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SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION

A City County Agency

October 22, 2004

APP Committee
Sacramento, California

Members in Session

SUBJECT: Approval of Revised Alcove Artwork Proposal and Purchase Agreement for City Hall Public Art Project by Artist Kurt Steger for City Hall Expansion Project (BB82)

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: District 1
915 I Street

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that APP Committee

1. Approve the proposed artwork (See Exhibit A) and recommend the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the following public artist for the City Hall Expansion Project:
 - A. Kurt Steger, *Alcoves*, environmental/functional sculpture, \$135,000.

CONTACT PERSONS: Michelle Walker, Executive Director,
Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission
(916) 556-3990

Linda Bloom, Administrator, Art in Public Places
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FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: November 9, 2004

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FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: November 5th, 2004

SUMMARY:

This report describes and recommends approval of a revised art proposal for the Alcoves of the City Hall Expansion Public Art Project.

PANEL/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION:

- On March 18, 24-25, 2004, an artist selection panel was convened to review the qualifications of over 170 artists. The panel selected 18 artists/finalists to develop designs for six sites.
- On May 19-20, 2004, the selection panel reconvened and selected six artists to recommend for design contracts. The Art in Public Places Committee (APP) and Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission (SMAC) approved the design contracts and the six artists were commissioned to develop designs.
- On September 1, 2004 the APP Committee approved the artists' designs for recommendation to SMAC.
- On September 15, 2004 SMAC approved the artists' designs for recommendation to Council. Both SMAC and APP Committee have a preference for a water feature (not part of the original art proposal for the Plaza).
- The APP Committee will review Kurt Steger's alcoves revised proposal on October 26, 2004.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

History:

- Recognizing the unique complexities of this APP project, staff developed a public process that included input by community members, City staff and elected officials.

- Staff developed an arts plan and a request for qualifications (RFQ) that was approved by City Council in October 2003. The plan outlined opportunities for art works, required the artists to develop designs reflective of Sacramento and included Sacramento regional residency requirements, with one exception that required at least one team member from Sacramento County.
- Over 170 artists applied, submitting over 1700 slides that were reviewed by a selection panel that included arts professionals, General Services staff, community members, tenants, the developer's representatives, local art collectors and supporters.
- In March 2004 a selection panel reviewed the artist qualifications and selected a short list to receive design contracts for a limited competition.
- In May 2004 the panel reconvened and selected six artists' conceptual designs to recommend for design contracts. These recommendations were approved by the APP Committee and Commission in June 2004.
- The six artists developed and presented their designs to both the APP Committee and SMAC in September 2004.
- Artist Kurt Steger visited the construction site several times after APP Committee and SMAC's approval of his alcoves proposal. Upon viewing the site and with support of APP staff, it was recommended that he consider revising his proposal to accommodate the restraints of the space. The revised proposal will allow for more seating and accessibility by wheel chairs.
 - ✓ The Plaza artwork, designed by Archie Held, includes a water feature which was not in his original conceptual design to the artist selection panel, the APP Committee or SMAC. The artist's concept changed as a result of his meeting, at the direction of APP and SMAC, with Miwok Tribal leaders. The changes included Miwok basket imagery and a water element to reflect tribal and community healing on these sacred grounds that were found to have been Miwok burial grounds. The basket imagery and the water elements not only reflect the healing aspects, but also respect for the site and the Miwok people.

- ✓ Potential Risks for Plaza Waterfeature: Preliminary discussions with the Department of General Services staff have raised the following potential concerns 1) structural damage to underground garage facility, 2) leakage, 3) mold issues, 4) maintenance

TIMELINE:

Project construction is estimated for completion in Spring 2005. If approved, this report recommends:

- Contract execution with the six proposed artists through October-November 2004, with art work installation between April-August 2005.
- SMAC and General Services staff to work with Archie Held and other specialists doing the design and engineering work for the additional complexities of the water features. (November- December 2004)
- Obtain cost estimates and report back to Council only if cost is prohibitive and cannot be covered by contingency, and if potential risks (structural damage, leakage, mold, maintenance) cannot be mitigated. (January 2005)
- Donated Serna sculpture to be installed after completion of project construction in Spring 2005.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Art in Public Places budget-- established in 2002 and based on 2% of construction costs—is \$900,000 and included in capital project BB 82. Funding comes from the 2002 CIP Bond Capital Projects (Fund 711) and consists of:

- \$180,000 (20% of the entire APP budget) set aside to administer the costs of the project including maintenance of the artwork.
- \$720,000(80% of the APP budget) will be available for proposals, artwork, and contingency.

The Plaza artwork and its water features will be paid for within the project budget and, if necessary, available contingency.

