the alternate for the \$625,820 commission. (Motion by Commissioner Gray, second by Commissioner Mok; approved 7-0-0 with Chair Zisman and Commissioner Medicharla absent).

Additional Backup Information:

The City's Art in Public Places program (AIPP) of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Development Department (EDD), sought to commission an artist or artist-led team to design, fabricate, and install a series of up to three playscapes located throughout the Austin Bergstrom International Airport's concourse areas.

The budget for this artwork is \$625,820 all-inclusive of artist time, design, insurance, and all fabrication and installation related costs. The goal of the project is to commission an artist or artist-led team who, in collaboration with the community and City staff, will design up to three playscapes to advance the power of connection by engaging and entertaining young travelers and those who are young at heart. Aspects of the installations could provoke interplay with end-users as they become integral contributors to functional components of the artworks. The artwork(s) may incorporate technology. Interactive elements should demonstrate design flexibility and the ability to add new components for easily upgrading and adding new programming as needed. Additionally, design features along with entrances and exits of playscape areas must meet requisite codes of the American with Disabilities Acts and should be designed with consideration given to users of all abilities. Airport staff reviewed and provided input on the public art Request for Qualifications prior to its approval by the AIPP Panel and Arts Commission.

A Request for Qualifications was issued on March 27, 2023, to U.S.-based artists and artist-led teams. Notice of the public art opportunity was posted through usual methods as well as through social media channels, the EDD newsletter, and through www.publicartist.org <<http://www.publicartist.org>>. Community members and project partners also helped to promote the opportunity.

On June 7, 2023, the Selection Panel met and reviewed 70 applications for eligible artists and artist-led teams that applied to this Airport Playscapes opportunity. Upon review of the applicants, the Selection Panel recommended three artists for proposals and interviews: Reinaldo Correa, Rickey Crum, and Risa Puno. The Selection Panel convened again on July 28, 2023, and heard proposals from and interviewed the three artists. The Selection Panel recommended Reinaldo Correa as the commissioned artist for the Airport Playscapes opportunity, and Rickey Crum as the alternate.