

Memorandum



Date: January 10, 2023

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Michael Spring, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-06 / Woodgate, LLC – River Parc Linear Park / Addendum I

Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-06

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDENDUM I TO THE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH WOODGATE, LLC (LEAD ARTIST AGUSTINA WOODGATE) IN THE FIXED FEE AMOUNT OF \$25,000.00 FOR ADDITIONAL DESIGN, FABRICATION, AND INSTALLATION SERVICES FOR THE CONCRETE POETRY ART PROJECT AT THE NEW LINEAR PARK AT THE RIVER PARC CAMPUS (FROM MIAMI-DADE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – RELATED URBAN 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 Woodgate, LLC (lead artist Agustina Woodgate) in the fixed fee amount of \$25,000.00 for additional design, fabrication, and installation services for the concrete poetry art project at the River Parc Campus.

Background

On August 10-12, 2020, a Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting was convened to review design proposals from a shortlist of regional artists for River Parc, a Miami-Dade Department of Public Housing and Community Development (PHCD) campus that comprises several affordable housing facilities located by the Miami River in the historic Little Havana neighborhood. Various existing structures and new facilities are being unified as part of a masterplan that involves hardscape and site-work including the construction of a new linear park, green spaces, and river walk promenade as well as new points of access to the adjacent NW 7th Street corridor. APP and PHCD with partner developer Related Urban requested qualifications from professional artists and/or artist teams based in South Florida to create proposals for indoor and outdoor artworks including but not limited to artworks for the interior lobbies and entrance experience of new facilities, site-specific sculpture, seating, or shading elements, applied artworks for the exteriors of the buildings, and functional elements such as light poles, bicycle racks and benches. The selection of artists for the two buildings, then under construction, Gallery at River Parc and Brisas del Rio, were prioritized while deferring the commissioning of artists for the campus-wide outdoor areas to a later time that would align best with the timeline and funding of additional developments including the Linear Park and Riverwalk area.

For this later opportunity, the PAC recommended Miami-based artist Agustina Woodgate to pursue an installation of her *Concrete Poetry* concept which incorporates original letter stamping in concrete surfaces in collaboration with the local poetry-focused non-profit organization O, Miami.

On September 13, 2022, the Trust through Resolution APPT 22-44, approved a contract with the artist in the amount of \$50,000.00 to implement an original version of her signature *Concrete Poetry* intended to extend over the entire length of new sidewalks in the soon to be constructed linear park at the River Parc campus. To date, the artist, in collaboration with O, Miami, completed the development of the original series of short poems that are the basis of the artist's text-based artwork design and a full-scale mockup of a sidewalk section. Through the execution of the mockup, the artist discovered several technical issues including achieving a consistent material mix and minimizing variations in the concrete slump ratio between pours, and flawed layout of the sidewalk formwork. To address these issues, the artist would need to double up the installation manpower, potentially upgrade the quality of the concrete base material, and produce additional letter templates to layout and stamp multiple sections at once, all of which would increase the projected installation costs of the work along the entire length of new pathways.

To help cover these expenses, the artist proposed to reduce the coverage of the stamped poems to approximately 30% of the sidewalk surfaces diluting the anticipated visual impact of the artwork in the new linear park. At the request of APP and the client team, the artist provided an alternate implementation solution that combined the use of a concrete modifying additive and a custom grid-like metal system to extend the text-based artwork coverage to over 70% of all surfaces using a slightly larger installation crew. This alternate option costs an additional \$25,000.00 and requires greater coordination between the artist's installation team and the concrete contractor.

With the client's commitment to cover any additional construction and coordination-related costs, APP recommends allocating \$25,000.00 of unused APP-River Parc campus program contingency to implement the artist's scope of work along the entirety of the new linear park as originally envisioned for this commission. APP recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-06 authorizing Addendum I to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Woodgate, LLC (lead artist Agustina Woodgate) in the fixed fee amount of \$25,000.00 for additional fabrication and installation services for the *Concrete Poetry* artwork project at the new River Parc linear park.