Administration	\$180,000
Proposals, Artwork	\$650,000
Contingency	\$ 70,000
Total	\$ 900,000

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Installation of artwork will be completed according to CEQA requirements 15301 as may be determined by the Development Services Department, Environmental Planning Services and all other applicable codes.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

The City Hall Expansion project Arts Plan is in accordance with:

- The City's Mission to "protect, preserve and enhance the quality of life for present and future generations."
- CCL Department goal of "exceptional cultural, artistic, and leisure opportunities that enrich the quality of life, contributing to a vibrant metropolitan region."
- SMAC's goals to "support and strengthen the role of cultural organizations in neighborhood preservation and revitalization and enhance the role of culture and the arts in improving the quality of life for residents and visitors".
- APP's goals of "enhancing the quality and aesthetics of the built environment; encouraging dialogue, interaction, and community education concerning art; responding to the region's unique cultural heritage, history, architecture and functions through artworks which have "sense of place;" providing engaging, timeless, landmark quality artwork; bringing art into the daily lives of residents and visitors, serve to improve the quality of life for Sacramento community members and visitors."

ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:

The selection of public artists and artworks through SMAC/APP Open Calls for Artists and Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) supports the City's ESBD program

by including opportunities for emerging artists and small businesses in the Sacramento region. The Art in Public Places program of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission will make every attempt to certify selected artists through the ESBD program.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Bloom, Administrator,
Art in Public Places
Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission

Michelle Walker, Executive Director
Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission

Artist's Concept Statement 9/2004
Environmental/Functional Artwork
Honoring Sacramento

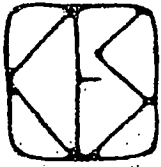
"As an artist and a participant in public life, I believe our decisions and actions are enhanced by interaction with nature. My goal with this piece is to inspire the peace and reflection we so often feel when interacting with nature, and to do so inside of a building uniquely designed to conduct vital public business.

I conceived this idea to relate to what I see as one of Sacramento's great accomplishments: creating a city of unique beauty by planting over a million trees. The richness and vitality of the trees enhances the urban experience in so many ways. My objective is to do the same within the city hall. By bringing this element of nature into this place of public discourse, I want this to be an area where one may enter, relax and gather one's thoughts before making or hearing an important statement.

Essentially I am architecting a "natural" space indoors by creating and building tree and boulder forms instead of bringing these already established objects into the space. We humans are builders and I am seeking to bridge the natural and the built through my art. By using this technique, I am asking visitors to view a common shape - a tree, for example - represented with uncommon materials - an abstract tree form made out of carved wood and bronze - and to hopefully see the idea of a tree in a new way.

The elements of this project will incorporate local materials as much as possible. The woods I'll use for the base of the boulder area will most likely be walnut in one alcove and oak in the other, both harvested from central valley regional locals. The tree forms will be collected in collaboration with the city arborist from trees that are being trimmed in the downtown area. I am working on finding a local source for the boulders and I have several leads currently. Connected to the bench will be a book with Sacramento's ecological resume. This resume will contain statistics concerning the nature that exists and has existed in the Sacramento region, such as the rivers, local plants, animals, trees, geological formations, etc.

I like to call this space a contemplative retreat. My hope is that it will serve all that enter and inspire an appreciation for Sacramento as a vibrant intellectual and business community that also actively appreciates and respects the natural world."



KURT E. STEGER Sculpture + Design

Production Schedule

2004

November Begin project

November-December Cast molds of tree trunks

December - Jan 2005 Deliver wax castings to bronze foundry

2005

January Begin design and sculpture of branch forms

January-February Select boulders and deliver to stone fabricator
Cut and grind boulder bases

February Open time - contingency time

March Finished boulders delivered to Grass Valley Studios

March - April Construct bases for boulders

April Assemble boulders and bases
Trial fit: align mountings

April - May Finish sculpture of branch forms

May Shape tree form bases
Select wood for bench

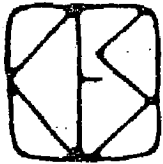
June Construct molds, cast tree form bases

July Mill and finish bench seat slabs

August Complete assembly of tree forms in Grass Valley Studios
Open time - contingency time

September Prepare site, begin installation
Attach plaster to walls
Create wall drawings on plaster

October Final installation on site



KURT E. STEGER Sculpture + Design

Budget

Artist's Fee	\$ 40,000
Materials	
Bronze	\$ 14,000
Stone	\$ 9,000
Wood	\$ 6,000
Misc (paint, finishes, cables, steel rods, foam, adhesives, mold materials, casting stone, plaster)	\$ 3,500
Equipment	\$ 2,000
Scaffolding, sanding, blades, misc	
Studio Costs	
Grass Valley Studios	\$ 5,000
Foundry	\$ 10,000
Quarry	\$ 5,000
Transportation Costs	
Materials delivery	\$ 6,000
Artist travel costs	\$ 2,200
Business Operations Certificate	\$ 81
Insurance	
Fire, theft, loss	\$ 500
Installation	
Equipment Rental	\$ 1,000
Engineering Services	\$ 3,000
Subcontractor: Woodworking	\$ 14,000
Subcontractor: Project Mgmt	\$ 2,500
Contingency	\$ 12,000

TOTAL: \$ 135,781

