



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. IX W
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 and Denise Duong dba Denise Duong Art Inc., for three sculptures titled *The Dancing Ladies*, public art for the Capitol Hill neighborhood, three locations, not to exceed \$30,000. Ward 6.

Purpose:

To commission artists Gabriel Friedman and Denise Duong, dba Denise Duong Art Inc. for three (3) sculptures in the SNI Capitol Hill neighborhood, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.

Background:

The Capitol Hill area that is a part of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) program through The City of Oklahoma City is made up of three (3) areas, Capitol Hill, College Hill, and Oliver Park. Through a neighborhood grant program offered by the SNI, this group of neighborhoods requested \$30,000 for public art to increase a sense of cohesion, value, and ownership in the area. Location 1 is the southwest corner of SW 25th Street and South Walker Avenue, Location 2 is in the southwest corner of the Capitol Hill Library property located at 327 SW 27th Street, and Location 3 is in the SW 36th Street/Grand Boulevard median near South Santa Fe Avenue. Each piece will be placed on a concrete pad and designed with specifications to support long-term structural stability.

On October 10, 2023, a Call to Artists (Request for Information) for public art for three (3) locations in the Capitol Hill area was sent to members of the City's Prequalified Artist Pool. The total funding available for the art award was \$30,000. The first Selection Committee meeting was held on October 30, 2023, resulting in the selection of four (4) 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 11, 2023, each Finalist presented their concept to the Selection Committee. The proposal developed by Gabriel Friedman and Denise Duong dba Denise Duong Art Inc. 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 \$30,000

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.