



Memorandum

TO: PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

FROM: Jennifer Easton

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: December 5, 2014

Council District: 3

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO THE FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION AGREEMENT WITH CORSON STUDIOS, LLC FOR REVIEW OF DESIGN DEVELOPMENT BY DAN CORSON FOR ILLUMINATED ARTWORKS UNDER SR 87 AT SAN FERNANDO AND SANTA CLARA TO INCREASE PROJECT FUNDING

RECOMMENDATION

Review and take action on a recommendation to approve that the City Manager amend the agreement with Corson Studios, LLC to increase the fabrication and installation agreement for artworks under State Route 87 at San Fernando and Santa Clara Streets by \$157,000 to a total contract amount not to exceed \$567,000

DATE OF DESIGN DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL: December 17, 2013

ARTWORK BUDGET: \$757,000: \$90,000 Design and \$667,000 for fabrication and installation. \$100,000 of the project fabrication and installation budget will be paid by the San Jose Downtown Association directly to the artist, therefore the total contract amount with City will be \$567,000

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

To enhance pedestrian, bicyclist and driver experiences, the 2008 Downtown Public Art Focus Plan and the 2010 Diridon Area Public Art Plan both identified transitions into downtown – especially the SR 87 Underpass – as key areas for artist involvement. These spaces form a major gateway between San Pedro Square, the SAP Center, Diridon Station and the Alameda business district, as well as the adjacent residential areas. As such, they are ideal as the first “Illuminating Downtown Program” sites.

The City received an ArtPlace America grant of \$600,000 in order to implement several projects related to “Illuminating Downtown” including the San Fernando and Santa Clara underpass projects. Recognizing the importance of artwork in enhancing the connection between the Diridon Station/SAP Center area and the downtown core, as well as the opportunity to leverage resources with the City for a more impactful project, the San José Downtown Association’s (SJDA) Beautification Committee is partnering on the project with funding in the amount of \$100,000. SJDA will partner with the City in maintaining the artwork through its Groundwerx contract.

Project Status

The streets under SR 87 are City property (Caltrans Right of Way), and are therefore subject to Caltrans review and permitting, coordinated through its District 4 Office with engineering review by its Office of Structures, Maintenance and Investigations (OSMI). Upon review of the draft 95% construction documentation in March 2014, Caltrans OSMI denied the Santa Clara project based on concerns that had not been previously communicated in design review meetings. Subsequently, project design completion was delayed due to the outcome of negotiations with Caltrans, which have ultimately been resolved to allow the project to proceed. Installation is expected to begin in Spring 2015 and be completed by Summer 2015.

Several factors have contributed to the increased costs of the artwork and the need for the amended contract amount. At the time of approval of the original agreement, not all bids were finalized, the most significant being the electrical. The electrical for the project requires significant labor for placing the lighting elements and the conduit, with Santa Clara region electrician prevailing wages being some of the highest nationwide. Fortunately through negotiations with the electricians and Caltrans, significant cost savings have been realized over the original bid. Additionally, during the final phases of design, several new elements were identified as critical to the implementation of the artwork, the most significant being wireless access requiring two new “hubs” for the City’s wireless system and additional traffic management. During the delay period caused by Caltrans permit negotiations, electrician’s prevailing wage increased and material costs for lighting elements increased. Completion of engineering allowed the bid for the lighting elements to be more accurately determined.

City staff and the Artist will work throughout the entire fabrication and installation phase of the project to reduce costs when possible on items with adjustable budgets. Additionally, the Downtown San José Property-Based Improvement District (PBID) is considering contributing additional funds to the project, which would further reduce the amount of City Public Art CIP and grant funds required to complete the project.

COST SUMMARY

	Original Budget	Revised Budget
Project Delivery/Administration Costs	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
Design	90,000	90,000
Cost Elements of Fabrication/Installation Contract	410,000	567,000
Contributed Fabrication/Installation Funds outside Contract	100,000	100,000
Total Public Art Project Costs	\$ 675,000	\$ 832,000



JENNIFER EASTON
Public Art Director