



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 27, 2010

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Airport Administration, Airport Department

SUBJECT: Airline Terminal Public Arts Program Agreements With Artists

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve and authorize the Airport Director to execute, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney, public arts program agreements with:

- A. Lori Ann David for design and installation of a mosaic tile floor medallion associated with the Airline Terminal Project, in an amount not-to-exceed \$65,000; and
- B. Vidya Gauci for design and installation of decorative stenciling associated with the Airline Terminal Project, in an amount not-to-exceed \$12,000.

DISCUSSION:

Background

The Airport Department, in collaboration with the City Arts Advisory Committee and the Visual Arts in Public Places Committee, developed a Public Arts Program for the new Airline Terminal. The Program is comprised of three elements: long term loan of existing art; commissioned art; and a rotating exhibit of regional art.

Program Funding

The Airline Terminal Project budget includes \$100,000 for the Public Arts Program. The initial program budget will fund restoration of existing art, and design and installation of three commissioned art projects. The Airport was a fortunate recipient of a \$40,000 grant by Santa Barbara Beautiful that will augment the Arts Program funding in the Terminal Project budget. The grant funds are designated for the North Rotunda Floor Medallion commissioned art project.

The objective for the ongoing funding of the Airline Terminal Public Arts Program is to leverage the initial seed money with grants and funding from organizations or individuals who may wish to commission an artwork for the Terminal and develop a fundraising program.

Commissioned Art Projects

In December 2009, the Program's commissioned art element was initiated with the distribution of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for artists to submit proposals for the design and installation of three art projects. The projects are Decorative Wood Beam Stenciling, Main Lobby and North Staircase Wrought Iron Railing Decorative Elements, and the North Rotunda Floor Medallion.

Request For Proposals

On December 18, 2009, an RFP for the three commissioned art projects was distributed with proposals due on February 18, 2010. A notice regarding the RFP was sent to the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission distribution list and it was posted on the Airport's website. On January 20, 2010, a mandatory pre-proposal meeting was held to answer questions regarding the RFP and the selection process. Approximately 25 interested parties attended.

The basic submittal requirements for the proposals included:

- Public art installation experience and an understanding of public interaction.
- Projects consider the use of "green" materials and processes.
- The team's general approach and past experience related to the respective projects.
- Resumes and references.
- Images of recent work.

The RFP identified three opportunities and the estimated budget for each:

- **Decorative Wood Beam Stenciling** - \$12,000
Stenciling of about 14 wood beams on the ceiling of the first floor entry pavilion.
- **North Rotunda Floor Medallion** - \$65,000
A circular medallion on the floor of the entry rotunda to the airline ticketing lobby. The medallion will be about 19 feet in diameter and will include a visual representation of the geographic elements of the region or imagery either current or historical in nature containing elements such as indigenous plants, wildlife, the slough, or the ocean.

- **Main Lobby and North Staircase Wrought Iron Railing Embellishment - \$35,000**

Decorative wrought iron elements to be attached to the wrought iron pickets supporting the second floor railings surrounding the main lobby. The decorative element should represent the region's flora and/or fauna.

The Airport received proposals from 13 artist teams. Some teams proposed on more than one of the projects.

Artist Selection Process

The proposals were reviewed by a Selection Panel comprised of two members of the Visual Arts in Public Places Committee, one member of the City Arts Advisory Committee, two members of the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission staff, one member of the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission representing the Third Supervisorial District, one Airport staff member, and the Terminal Project architect.

The proposals were evaluated based on the artists' quality, creativity, and strength of previous work, professional qualifications, and experience.

Selection Criteria Included:

- Ability to manage projects of similar scale and complexity.
- Technical competence in selection of materials, lighting recommendations, installation procedures and long-term maintenance.
- Experience working as a member of a design team with other design professionals and engineers.
- Ability to communicate effectively with architects, contractors, the Terminal design team and Airport staff.
- Reference recommendations.

The Selection Panel narrowed the proposals to five teams who were invited to an interview with the Panel. After consideration of the proposals, team qualifications, and the interviews, the Panel selected the team of Lori Ann David and Vidya Gauci for the North Rotunda Floor Medallion and the Wood Beam Stenciling projects and Colleen Kelly for the Wrought Iron Railing Decorative Elements.

BUDGETARY/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Funding for the two agreements is included in the Airline Terminal Improvement Project budget.

SUBMITTED BY: Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office