

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 17, 2017

TO: Ann Arbor Public Art Commission

FROM: Michael G. Nearing, P.E.
Senior Project Manager, Project Management Services Unit

RE: Stadium Boulevard Reconstruction Project
Recommendation of Artist for Public Art Project
Our File No. 2014-035.17 (mgn)

This memo is to share with you our recommendation for a selection for the artist for the proposed public art to be placed on the retaining walls being constructed as part of the Stadium Boulevard Reconstruction Project.

On April 29, 2016 the City entered into a Professional Services Agreement with the Ann Arbor Art Center (AAAC) to manage a selection process to choose an artist for the subject project. The AAAC managed the scheduled seven month process and concluded its selection process in December 2016. Attached, please find a copy of the project report that was created by the AAAC that describes in detail the entire selection process and also contains a brief description of "Lessons Learned" that we would expect to include in future selection processes that we are leading.

The project that we are recommending is "Leaven" by Mr. Brian Brush an artist that lives in New York City, New York and also spends time in Montreal, Quebec. Mr. Brush has a large portfolio of previous public projects. We believe he is well-qualified to design, fabricate, and execute this project. The project is primarily comprised of 3 mm thick, bent, anodized aluminum "diamonds". The anodized aluminum diamonds will be placed such that they will mimick the existing vines and leaves that were found growing along the previously existing limestone blocks that comprised the old retaining walls. This project will help to unify the past and present configuration of the project area, as well as create a visually appealing and dynamic interpretation of the space. We are excited to bring this project forward for the community. Attached, please find several images that model the proposed project in its finished condition.

Based on our proposal submitted by Mr. Brush, our interactions with the staff of the AAAC and their recommendation, and the work of the Project Committee formed by the AAAC, we are recommending that you accept the project as presented.

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Pending your acceptance of this project, we will work to finalize a Professional Services Agreement with Mr. Brush for this project. We plan to have this project installed later this fall pending review and approval of the proposed agreement by the City Attorney's Office and City Council award of the contract.

attachments

cc: Craig A. Hupy, P.E., Public Services Area Administrator
Nicholas S. Hutchinson, P.E., City Engineer, Project Management Services Unit

Stadium Boulevard Art Selection Services: Final Report to the City of Ann Arbor Addendum

RENDERINGS OF PROPOSED INSTALLATION BY BRIAN BRUSH, 'LEAVEN'

