

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/13/23

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 23-0438

LOG NAME: 03FIRE STATION 26 PUBLIC ART PROJECT

SUBJECT

(CD 6) Authorize Execution of an Agreement with Julie Lazarus in an Amount Up to \$74,211.11 for Revised Final Design, Fabrication, Delivery, Installation, and Contingencies for Artwork at the New Fire Station 26 to be Located at 4915 W. South Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76132, and Find that the Use of the Funds for Public Art for this Project Complies with the Voted Purpose of the Bond Funds (2018 Bond Program)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the execution of an Agreement with Julie Lazarus in an amount up to \$74,211.11 for the revised final design, fabrication, delivery, installation, and contingencies for artwork at the new Fire Station 26 to be located at 4915 W. South Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76132; and
2. Find that the use of the funds for public art for this project complies with the voted purpose of the bond funds (2018 Bond Funds).

DISCUSSION:

Fort Worth artist Julie Lazarus’s public artwork design for the new Fire Station 26 is based on research gathered during a micro-residency with the Fort Worth Fire Department. Lazarus spent over fifty (50) hours with crew members on each of the three (3) shifts at the existing station (A, B, and C) and learned about the teamwork involved on their jobs. Getting to know the firefighters personally, the artist came to understand the significance of their individual helmets, with the evidence of wear and tear considered a "badge of honor". The firefighters' helmets -- and the Project Core Team's observation that community residents “hang their hats” at the end of an honest day’s work -- are the inspiration for the artwork and the way it is presented on the building.

In honor of the station’s shifts, the artwork includes a series of three (3) mirrored stainless steel helmet designs, each with a unique pattern of seven (7) brushed stainless steel mini-helmets symbolic of the firefighters’ teamwork. The helmets are approximately twenty-one (21) inches in height by twenty-eight (28) inches in width by just over one-thirteenth (0.135) of an inch in depth. Each helmet design is an edition of eight (8), to correlate with the individual crew member assigned to Fire Station 26. From dusk to dawn, ultramarine blue LED lighting is designed to wash over the interior helmets while the mirrored stainless steel turns dark. Complementing the Fire Department’s colors, the lighting is intended to create an effect of water cascading down the sides of the building.

On November 13, 2020, Julie Lazarus was placed under a Final Design Agreement (City Secretary Contract No. 54881, 54881-A1) in an amount up to \$13,278.89, under which she had proposed that the artwork be installed vertically along three facades of the two-story fire station that had been planned for the original Hulen Street location. Now that the City has determined a one-story fire station will be constructed at 4915 W. South Drive, this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) authorizes a combination Revised Final Design / Artwork Commission Contract so the artist may adjust her design for the one-story fire station, to be reviewed by the Fort Worth Art Commission (FWAC) and community stakeholders prior to fabrication and installation of the artwork.

FWAC Action: On May 17, 2021, the FWAC approved the Final Design and recommended that the artist be placed under an Artwork Commission Contract. Funding for the project was approved as part of the *Public Art Plan for the 2018 Bond Program*, Proposition D, adopted by the Fort Worth City Council on November 6, 2018 as M&C G-19401. The project was included in the *Fort Worth Public Art Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Work Plan*, adopted by the Fort Worth City Council November 29, 2022 as M&C 22-0935.

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 City Bond funds. Regular maintenance, anticipated to be every three (3) years, on this project is estimated to be \$900.00 - \$1,200.00.

PROJECT BUDGET	AMOUNT	CONTRACT
Arts Council Project Management Allocation	\$23,482.00	CSC #54598
Preliminary Design Contract	\$6,438.00	CSC #52543
Final Design Contract	\$13,278.89	CSC #54881, 54881-A1

Revised Final Design and Commission Contract and Contingency	\$74,211.11	This M&C
TOTAL	\$117,410.00	

FUNDING SOURCES	AMOUNT
2018 Bond Program, Proposition D	\$117,410.00
TOTAL	\$117,410.00

This project is included in the 2018 Bond Program. Available resources within the General Fund will be used to provide interim financing until debt is issued. Once debt associated with the project is sold, bond proceeds will reimburse the General Fund in accordance with the statement expressing official Intent to Reimburse that was adopted as part of the ordinance canvassing the bond election (Ordinance No. 23209-05-2018) and subsequent actions taken by the Mayor and Council.

Funding is budgeted in the 2018 Bond Program Fund for the purpose of funding the FWPA Fire Station 26 project, as appropriated.

BUSINESS DIVERSITY OFFICE – The City’s overall M/WBE goal for the Fort Worth Public Art Program is 25 percent of total capital project dollars expended on public art annually. The Business Equity Division waived the Business Equity Goal requirement because most artists are individuals and not businesses. The Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Inc., D/B/A Arts Fort Worth, has agreed that 25% of all artists commissioned will be a minority individual(s) or a minority business owner(s). Arts Fort Worth and the Planning and Data Analytics Department will report its utilization to the Business Equity Division on a semi-annual basis at the end of March and September.

This project is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 6.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that funds are available in the current capital budget, as previously appropriated, in the 2018 Bond Program Fund for the FWPA Fire Station 26 project to support the approval of the above recommendations and execution of the commission contract. Prior to any expenditure being incurred, the Planning & Data Analytics Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

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