



**REGULAR MEETING
FORT WORTH ART COMMISSION
Monday, July 11, 2022, 5:00 p.m.**

Fort Worth Community Arts Center
1300 Gendy Street
Fort Worth, TX, 76107

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Commissioner Maggie Adler
Commissioner Bill Campbell
Commissioner Raul Pena

Commissioner Branigan Contreras
Commissioner Randle Harwood
Commissioner Estrus Tucker

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Commissioner Jennifer G. Brooks, Ph.D.
Commissioner Leslie Thompson
Commissioner James Talambas

CITY STAFF

Fernando Costa, Assistant City Manager
Jessika Williams, Assistant City Attorney
Dot Kent, Community Engagement Office

ARTS FORT WORTH STAFF

Wesley Gentle, Interim Managing
Director/President
Martha Peters, Director of Public Art
Anne Allen, Public Art Project Manager
Michelle Gonzales, Public Art Project Manager
Alida Labbe, Public Art Project Manager
Michelle Richardson, Public Art Project Manager
Jenny Conn, Public Art Collection Manager
Michael Asbill, Community Engagement Mgr
Natalie Lopez, Executive Assistant

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Tucker called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

- II. Approval of Minutes – Chairman Tucker
 - a. Regular Meeting of May 16, 2022

A motion was made by Commissioner Pena and seconded by Commissioner Campbell to approve the Art Commission Minutes of May 16, 2022. The motion passed (5-0-0).

[Commissioner Contreras arrived at 5:14 p.m.]



- III. Report of Chair – Chairman Tucker
- a. Current / Upcoming Art Commission Openings:
 - i. Position 8 – Community Representative 3
 - ii. Position 9 – Arts Professional 5

Commissioner Tucker welcomed Wesley Gentle, Interim Managing Director and President of Arts Fort Worth. Gentle thanked Commissioner Tucker and the Art Commission and stated he is available to hear any thoughts or concerns they may have.

- b. Chairman's Comments on Current Agenda Items – None.

- IV. Public Comments – None.

- V. Consent Agenda
- a. Approve Project Outline for Chapel Creek Boulevard Corridor from White Settlement Road to Old Weatherford Highway, 76108 (Council District 3)
 - b. Endorse Draft Plaque Text for the Will Rogers Memorial Center Historic Tile Murals located at 3401 West Lancaster Avenue, 76107, for Purposes of Gathering Public Input (Council District 7)

A motion a made by Commissioner Harwood and seconded by Commissioner Adler to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed (6-0-0).

- VI. Action Items
- a. Approve Final Design by Karla Garcia for Trail Drivers Park, 2502 Guenther Avenue 76016 (Council District 2)
 - i. Report of Staff – Michelle Richardson
This project is part of the 2014 Bond Program. Karla Garcia's Preliminary Design was approved in August 2021.
 - ii. Presentation – Karla Garcia, Artist
Garcia proposed a larger-than-life, mirrored stainless-steel sculpture for Trail Drivers Park. The design is inspired by migration and the natural landscape of the park. The sculpture will be approximately 8x8x8 feet, resting on a 10-foot diameter charcoal-color curbed foundation. The sculpture hovers 3 inches above its foundation.

The mirrored stainless-steel horns vary from approximately 6 to 11.5 inches. The tips of each horn have been rounded for safety. Each branch will be installed with security screws and epoxy to a brushed stainless-steel core.

The final location of the piece is near a trail at the north end of the park, in proximity to Northeast 28th Street. The work is expected to be highly visible from



the street and from areas within the park. It is sited approximately 25 feet east of the trail and 20 feet south of the existing walkway. The plaque that will accompany this artwork will be located near the trail for accessibility.

The sculpture will have a finishing spray to protect it from the elements and is expected to be low maintenance. The branches can be removed individually for repair or replacement, as needed, though it should be noted the sculpture can withstand 115-mile winds and wind pressure of up to 30 pounds per square foot.

iii. Project Core Team Comments – None.

iv. Public Comments – None.

v. Art Commission Discussion

Current drought conditions raised a concern about mirrored steel potentially causing a fire. Garcia responded the conservator's report did not indicate this to be an issue. Commissioner Harwood felt the small size of the horn shapes, angles, and foundation size would make such an event highly unlikely.

With regards to lighting, Garcia shared that she has a large contingency due to cost spikes and will consider lighting should the funding not be needed to combat volatile markets.

Commissioners were excited by the unique portrayal of longhorn imagery and the location of the work, making it visible from the street. They appreciated how considerate Garcia had been about addressing safety concerns. Commissioner Tucker expressed appreciation to the artist for referencing migration and natural landscapes in the design.

