

City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

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Attorney: MPL

TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager

FROM: Ricardo Noguera, Director, Community & Economic Development COPY: City Council; City Clerk; Amy McBride, Tacoma Arts Administrator

SUBJECT: Resolution to Approve the Contract for Commissioning Artwork for Lincoln

Revitalization Project by Horatio Law

DATE: November 17, 2015

SUMMARY:

Authorizing the execution of an Agreement with Horatio Law, totaling \$210,000.00 for the period of November 17th through December 31, 2016, budgeted from the 3211-REET Capital Projects Fund.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

• Foster neighborhood, community, and economic vitality and sustainability.

BACKGROUND:

On August 3, 2015, the City of Tacoma's Arts Program published an RFQ (Call to Artists) for the Lincoln Revitalization Public Art Project. Artists were asked to submit qualifications for a contract to conduct meaningful community engagement in the Lincoln District; design, build, and install public artwork gateway features for the District; work with the design team to affect the aesthetic design of the streetscape project; and identify opportunities for local artists to create artworks in the District.

Twenty four artists submitted complete applications, and four finalists were invited to interview. The submissions were reviewed by a selection panel of 10 community members: Andy Chang (business owner – East Asia Supermarket), Kevin Le (business owner – Vien Dong), Thurmond Brokenbrough (business owner – Uncle Thurm's), Patsy Surh-O'Connell (artist/Founder – Asia Pacific Cultural Center), Lindsay Webster (artist/former teacher Lincoln HS/Lincoln area resident), Terese Cuff (artist/Lincoln area resident), Abranna Romero (Lincoln HS Student), Heather Conklin (Arts Commissioner/Lincoln HS Art Teacher), Traci Kelly (Arts Commission Chair/Safe Streets), and Holly Williams (Architect, KPG). The selection panel met on October 7, 2015 to review work samples and on October 20, 2015 to interview finalists. The four finalists interviewed were: WLLS (artist team – Vancouver, BC), Horatio Law (Portland), Perri Howard (artist team – Seattle), and Diane Hansen and Jennifer Weddermann (Tacoma)

All finalists participated in an optional site visit led by City staff on October 20, 2015. The selection committee selected Horatio Law for the project. All artists have been notified of the selection panel's decision.

Horatio Law Bio

Horatio Hung-Yan Law was born in Hong Kong to Chinese parents and moved to the US at the age of sixteen. His work is a confluence of public art, installations, and socially engaged practice that is place-based and community-centered. In recent works, Law has worked collaboratively with communities to explore issues of identity and the meaning of community in the evolving global culture. Much of his work stems from his identity as a US citizen of Asian heritage and his experience as an immigrant. His work is concerned with issues of individuality and collectiveness, longing and belonging, and uses common materials and imagery to create meaning and metaphor that can connect individuals with community and place. Law is a faculty member at the Pacific Northwest College of Art, and some of his current and recent public art



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projects include commissions for TRI-MET, Housing Authority of Portland, Oregon State Hospital, Seattle Public Utilities, and City of Seattle.

RECOMMENDATION:

Requesting a Resolution approving the \$210,000 Agreement between the City of Tacoma and Horatio Law. Staff recommends the City Council approve this Agreement to enable the artist to begin working in the community and impact the aesthetic and authentic design of the Lincoln District Streetscape.

FISCAL IMPACT:

EXPENDITURES:

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
3211-REET Capital Projects Fund	CIP-00036	5330100	\$210,000
TOTAL			\$210,000

^{*} General Fund: Include Department

REVENUES:

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
3211-REET Capital Projects Fund	CIP-00036	6311064	\$210,000
TOTAL			\$210,000

POTENTIAL POSITION IMPACT:

Position Title	PERMANENT/ PROJECT TEMPORARY POSITION	FTE IMPACT	POSITION END DATE
N/A			
TOTAL			

This section should only be completed if a subsequent request will be made to increase or decrease the current position count.

FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$210,000

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes