

Memorandum



Date: September 8, 2026

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

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

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-58 / Nina Surel – PS Miami / PSA Addendum I

Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-58

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDENDUM I TO THE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH NINA SUREL IN THE FIXED FEE AMOUNT OF \$6,000.00 FOR ADDITIONAL DESIGN, FABRICATION, AND INSTALLATION SERVICES FOR THE ARTWORK PROJECT FOR PS MIAMI AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (FROM MIAMI-DADE AVIATION DEPARTMENT AND THE PRIVATE SUITE 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 artist Nina Surel in the fixed fee amount of \$ 6,000.00 for additional design, fabrication, and installation services for the artwork project for PS Miami at Miami International Airport.

Background

At a meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) on April 17, 2025, the PAC unanimously recommended commissioning Miami-based artist Nina Surel for her design concept for the new airport-based private facility known as PS Miami at Miami International Airport. The project involved the restoration and repurposing of the historic Pan American Airways Regional Headquarters into a remote VIP operation for commercial airline flights. The artist's proposal addressed the two reflecting pools and an adjacent vertical wall prominently sited at the entrance of the interior courtyard.

The artist's design responds to the 1960s golden era of Pan American Airways and reflects the Art Deco-inspired wave motifs and geometry, mermaids, and adaptable ceramic molding. These elements will complement the facility's original design while introducing a contemporary dialogue. The mermaid is a powerful and multifaceted symbol, reflecting the city's blend of Afro-Caribbean, Latin American, and Mediterranean influences while embodying themes of migration, femininity, and humanity's connection to the ocean.

To execute the work, on May 13, 2025, the APP Trust Approved Trust Resolution No. APPT 25-19 authorizing a contract with the artist in the amount of \$130,000.00 for design, fabrication, and installation services. Though the artist completed the artwork as proposed within the allocated timeframe and budget, the project required additional mockups, samples, and several in-person presentations to comply with design adjustments requested by the Historic Preservation Board, the County agency with jurisdiction over all proposed aspects of the building's new use. These requirements resulted in \$6,000.00 in unforeseen expenses in materials and consulting services which APP offered to cover given that the artist had already committed her contingency funds to

cover artwork enhancements negotiated and approved by APP and the project team during design development. These funds will be covered by remaining monies the PS Miami APP contingency account.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-58 authorizing Addendum I to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Nina Surel in the not-to-exceed amount of \$6,000.00 for additional services for the artwork project for PS Miami at Miami International Airport.