

City of Fort Worth, Texas

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 09/30/25M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0950

LOG NAME: 84 PUBLIC ART PROJECT FIRE STATION 16

SUBJECT

(CD 3 and CD 6) Authorize Execution of Artwork Commission Contract with Artist Sarah Ayala in an Amount Up to \$138,477.00 for Fabrication, Delivery, Installation, and Contingencies for Artwork to be Located at the New Fire Station No. 16, 5701 Lovell Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas, 76107(2022 Bond Program)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council authorize execution of an artwork commission contract with artist Sarah Ayala in an amount up to \$138,477.00 for fabrication, delivery, installation, and contingencies for artwork to be located at the new Fire Station #16, 5701 Lovell Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas, 76107.

DISCUSSION:

Fort Worth artist Sarah Ayala’s free-standing artwork will anchor the most visible corner of the project site, the grassy area near the fire station facing the intersection of Lovell Avenue and Horne Street. Ayala conceptualizes the artwork as representing the contemporary life of three communities: Como and Ridglea and their distinct histories, cultures and values, and the community of firefighters at Fire Station #16.

The artist’s design is an abstracted panther, fabricated as a low-polygon form and poised atop a dodecahedron, a twelve-sided polyhedron. The dodecahedron will include water jet cut phrases collected from the community and fire fighters. Light will shine through these phrases at night to broadcast the words outward like a beacon.

The artist’s concept is based on the Project Core Team’s desire to represent the rich and overlapping histories and cultures of these two adjacent communities and how it’s manifested today using phrases that characterize their values, along with input from the Fire Station #16 firefighters who expressed an interest in having their panther mascot included and the artist’s own interdisciplinary practice and use of complex geometries, patterns and text.

Fort Worth Art Commission (FWAC) Action:

On August 19, 2024, the FWAC approved the artist’s Preliminary Design. On October 28, 2024, the artist was placed under a Final Design Agreement, City Secretary Contract No. (CSC) # 62213. On July 21, 2025, the Fort Worth Art Commission approved the Final Design and recommended Sarah Ayala be placed under an Artwork Commission Contract.

The project is included in the Fort Worth Public Art Fiscal Year 2025 Annual 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 City Bond funds.

Estimated annual maintenance for the artwork associated with this project is anticipated to be \$1,000.00.

This project is included in the 2022 Bond Program. The City’s Extendable Commercial Paper (ECP) (M&C 22-0607; Ordinance 25675-08-2022) provides liquidity to support the appropriation. Available resources will be used to actually make any interim progress payments until debt is issued. Once debt associated with a project is sold, debt proceeds will reimburse the interim financing source in accordance with the statement expressing official Intent to Reimburse that was adopted as part of the ordinance canvassing the bond election (Ordinance 25515-05-2022).

PROJECT BUDGET	AMOUNT	CONTRACT
Preliminary Design	\$8,324.00	CSC # 61017
Final Design	\$22,774.00	CSC # 62213-A1
Commission and Contingencies	\$138,477.00	This M&C

TOTAL	\$169,575.00	
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FUNDING SOURCES	AMOUNT
2022 Bond Funds	\$169,575.00
TOTAL	\$169,575.00

Council Member Crain concurs with the FWAC's recommendation for Sarah Ayala to create, fabricate, deliver, and install artwork at Fire Station #16.

Funding is budgeted in the 2022 Bond Program Fund for the Library Department for the purpose of funding the FWPA Fire Station 16 project, as appropriated.

This project is in COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 and serves neighborhoods in Council Districts 3 and 6.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that funds are available in the current capital budget, as previously appropriated, in the 2022 Bond Program Fund for the FWPA Fire Station 16 project to support the approval of the above recommendation and execution of the commission. 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

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