A motion was made by Commissioner Harwood and seconded by Commissioner Campbell to approve Final Design by Karla Garcia for Trail Drivers Park, 2502 Guenther Avenue 76016 (Council District 2). The motion passed (6-0-0).

b. Approve Combined Project Outline for I-35W Underpass at East Rosedale Street, 76104 (Council District 8); and, South Main Tunnel between West Lancaster Avenue, 76102, and West Vickery Boulevard, 76104 (Council District 9)

i. Report of Staff – Martha Peters

The 2014 Bond Program included funding for the South Main Tunnel; however, due to the potential improvements planned by Near Southside, Inc. (NSI), the project had been postponed.

Fort Worth Public Art and NSI are now partnering to initiate the Near Southside Gateways Project, which will study aesthetic and functional improvements at two (2) locations; South Main Tunnel at South Main Street at Union Pacific Railroad, and the underpass at East Rosedale and Interstate 35W. Funding for the South Main Tunnel comes from the 2014 Bond Program, Proposition A, in the amount of \$340,000.



Funding for the I-35 at east Rosedale Street Underpass totals \$95,000 and comes from the 2004 Bond Program and Public Art Fund. These funds are pending City Council approval of reprogramming funds previously set aside for public art at the Guinn School Plaza, which was never built.

- ii. Presentation – Mike Brennan, President, Near Southside, Inc.
The goal of the Near Southside Gateways project is to improve and address lighting, traffic safety for bicycles and pedestrians, functionality, and to incorporate public art at both sites.

Near Southside Inc. received approval from the Board of Directors of the Tax Incremental Reinvestment (TIF) Zone #4, for a maximum of \$100,000 for the conceptual design phase. NSI will serve as the project manager to hire an interdisciplinary team with urban design, engineering, and community engagement expertise.

Community engagement events will gather ideas and input from stakeholders from the South Main and East Rosedale communities.

Report of Staff by Martha Peters (continued):

The *Fort Worth Public Art Master Plan Update* allows for the professional services team to select an artist from the Fort Worth Public Art Pre-Qualified List as part of their response to an RFQ. Since NSI had already selected the design team for the Near Southside Gateways Projects, the team has recommended RE:site Studio [Norman Lee and Shane Allbritton] and Bill Fitzgibbons from the Fort Worth Public Art Pre-Qualified List to be invited to prepare proposals for both sites.

The design team will work closely with the selected artists, contracted with the City through FWPA, to develop a conceptual approach for the integration of public art into the improvement plan. Upon approval tonight, the two selected artists will be placed under conceptual proposal agreements.

The first phase of this project is planned to be completed by the end of 2022 and the resulting conceptual plans will include cost estimates to serve as the basis for a subsequent request for funds from the TIF #4 Board for final design and construction funding. This next phase of the project will begin in early 2023.

- iii. Public Comments
Blake Moorman asked if any of the artist are people of color. The East Rosedale project area is historically African American and now has a majority Hispanic population and residents would have an expectation of adequate representation.

Martha Peters responded that Norman Lee of RE:site is of Asian decent and stated they will be looking at ways to engage some local artists in the project.



iv. Art Commission Discussion

Commissioners express excitement about project, the proposed artists, and look forward to seeing these two (2) locations improved.

Commission Adler asked if it is possible to move some funds from the South Main Tunnel to the East Rosedale project. Peters responded that is not possible since funds come from different sources. Mike Brennen added that there is opportunity for TIF #4 funding to augment the public art budget of \$95,000.00 from the Guinn School Plaza for the East Rosedale gateway.

A motion was made by Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Harwood to approve the Combined Project Outline for I-35W Underpass at East Rosedale Street, 76104 (Council District 8); and, South Main Tunnel between West Lancaster Avenue, 76102, and West Vickery Boulevard, 76104 (Council District 9). The passed (5-0-1) with Commissioner Pena abstaining.

c. Endorse Draft Public Art Plan for the 2022 Bond Program for Purposes of Gathering Public Input (All Council Districts)

i. Report of Staff – Martha Peters, Anne Allen

On May 7, 2022 The 2022 Bond Program was approved by voters in the City of Fort Worth. The Public Art Allocations include: \$3,655,300 for Proposition A: Street and Mobility Infrastructure (1%), \$2,430,500 for Proposition B: Park and Recreation Improvements (2%), \$245,200 for Proposition C: Public Library Improvements (2%), \$771,000 for Proposition D: Police and Fire Public Safety Improvements (2%) for a total of \$7,102,000.

Public art funds must be expended on capital projects within the bond proposition and public art project budgets must be appropriate to the scale of the site for visual impact. Budgets must also include allowances for project management costs and contingencies for cost spikes and unforeseen needs.

