

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 26-59 / Thom Faulders – MIA Garages Façades / Addendum II

Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-59

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDENDUM II TO THE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH THOM FAULDERS IN THE NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$1,250,000.00 FOR ADDITIONAL PHASE I – DESIGN AND PHASE II- FABRICATION AND INSTALLATON SERVICES FOR THE MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT GARAGES FAÇADE PROJECT (FROM MIAMI-DADE AVIATION DEPARTMENT PUBLIC ART FUNDS)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve Addendum II to the Professional Artist Services agreement in substantially the form attached with Thom Faulders in the not-to-exceed amount of \$1,250,000.00 for additional Phase I - Design and Phase II – Fabrication and Installation Services for the Miami International Airport garages façade project.

Background

On March 10, 2026, the APP Trust approved Resolution No. APPT 26-07 authorizing a Professional Artist Services agreement with Thom Faulders in the amount of \$300,000.00 to initiate design development of AIRplace MIA, a proposal selected from an international call to artist to transform the garages infrastructure of the Miami International Airport into a monumental and iconic work of art. The original concept features overlapping arrays of parabolic shapes echoing the biomorphic forms of palm tree fronds. Created from a multi-layer system of painted aluminum in a white finish, the work’s vertical arrays varied in size to create an organic rhythmic pattern and intersecting geometries. Incorporating a lighting scheme, “AIRplace MIA” evokes a profound spatial agility by merging the terrestrial with the aerial. The artistic skin takes inspiration from Miami’s international status: one that is high energy, open and diverse, and radiant with natural light.

For this major collaboration between the Miami-Dade Aviation Department and Art in Public Places, APP designated an initial allocation of \$750,000.00 to be complemented by an additional 15% artist’s fee from the airport’s \$25 million project allocation. Through the APP contract, the artist would be responsible for the development of construction documents in conjunction with the selected Miami-Dade Aviation Department consulting team and for overseeing the fabrication and installation of all artwork elements.

In further meetings with the MDAD team, an accelerated approach was identified to implement the first portion of the cladding on the new Ibis Garage within 18 months of the notice to proceed.

To accomplish this, the artist and selected fabricator would be interfacing through a contract for technical assistance to accelerate through the design, mockup, and permitting phase much quicker than originally planned for. This early collaboration comes with a significant upfront expense that is part of the overall \$25 million committed by MDAD for the cladding artwork. On May 12, 2026, through approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-30 the Trust authorized Addendum I in the amount of \$250,000.00 to fund the initial technical assistance required for 100% schematic design. With the successful completion of this milestone, the artist is ready to move through design development and fabricate the artwork mockup. These activities will require an additional \$465,000.00 to cover the balance of the artist's contract for technical assistance and mockup, as well as an additional allowance of \$785,000.00 to partially fund expenses related to the 15% artist's fee, studio overhead, lighting and structural consulting, travel and documentation.

The combined total to date of APP approved and proposed contracts and addendums in the amount of \$ 1,800,000.00 is within the agreed total of \$ 5,480,000.00 for Artist's Creative Services and Artist Fee inclusive of the APP's allocation of \$ 750,000.00. Requests for additional funds will be reviewed and approved by the APP Trust as the artist progresses through the work in alignment with MDAD's 40-year garages recertification and repairs.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-59 authorizing Addendum II to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Thom Faulders in the not-to-exceed amount of \$1,250,000.00 for additional Phase – I Design and Phase II- Fabrication and Installation of the Miami International Airport Garages Cladding Artwork project.

Execution of this Addendum II is contingent on MDAD's transfer to the MDAD- APP Trust account of \$1,500,000.00 (ADD I + ADD II) to make these APP contractual obligations whole and written confirmation from MDAD's leadership of overall project implementation commitment with an initial \$ 25 million budget allocation.