



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. IX. V
1/30/2024

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Craig Freeman, City Manager

Public Art Commission Agreement with Gabriel Friedman, for a sculpture titled *(unconfirmed) The Biggest Pink Skateboard*, public art for the Metro Park neighborhood, in the median of Linwood Boulevard, between North Blackwelder Avenue and North McKinley Avenue, not to exceed \$10,000. Ward 6.

Purpose:

To commission Artist Gabriel Friedman for the sculpture titled, *(unconfirmed) The Biggest Pink Skateboard*, public art commissioned as part of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) for Metro Park neighborhood, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.

Background:

The Metro Park Neighborhood Association is part of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI), a neighborhood revitalization program administered by the Planning Department. Through a neighborhood grant program offered by SNI, the Metro Park neighborhood requested \$10,000 for a public art sculpture to increase the sense of value, renewal, and ownership in the area. *(unconfirmed) The Biggest Pink Skateboard* is the 6th sculpture piece to be selected, with a long-term goal to erect 10-12 sculptures along Linwood Boulevard. Currently, four (4) sculptures have been erected, with two (2) in the process of approval, - this piece and another. *(unconfirmed) The Biggest Pink Skateboard* will be located in the median, between North Blackwelder Avenue and North McKinley Avenue. The sculpture piece will be placed on a concrete pad, designed with specifications to support long-term structural stability.

On October 10, 2023, a Call to Artists (Request for Information) for public art for the location in Metro Park was sent to members of the City's Prequalified Artist Pool and was open to the general public as well. The total funding available for the art award was \$10,000. The first Selection Committee meeting was held on November 1, 2023, resulting in the selection of three Finalists. On November 11, 2023, Finalists attended a mandatory site tour, where they were provided with in-depth information about the public art site and its surroundings. On December 13, 2023, each Finalist presented their proposed art to the Selection Committee. The proposal developed by Gabriel Friedman was determined by the Selection Committee to best meet the criteria for the Project. The Arts Commission approved the Committee's recommendation on January 22, 2024.

The Program is funded by and subject to provisions of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

Cost:

Not to exceed \$10,000

Source of Funds:

Grants Management – Dept of Hsg & Urban Devel-RSTR – CDBG Entitlement – CDBG B-23-MC-40-0003 (019-6140-2408000-G3920-G80428)

Review:

Planning Department

Recommendation: Agreement be approved.