

Memorandum



Date: October 11, 2022

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Michael Spring, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 22-50 / Tom Scicluna – South Dade Transitway Corridor / Professional Artist Services Agreement

Trust Resolution No. APPT 22-50

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH TOM SCICLUNA, LLC (LEAD ARTIST TOM SCICLUNA) IN THE FIXED FEE AMOUNT OF \$90,000.00 FOR PHASE I - DESIGN AND PHASE II – FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION SERVICES FOR THE SOUTH DADE TRANSITWAY CORRIDOR ARTWORK PROJECT (FROM MIAMI-DADE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS 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 Tom Scicluna, LLC (lead artist Tom Scicluna) in the fixed fee amount of \$90,000.00 for Phase I - Design and Phase II – Fabrication and Installation services for the South Dade Transitway Corridor artwork project.

Background

A meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on April 27 and 28, 2022, to review design proposals from a group of 18 national-based artists for a combined series of public art opportunities along the South Dade Transitway Corridor. This major transportation improvement program will revitalize the current 20-mile South Dade busway running adjacent to US-1 Harriet Tubman Highway. The new transitway will connect the communities of the Village of Pinecrest, the Village of Palmetto Bay, the Town of Cutler Bay, unincorporated Miami-Dade County, the City of Homestead, and Florida City. The principal visual components along the 20-mile corridor are 14 state-of-the-art Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) stations and a new park-and-ride garage located at the intersection of SW 168 Street that will create a visual cohesiveness to the corridor while providing enhanced mobility services and options for the surrounding communities.

Artists' opportunities included but were not limited to applications to exterior areas of five (5) designated BRT stations including tile, cladding, or installation-based artwork, light-based artworks that may include video projection mapping and / or multi-media site specific installations, audio and time-based media artworks, and interactive, participatory technology-based artworks. At the park-and-ride garage, opportunities included artist-designed screens or cladding panels for exterior applications to the garage to address the south and east facades, and applications to the garage interior elevator lobbies and "kiss and ride" drop off area such as tile, cladding, or wall-based installations.

After careful deliberation and input from the client teams, APP Trust members, and APP staff, the PAC unanimously recommended the commissioning of Miami-based artist Tom Scicluna to implement his proposal concept repurposing decommissioned transportation-related elements. The artist is interested in working with materials that already exist in the world and is proposing to develop a site-specific sculpture from recycled materials ethically and sustainably sourced directly from the bus and train yards of the Department of Transportation and Public Works. The artist aims to raise awareness and create a historical transportation connection between the new South Dade Transitway Corridor busway and the old Florida East Coast Railway line, which former railroad tracks physically trace the new 20-mile South Dade Transitway corridor currently under construction. In preliminary discussions with the project team and in further understanding of the proposed artwork's scale and sprawling nature of the sculptural installation, APP staff recommends that Tom Scicluna's commission be implemented at the southern most station located in the city of Florida City. This location is the only new BRT facility being designed as an open-air bus station within an existing surface parking lot. APP will work closely with the project team to coordinate the design, fabrication, and installation of the artwork on time for the opening of the transit corridor anticipated for the first quarter of 2024.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 22-50 authorizing a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Tom Scicluna, LLC (lead artist Tom Scicluna) in the fixed fee amount of \$90,000.00 for Phase I - Design and Phase II – Fabrication and Installation of the South Dade Transitway Corridor artwork project.