

Memorandum



Date: July 09, 2024

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Marialaura Leslie, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-44 / Octavia Yearwood and Amani Lewis – Grove Central / Addendum I

Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-44

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDEDUM I TO THE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH TEAM OHHH, LLC (ARTIST TEAM OF OCTAVIA YEARWOOD AND AMANI LEWIS) IN THE FIXED FEE AMOUNT OF \$297,500.00 FOR PHASE II – FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION SERVICES FOR THE GROVE CENTRAL ARTWORK PROJECT (FROM MIAMI-DADE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS – GROVE CENTRAL PUBLIC ART FUNDS)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve Addendum I to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Team Ohhh, LLC (artists team of Octavia Yearwood and Amani Lewis) in the fixed fee amount of \$297,500.00 for Phase II – Fabrication and Installation Services for the Grove Central artwork project.

Background

A meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on December 15 and 16, 2022 to review design proposals from a group of ten (10) artists shortlisted from a regional Call to Artists for a combined series of public art opportunities for the Grove Central development project, a public-private partnership between developers Terra Group and Grass River and the Miami-Dade Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) at the grounds of the Coconut Grove Metrorail Station. Grove Central is a mixed-used commercial and residential hub designed for transit convenience, walkable lifestyle and environmental sustainability.

Opportunities for public art included, but were not limited to, improvements to the newly built bus station including free standing sculpture, applications to canopies, wayfinding solutions to enhance connectivity between various modes of transportation (Metrorail, bus, vehicle garage, Underline bicycle and walking path), cladding or two-dimensional applications to exterior walls, and concepts for exterior lighting. PAC deliberations resulted in the unanimous recommendation of the artists team of Octavia Yearwood and Amani Lewis to primarily pursue and expand on their concept “Say Cheese” for the underside of the bus station canopies.

On January 2023, the Trust through approval of resolution APPT No 23-02, approved the PAC recommendation and a total commission budget of \$350,000.00 and authorized a Phase I- Design contract with the artists team in the initial amount of \$52,500.00. During this phase of work, the artists in consultation with the APP team, determined best to redesign the original idea to create

a series of two-dimensional works to be installed in the vertical walls and ceilings of the tall canopy sections along the busway sawtooth parking spaces. The expansion of the work within the original amount of \$ 350,000.00 will be realized by using aluminum as the base material for the printing of (5) large-scale photo murals to be mounted on the underside of the tall canopy ceilings. Complementary to the ceiling pieces, will be a series of colorful metal cut outs and inspirational text to be installed in overlapping layers across various walls. The artists final artwork design incorporates original photographs of community members and residents of the Coconut Grove area manipulated in the vibrant layered style of painter Amani Lewis. The intent is for the artwork to create “selfies” opportunities that are reflective of the positive, relaxed, and safe experience of using the county’s public transportation system. Users are encouraged to pose and photograph themselves in context with the artwork, embracing a smiling, energetic, and friendly tone.

To initiate the next phase of the artists work, APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution APPT 24-44 authorizing Addendum I to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Team Ohhh, LLC (the artists team of Octavia Yearwood and Amani Lewis) in the fixed fee amount of \$297,500.00 for Phase II – Fabrication and Installation Services for the Grove Central artwork project.