

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 26-61 / Joyce Billet at the Village of Casa Familia Ph I / Addendum II

Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-61

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDENDUM II TO THE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH JOYCE BILLET STUDIO LLC (LEAD ARTIST JOYCE BILLET) IN THE NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$70,000.00 FOR ADDITIONAL PHASE II – FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION SERVICES OF THE ARTWORK PROJECT FOR THE VILLAGE OF CASA FAMILIA-PHASE I DEVELOPMENT (FROM MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY ACTION AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND ATLANTIC PACIFIC COMMUNITIES 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 Joyce Billet Studio, LLC (lead artist Joyce Billet) in the not-to-exceed amount of \$70,000.00 for additional Phase II – Fabrication and Installation Services of the artwork project for the Village of Casa Familia-Phase I development.

Background

A meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on February 15, 2024 to review design proposals from a group of eight (8) artists invited to propose for the first phase of the new Village of Casa Familia, a multiphase development planned by the non-profit Casa Familia, Inc. (CFI) on a county-owned site. The development will serve individuals who qualify for the voluntary services offered, including those individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities that affect social and cognitive abilities such as language, communication, learning, self-care, mobility, interpretation of social cues, among others.

On March 19, 2024, through approval of Trust resolution APPT 24-09, the Trust authorized a Professional Artist Services agreement for Phase I-Design in the amount of \$ 48,750.00 with Miami-based artist Joyce Billet to pursue her proposal concept *Forces of Nature*. The concept incorporated various approaches to activate the sensory garden including shade structures, stand-alone sculptures, seating elements, and a water feature, all derived from her ongoing body of work engaging forms found in nature. Through design development phase, the artist refined the concept to include a cluster of sculptural shade and seating elements with a built-in water feature that serve as a meeting point for members of the community to socialize, rest, and enjoy the sights and sounds of the garden around them.

To initiate the fabrication and installation phase of the fully design elements, on December 2024 the Trust approved Resolution APPT No. 24-67 authorizing Addendum I for \$146,250.00 with the artist, who shortly thereafter, started coordinating with the project's construction team to define a feasible approach to incorporate a passive waterfall concept into at least one of the sculptural elements to collect and reuse rain water as its main water source. After months of research and

negotiations, pricing for this portion of the artist's work turned out to be very expensive and the water feature was put on hold. The impending completion and opening of the first phase of the Casa Familia development, required the installation of all artwork components exempt for the one large sculptural element designed to accommodate the water feature's functionality.

After the opening in Spring of 2026, the Casa Familia Phase I construction team has retaken the implementation of the water feature at their own expense. However, the company that fabricated the artwork components completed to date, went out of business and the artist lost a significant deposit issued at the end of 2025 to secure materials, produce shop drawings, and mockup of the missing element. The artist's contingency funds were spent early in the project to cover increased material costs and to date, the contract balance is insufficient to produce the work as designed and permitted. In concurrence with the client team, APP staff suggested tapping the \$15,000.00 internal APP project contingency available for Phase I and allocating \$55,000.00 from Phase II of the Casa Familia project to cover the fabrication and installation of the third sculptural element design to be an integral part of the water feature and a focal point of the community garden.

To meet the APP program commitment on this project, APP staff recommends approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 26-61 authorizing Addendum II to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Joyce Billet Studio, LLC (lead artist Joyce Billet) for additional Phase II - Fabrication and Installation services in the not-to-exceed amount of \$70,000.00 for the artwork project at the new Village of Casa Familia – Phase I Development.