

Memorandum



Date: February 14, 2023

To: Chair and Members
Art in Public Places Trust

From: Michael Spring, Director
Department of Cultural Affairs

Subject: Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-12 / Carlos Prado Art, LLC – Civil and Probate Courthouse / Professional Artist Services Agreement

Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-12

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL ARTIST SERVICES AGREEMENT IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE FORM ATTACHED WITH CARLOS PRADO ART, LLC (LEAD ARTIST CARLOS PRADO) IN THE FIXED FEE AMOUNT OF \$300,000.00 FOR RESTORATION AND INSTALLATION OF THE CHARLEY HARPER ARTWORK PANELS AT THE CIVIL AND PROBATE COURTHOUSE (FROM MIAMI-DADE INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT 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 Carlos Prado Art, LLC (lead artist Carlos Prado) in the not-to-exceed amount of \$300,000.00 for restoration and installation of the Charley Harper artwork panels at the Civil and Probate Courthouse artwork project.

Background

On June 8, 2021, the Art in Public Places Trust through Trust Resolution APPT No. 21-51 authorized the acquisition of a series of artworks based on the work of Cincinnati-based Modernist artist Charley Harper from the City of Homestead for accession into the Miami-Dade Art in Public Places Collection for the new Civil and Probate Courthouse. The artworks were originally created in the 1970's for the National Park Service and featured for many years at the Royal Palm Visitors Center at the Everglades National Park until removed and donated to the City of Homestead. The Trust-approved acquisition required that the work comprised of (12) large-scale metal panels be fully restored to their original artistic intent and that the panels be modified as needed to reinstall the work in a similar "in the round" configuration as documented at the visitors center.

Since approval of the acquisition, APP staff has worked with the conservators team at RLA, to complete an in-depth condition assessment of the panels resulting in a firm estimate in the amount of \$170,000.00 for restoration services to be completed over a period of 10-12 months. In tandem with this work, APP also engaged with the project team including the chief judges, ISD representatives, and the design-build firm to define the best location within the new courthouse for permanent siting of this large-scale installation. This collaboration identified the Jury Pool Assembly Area as the preferred location given its openness and heavy public use. The design team proposes that the works be arranged in a continuous configuration to take advantage of the 10 foot high wall that extends the entire length of the room.

To accomplish the combined scope of work of restoration and installation of the Charley Harper panels, APP staff recommends engaging Miami-based artist Carlos Prado to manage the restoration work in coordination with RLA and to implement an artist's inspired design solution that allows for the safe installation of the artwork in its permanent location. Mr. Prado's established practice as a sculptor and a fine arts professor coupled with his track record of successfully completing a number of time-sensitive public art installation with tight budgets, makes him an ideal candidate to partner with APP staff in the implementation of this work. The artist's developed design solution will include the structural reinforcement of all 12 panels, the custom fabrication of protective display cases for each of the works with architectural quality finish, dedicated lighting, and all installation and handling services. This complementary scope of work is estimated at a value of \$130,000.00 and it's inclusive of all artist's and engineering consulting fees, materials, equipment, and subcontracted services.

Of the total \$3.2 million dedicated for public art at this new facility, APP staff recommends a total budget allocation of \$300,000.00 for the Charley Harper acquisition and the approval of Trust Resolution No. APPT 23-12 authorizing a Professional Artist Services Agreement in substantially the form attached with Carlos Prado Art, LLC (lead artist Carlos Prado) in the not-to-exceed amount of \$300,000.00 for restoration and installation of the Charley Harper artwork panels at the new Civil and Probate Courthouse.