

Memorandum



Date: June 11, 2024

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Marialaura Leslie, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-28 / Germane Barnes – Gallery at West Brickell / Professional Artist Services Agreement

Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-28

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH GERMANE BARNES IN THE NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$250,000.00 FOR PHASE I DESIGN SERVICES AND PHASE II-FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION OF THE ARTWORK PROJECT FOR THE GALLERY AT WEST BRICKELL RESIDENTIAL TOWER PHASE (FROM MIAMI-DADE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED URBAN PUBLIC ART FUNDS).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Germane Barbes in the not to exceed amount of \$250,000.00 for Phase I – Design Services and Phase II – Fabrication and Installation of the artwork project for the Gallery at West Brickell Tower phase.

Background

A meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on May 30, 2024 to review design concepts from a group of eight (8) artists invited to propose from a National Call to Artist for interior and exterior works for the housing development known as Gallery at West Brickell, a public-private partnership between Related Urban and the Miami-Dade Department of the Public Housing and Community Development located in the Brickell neighborhood at 201 SW 10th Street, Miami FL 33130. Opportunities for public art in the building tower included light-based and suspended artworks, screening systems, and applications of two and three-dimensional works and or installations for interior spaces, as well as applications of free-standing artworks for the roof-top pool deck.

After thoughtful deliberation and feedback from the client and APP teams, the PAC recommended Chicago and Miami-based artist Germane Barnes to create a pair of “Rockers”, a playful participatory set of sculptures that serve as seating elements for the pool deck. The PAC suggested that the artist consider creating a single and a double seat version to promote social interaction and closeness among residents. The proposed work is based on Barnes’ “Furry Rocker” (2022) which was composed of a resilient polyurethane resin and brightly colored foam resembling floating noodles. The works allowed visitors to sit within, push, pull and hug the sculptural seats. Inspired by the large and beautiful feathered hair-dresses and floats often featured in Carnival processions, the work connects to this cultural celebration originating in the Caribbean islands and spreading worldwide. The artist proposes to use durable materials suitable

for outdoor placement subject to the harsh exposure of the sun and the salty and windy conditions of the nearby bay.

Based on funding earmarked for the public art program for the development's tower phase and the artist's preliminary proposal budget, APP staff recommends a budget allocation of \$250,000.00 for the commissioning of the "Rockers" concept. APP staff will work with the artist to confirm that this level of funding is appropriate to implement the artwork as envisioned for activation of the pool-deck area. Due to the accelerated completion date for the construction of the residential tower, APP staff also recommends that funding for the artist's scope of work be authorized under a single contract incorporating milestones and deliverables that address the timely completion of the design, fabrication, and installation phases in tandem with the last 8 months of construction.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 24-28 authorizing a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Germane Barnes in the not-to-exceed amount of \$250,000.00 for Phase I – Design Services and Phase II – Fabrication and Installation of the artwork project for the Gallery at West Brickell Residential Tower phase.