Planning considerations include visibility and public engagement, geographic equity, and opportunities for local emerging public artists.

Proposition A includes six (6) projects with the added opportunity of Community - Initiated Projects. Community-Initiated Projects allow for City Partnerships potential fund matching. These project locations must be part of the 2022 Bond Program Proposition A. The Art Commission will need to recommend eligibility, policies and procedures to City Council.

Proposition B includes five (5) projects and Propositions C-D include three (3) projects.

Throughout 2022, the Art Commission Chairman, along with other commissioners have met with Council Members regarding the 2022 Bond Program projects in their districts to receive their input. If the Fort Worth Art Commission endorses the plan tonight, the Art Commission will then set public



hearings to gather community feedback regarding the plan. In September 2022 the plan will be presented to City Council for adoption.

- ii. Report of Chair – Estrus Tucker
Chairman Tucker is confident in the process and added he appreciated recommendations and feedback from Council Members.
- iii. Public Comments– None.
- iv. Art Commission Discussion
Commissioner Harwood asked if the City has developed a spending plan for 2022 Bond Program. Eric Fladager of the Planning & Data Analytics Department responded that the capital improvement plan has not yet been presented to City Council. Commissioner Harwood added that it is important to know the timing of spending to prioritize public art projects.

A motion was made by Commissioner Adler and seconded by Commissioner Harwood to approve to endorse the Draft Public Art Plan for the 2022 Bond Program for Purposes of Gathering Public Input (All Council Districts). The motion passed (6-0-0).

- d. Set Public Hearing on the Public Art Plan for the 2022 Bond Program for the next Regular Meeting of the Fort Worth Art Commission, currently scheduled for Monday, August 15, 2022 (6:00 p.m. time certain), Fort Worth Community Arts Center, 1300 Gendy Street, 76107 (All Council Districts)
 - i. Report of Staff – Martha Peters– None.
 - ii. Public Comments – None.
 - iii. Art Commission Discussion– None.

A motion was made by Commissioner Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Pena to approve a Set Public Hearing on the Public Art Plan for the 2022 Bond Program for the next Regular Meeting of the Fort Worth Art Commission, currently scheduled for Monday, August 15, 2022 (6:00 p.m. time certain), Fort Worth Community Arts Center, 1300 Gendy Street, 76107 (All Council Districts). The motion passed (6-0-0).

VII. Staff Report and Announcements

- a. Informal Reports:
 - i. Rosemont Park – Michelle Richardson
Fabrication is 50% complete. Posts have been delivered to the painter in Weatherford, Texas. Artwork is expected to be completed by the end of September.
 - ii. Holly Water Treatment Plant (Forest Park Blvd) – Anne Allen
The permit was approved today, and installation is planned to begin in early August 2022.



- iii. North Z Boaz Park – Anne Allen
Installation is planned for October 2022.
 - iv. Pre-Qualified Emerging Artist Training – Michael Asbill
On May 21, 2022, the 50 North Texas emerging public artists were invited to participate in an artist training. There was an 22% increase in representation of artists of color compared to the 2018 Pre-Qualified Artist List.
- b. Recent Community Engagement Events – Michael Asbill
 - i. Dedication of *Drift* by Volkan Alkanoglu, 3500 block of Westcreek Drive, 76133, Saturday, June 4, 2022, 9:00 a.m.
 - c. Upcoming Community Engagement Events – Michael Asbill
 - i. Dedication of *Wildflower* by FYOOG, LLC, East Regional Library, 6301 Bridge Street, 76112, *tentatively scheduled for July 20, 2022, 10:30 a.m.*
 - d. Announcements of Staff
 - i. Martha Peters was commissioned to design a piece for *Neighborhood Leap* – a free app-based augmented reality art walk in South Main Village produced by Amphibian Stage with support from the Texas Commission on the Arts.
 - ii. Michelle Gonzales has an exhibition, *On the Mend* at 500X Gallery on July 9th.
 - iii. Anne Allen is exhibiting in *Along Those Lines* at the Galveston Arts Center, July 16 – October 2.
 - iv. Anne Allen is exhibiting at The Pool Near Southside in *The Art South Family Reunion Show* curated by Art Tooth.

VIII. Announcements of Commissioners – None.

IX. Future Agenda Items – None.

X. Next Meeting - Chairman Tucker

- a. Monday, August 15, 2022, 5:00 p.m., Fort Worth Community Arts Center
 - i. PUBLIC HEARING: Draft Public Art Plan for the 2022 Bond Program (6:00 p.m.)

XI. Adjournment – Chairman Tucker adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.