

City of Fort Worth, Texas

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/10/25M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0479

LOG NAME: 84EASTCHASE PARKWAY PUBLIC ART PROJECT

SUBJECT

(CD 5) Authorize the Execution of an Artwork Commission Contract with Paul Kittelson in an Amount Up to \$229,336.00 for Fabrication, Delivery, Installation, and Contingencies for Artwork Located Along Eastchase Parkway at the Intersection of Meadowbrook Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76120

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the execution of an Artwork Commission Contract with Paul Kittelson in an amount up to \$229,336.00 for fabrication, delivery, installation, and contingencies for artwork along Eastchase Parkway at the intersection of Meadowbrook Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76120.

DISCUSSION:

Eastchase Island is an extraordinary place set within the ordinary urban environment. It is a place of refuge for the passing motorist. A mental vacation from the everyday grind and a creative escape for the tired imagination. This magical place will become known as one of Fort Worth’s most unique traffic intersections. It will serve as a suburban monument to the natural world and provide a sense of identity for the Eastchase area.

The artwork design consists of fifteen (15) sculptural elements that together make up a storybook-like setting. Inspired by the micro world of insects, bugs and plant spores, this sculptural landscape is a fantasy world of fanciful forms. A total of seven (7) large stainless-steel mushroom-like structures with intricately cut patterns will populate the site alongside a heroic size snail created from layers of Corten steel. Further, a scattering of six (6) black steel ants will roam aimlessly about the perimeter while a colorful ceramic tile toad keeps watch over the river of cars. Overall, the story of *Eastchase Island* is a fable about coexistence. The way we live our lives in a delicate dance with nature. How, as humans, we are shaped by the same natural forces, and instincts, that perpetuate and define all living things.

Each sculpture is designed at a larger-than-life scale to create this fantastical environment. The mushrooms will be up to eight feet (8’) in diameter, ranging in height from seven to twelve (7-12’); the works rest on individual concrete platforms with nature-inspired critter patterns impressed on their surfaces. Additionally the snail, designed to be eight feet (8’) high by sixteen feet (16’) long by five feet (5’) deep, will rest on an extended pedestal which doubles as a snail trail off the existing sidewalk. Its friend, the colorful toad, is designed to be three feet six inches (3’6”) tall by three feet six inches (3’6”) long by three feet (3’) deep. The island’s ants will be approximately eighteen inches (18”) tall by three feet (3’) long by thirty inches (30”) deep. In total, the works span approximately seventy-five feet (75’) across the central portion of the traffic triangle, while the roaming ants are each a minimum of ten feet (10’) from the area right-of-way.

Fort Worth Art Commission (FWAC) Action:

On April 21, 2025, the Fort Worth Art Commission approved the Final Design and recommended Paul Kittelson be placed under an Artwork Commission Contract.

Funding is budgeted in the 2018 Bond Program Fund for the purpose of funding the FWPA Eastchase Pkwy project. Funding for the Eastchase Parkway Public Art project was approved as part of the *Public Art Plan for the 2018 Bond Program*, adopted by the Fort Worth City Council on November 6, 2018 as Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) G-19401. The project was included in the *Fort Worth Public Art Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Work Plan*, adopted by the Fort Worth City Council November 29, 2024 as 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 City funds.

Estimated regular maintenance for the artwork is anticipated to be \$2,000.00.

PROJECT BUDGET	AMOUNT	CONTRACT
Public Art Project Management Allocation	\$39,000.00	City Secretary Contract (CSC) #62494
Preliminary Design	\$13,332.00	CSC #61888

Final Design	\$18,332.00	CSC #61888-AD1
Commission and Contingencies	\$229,336.00	This M&C
TOTAL	\$300,000.00	

FUNDING SOURCES	AMOUNT
2018 Bond Program, Proposition A	\$300,000.00
TOTAL	\$300,000.00

BUSINESS EQUITY DIVISION – The Business Equity Division waived the Business Equity Goal requirement. The Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Inc., D/B/A Arts Fort Worth has agreed to comply with all City contracting and procurement ordinances. Arts Fort Worth will work with the appropriate City departments to provide availability and utilization reporting analysis per City ordinance requirements biannually in March and September for each fiscal year.

This project is in COUNCIL DISTRICT 5

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 Eastchase Pkwy project to support the approval of the above recommendation and execution of the contract. Prior to any expenditure being incurred, the Library Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Dana Burghdoff 8018

Originating Business Unit Head: Midori Clark 7077

Additional Information Contact: Wesley Gentle 298-3029

Expedited