

# Memorandum



**Date:** January 13, 2026

**To:** Chair and Members  
Art in Public Places Trust

**From:** Ashlee K. Thomas, Interim Director  
Department of Cultural Affairs

**Subject:** Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-04 / Ean Eldred / Proposal Contract for Conservation Services

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## **Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-04**

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPOSAL CONTRACT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH EAN ELDRED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 5,000.00 FOR CONSERVATION SERVICES OF THE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COLLECTION ARTWORK *SUN STATIONS* BY DALE ELDRED AT THE COCONUT GROVE METRORAIL STATION (FROM ART IN PUBLIC PLACES REPAIR AND RESTORATION FUNDS).

### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve a Proposal Contract in substantially the form attached with Ean Eldred in the amount of \$5,000.00 for conservation services of the Art in Public Places Collection Artwork *Sun Stations* by Dale Eldred located at the Coconut Grove Metrorail Station.

### Background

In 1983, the Art in Public Places Trust commissioned internationally renowned sculptor Dale Eldred (1933-1993) for a site-specific new work known as *Sun Stations* for the new Coconut Grove Metrorail station. Eldred's practice emphasized the interaction of his sculptural work with both natural and generated light. His work, as originally completed, comprised (3) different environmental light-based components referred to as "solar sculptures," each placed strategically at various locations throughout the facility to maximize their interaction with the sun and resulting in an ever-changing spatial experience of light and color brilliance.

To date, only two (2) of the three (3) artwork components remain in place. The most prominent element, referred to as the *Glass Interference Field*, is located above a nine-foot-high wall on the southeast side of the station facing US-1, while the second remaining element known as *Skylight Diffraction Fields*, is found on the concrete wall of the skylight vault, oriented towards the north side of the train platform. The third component, known as *Light Pole Diffraction Panels*, was originally located on the southwest side of the parking lot, an open area eliminated to accommodate the massive footprint of the recently completed Grove Central development. With the impending completion of the infrastructure improvements at the Metrorail Station including a new segment of The Underline and new public artworks commissioned for the development, it's become evident the artwork's need for immediate restoration of all the components.

Through research and outreach efforts, APP staff connected with Ean Eldred, the eldest son and executor of the artist's estate who is interested in engaging with APP to restore the work as originally envisioned by his father/artist. Mr. Eldred has also confirmed that the estate is aware of the historical events affecting the artwork's composition and is open to working with APP to modify the title of the work and implement necessary alterations to elevate the presence of the artwork within the newly

refreshed metrorail station. APP staff recommends consulting with Mr. Eldred to develop a proposal that includes a detailed scope of work for restoring the artwork and creating a maintenance plan that outlines simple instructions for exchanging the diffraction panels as required to maintain its function. As a consulting party, the estate will provide access to extensive archival documentation on the artwork's original fabrication and records of successful restorations of similar works throughout the states.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-04 authorizing a Proposal Contract with Ean Eldred in the amount of \$ 5,000.00 for conservation services of the APP Collection artwork *Sun Stations* by Dale Eldred located at the Coconut Grove Metrorail Station. This fee will cover initial consulting expenses including travel, coordination services with qualified local vendors to perform repair work along with firm bids, assessment and condition report expenses, a third-party appraisal report, testing, and any other required documentation for the Trust to assess the feasibility of the proposed conservation plan.