

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 04/22/25

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0317

LOG NAME: 84NATURA SCULPTURE ACQUISITION PUBLIC ART PROJECT

SUBJECT

(All) Authorize Execution of a Site Design Proposal Agreement and Subsequent Artwork Acquisition and Implementation Agreement with Alice Bateman in an Aggregate Amount Up to \$79,848.00 for Acquisition, Site Design, Modification, Delivery, Installation, and Contingencies for a Limestone Sculpture Titled *Natura* for the Fort Worth Public Art Community Legacy Collection to be Installed in a Location to be Determined by the City with Community Input

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council authorize execution of a Site Design Proposal Agreement and subsequent Artwork Acquisition and Implementation Agreement with Alice Bateman in an aggregate amount up to \$79,848.00 for acquisition, site design, modification, delivery, installation, and contingencies for a limestone sculpture titled *Natura* for the Fort Worth Public Art Community Legacy Collection to be installed in a location to be determined by the City with community input.

DISCUSSION:

The acquisition of *Natura* will add the last of four sculptures created in the 1999 Sculpture Symposium to the Fort Worth Public Art Community Legacy Collection. Together with *Hats* by Cam Schoepp (Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) C-25309) installed at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center, *here she stood* by Chris Powell (M&C C-26402) installed at Capps Park, and *Solar Stone* by Sandi Stein installed at the Botanic Garden, Alice Bateman's *Natura* represents the Symposium's critical success and popular appeal that encouraged City Council to pass a 2% for Arts Ordinance in 2001 (October 2, 2001, Ordinance No. 14794 M&C G-13396) establishing the Fort Worth Public Art program in 2003.

Representative of the artist's interest in the natural world, *Natura* is a 13' high hand-carved limestone sculpture, its tall form suggestive of a flower about to bloom, rising from a large, inviting plinth suitable for seating and contemplation. In 2017, a site selection panel appointed by the Fort Worth Art Commission (FWAC) recommended the artwork be sited in a park location with high public use, good visibility, and an aesthetically compatible environment.

This M&C authorizes the City to enter into a Proposal Agreement with the Artist to address a site for the work. Should the proposal be approved by the FWAC, the City will then enter into an Acquisition and Implementation Agreement with the Artist.

Fort Worth Art Commission (FWAC) Action:

The FWAC's recommendation to acquire the Artwork for the Community Legacy Collection was included in the Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Work Plan (October 14, 2014, M&C C-27031.) Based on guidelines included in the Fort Worth Public Art Master Plan which cite artistic quality, artist credentials and context within the City's public art collection, the FWAC's recommendation concluded that the quality and cultural value of the artwork would be a significant addition to the Community Legacy Collection.

On February 8, 2016, the FWAC approved a two-phase site selection process, to include an advisory Site Selection Panel and robust community input. Following coordination with the Park and Recreation Department (PARD), on March 22, 2017 the FWAC endorsed the Site Selection Panel's recommendation of Mallard Cove Park in Council District 5 and alternate site Tandy Hills Natural Area in District 8. A Mallard Cove community engagement process was interrupted by COVID and subsequently, it was determined the location would not be supported by the community and an alternative location should be sought.

In 2020, the City acquired Broadcast Hill through its Open Space Conservation Program as an adjunct to the Tandy Hills Natural Area. An opportunity for siting *Natura*, the location fits the sculpture's themes in celebrating the natural world.

On September 16, 2024, the FWAC considered the Broadcast Hill site and with community input recommended acquiring the artwork and entering into a proposal agreement with the artist to develop a site plan for *Natura*. The proposal agreement allows the artist to coordinate with the city's trail design team and Open Space staff to identify a location at Broadcast Hill and to engage stakeholders in the design process. Should the community not support the artist's proposal for Broadcast Hill, an alternative site will be selected.

Funding for *Natura* Acquisition and a Proposal Agreement was approved as part of the FY2025 Work Plan, adopted by the Fort Worth City Council on November 12, 2024, as Mayor & Council Communication (M&C 24-1001).

The artist shall require their subcontractors to pull all permits required for this project, however, the City shall waive any fees for these permits as this project is funded by the Specially Funded Capital Projects Fund.

Once acquired, *Natura* will be accessioned into the Fort Worth Public Art Community Legacy Collection. Estimated biennial treatment cost estimate \$900.00.

PROJECT BUDGET	AMOUNT	CONTRACT
Site Proposal	\$2,000.00	This M&C
Acquisition	\$45,000.00	This M&C
Final Design	\$2,000.00	This M&C
Site Design Implementation	\$30,848.00	This M&C
TOTAL	\$79,848.00	

FUNDING SOURCES	AMOUNT
Specially Funded Capital Projects – Collection Management	\$ 79,848.00
TOTAL	\$ 79,848.00

This project is in ALL DISTRICTS.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that funds are available in the current capital budget, as previously appropriated, in the Specially Funded Projects Fund for the FWPA-Acquisition of Natura project to support the approval of the above recommendation and execution of the agreement. Prior to any expenditure being incurred, the Library Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

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