

# 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 23-07 / Rob Pruitt – Jackson Health System  
Expansion / Addendum III

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## **Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-07**

RESOLUTION APPROVING ADDENDUM III TO THE PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH ROB PRUITT IN THE NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$157,600.00 FOR ADDITIONAL PHASE II – FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION SERVICES FOR THE LOBBY ATRIUM ARTWORK PROJECT AT THE JACKSON MEMORIAL MAIN CAMPUS (FROM JACKSON HEALTH SYSTEM EXPANSION PUBLIC ART FUNDS).

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Art in Public Places Trust approve Addendum III to the Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Rob Pruitt in the not-to-exceed amount of \$157,600.00 for additional Phase II - Fabrication and Installation Services for the lobby atrium artwork project at the Jackson Memorial Main Campus.

### **Background**

A meeting of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on April 3 and 4, 2018 to review artists' design proposals for the Jackson Health System (JHS) Expansion Program. The PAC unanimously recommended artist Rob Pruitt for development of one or more of his proposal concepts which included the artist's signature gradient concept with facial expressions applied on commonly found building finishes and furnishings such as wallpaper, wayfinding elements, curtains, upholstery, walls, accents, ceilings, and soffits. The artist was also asked to explore the options of creating free-standing two and three-dimensional works. Given the complex construction schedule and diverse opportunities across the various facilities comprising the expansion, the PAC further recommended that APP staff, in collaboration with the JHS executive team, make the final determination of matching the selected artist with the specific facilities based upon the artist's demonstrated design approach and the compatibility of the aesthetics with the architectural and programmatic goals of JHS.

Through this collaborative process, the Trust on November 13, 2018 approved Trust Resolution No. APPT 18-38 authorizing a \$60,000.00 contract for Phase I - Design Services with Rob Pruitt to develop a series of mixed media artworks for the newly renovated lobby atrium at the Jackson Memorial Hospital main campus. This central area features an open and triple height volume space that anchors the hospital's main cafeteria, the gift store, the Jackson Foundation donor walls, restrooms, and a large open space arranged with comfortable modern furniture for hospital staff and visitors to quietly gather and interact while eating or waiting.

In close coordination with APP staff and the client's executive team, the artist completed the design, fabrication and installation of a monumental sculptural work featuring nine (9) of the artist's signature gradient paintings each supersized to 6.5' by 10' and mounted on a vertical grid to create a free-standing 20' by 30' screen-like mural that is fully visible from all 3 floor corridors connecting to the atrium space.

Each of the mural's individual gradients features an original sculptural face doodle offset from each canvas adding a three dimensional quality to the overall work. As part of the artwork scope, the artist also completed a series of ten (10) 30"x40" original gradient paintings on canvas for installation on the walls of the atrium's second floor corridor creating a visual connection to the artist's monumental mural.

The artist's original fabrication and installation budget in the amount of \$540,000.00 planned to cover all expenses related to the fabrication, installation, shipping, art handling, storage, and engineering of the monumental mural/screen system and the production of the ten (10) original paintings on canvas in the size of 30" x 40". However, when the artist's installation team mobilized, they encountered several issues that could only be discovered and addressed once the atrium space was closed off and made available for installation of the work. The most critical issue called for the significant reinforcement of the already fabricated screen structure requiring the procurement of double the quantity of materials used in the originally approved design at higher and expedited product costs, the hiring of an additional crew, and the rental of lift and rigging equipment to perform all modifications onsite for a period of 30 days including nights and weekends. Compounding this complication was also the artist's unexpected diagnosis of a life-threatening illness requiring aggressive treatment which precipitated APP's approval for the completion of the 10 original paintings and limited the artist's ability to make any changes to the approved design direction.

Considering the advanced level of completion of the artist's work, his critical health condition, and Jackson's urgent operational need to reopen its atrium space, APP staff authorized the artist's fabrication team to proceed with the artwork installation using whatever means and methods necessary to ensure completion of the monumental work within the 4-week time extension negotiated with the Jackson team. APP committed to fund escalated expenses resulting from these unforeseen working conditions at the completion of the project. APP has reviewed the submitted change order based on additional time and materials and recommends the allocation of an additional \$157,600.00 to the artist's contract from the available balance of APP-Jackson Expansion Program contingency funds to cover these documented expenses.

APP staff recommends the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-07 authorizing Addendum III to the Professional Artist Services Agreement with Rob Pruitt in the not-to-exceed amount of \$157,600.00 for additional Phase II - Fabrication and Installation Services for the lobby atrium artwork project at Jackson Memorial Main Campus.