



**THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES**

Executive Director's
Report to the
Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2012

FROM: ENGINEERING

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION: _____ APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH FOUNTAINHEAD DESIGN, INC. AND HOOD DESIGN STUDIO, LLC FOR PUBLIC ART AT THE WILMINGTON WATERFRONT PARK

SUMMARY:

The Engineering Division recommends approval of Agreements with Fountainhead Design, Inc. (Los Angeles, CA) and Hood Design Studio, LLC (Oakland, CA) to fabricate and install public art at the Wilmington Waterfront Park. The agreement with Fountainhead Design, Inc. is for a two-year term in the amount of \$135,000 for an installation entitled "Wilmington Wave". The agreement with Hood Design Studio, LLC is for a two-year term in the amount of \$292,500 for an installation entitled "Coastline".

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board):

1. Find that in accordance with the City Charter Section 1022, the work covered under these Agreements can be performed more economically or feasibly by independent artists rather than by City employees;
2. Approve the two personal services Agreements for a term of two years each, with a combined contract total of \$427,500 as follows:
 - a. Fountainhead Design, Inc. for \$135,000;
 - b. Hood Design Studio, LLC for \$292,500;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest said Agreements for and on behalf of the Board; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

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DISCUSSION:

Background – The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) opened the Wilmington Waterfront Park on June 4, 2012. Public art was included as an element of the project, based on the City of Los Angeles (City) requirement that 1% of the construction cost of all buildings be dedicated to public art, and the Harbor Department's policy of dedicating 1% of the entire project cost to public art for community-serving projects. The total cost of the proposed art installations is \$475,000. This is consistent with 1% of the estimated construction cost of the project without contingencies. Ten percent, or \$47,500, of the cost of the art projects (\$15,000 for Fountainhead Design, Inc. and \$32,500 for Hood Design Studio, LLP) was budgeted under the design contract with Sasaki Associates for the park to allow the artists to perform the conceptual design necessary to obtain approval from the Department of Cultural Affairs and the Harbor Department. The remaining \$427,500 addressed in the two subject Agreements (Transmittals 1 and 2) is for fabrication and installation of the public art projects.

Public art was included as an important part of the project throughout the planning and public outreach phase in 2006. In compliance with City Department of Cultural Affairs guidelines, an art selection committee made up of local residents with art backgrounds was selected and introduced to the community. Two artists were chosen by the committee, and were commissioned to design concepts for the public art pieces. After being approved by the art selection committee, the artists presented their concepts to the Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee of the Port Community Advisory Committee.

The first artist, Fountainhead Design, Inc., was commissioned to design an art installation featuring lighting elements along the pedestrian bridges in the park. The proposed installation, entitled "Wilmington Wave", will suspend a flexible LED light tube from six-foot stainless steel bows on the north side of the three pedestrian bridges. When pedestrians or cyclists pass over the bridge, they will trigger a wave-like lighting effect intended to evoke the rare effect seen along the shore at night when phosphorescent plankton illuminate incoming waves (Transmittal 3). When no pedestrians are on the bridges, the lights will trigger random wave effects every 5 to 15 minutes.

The second artist, Hood Design Studio, LLC, was commissioned to create a project interacting with the walkways through the park. The resulting design, entitled "Coastline", will construct 18 sandstone columns located along a half-mile stretch of sidewalk flanking West C Street. The columns will be spaced at increasing intervals, corresponding to a rhythmic increase in height from 1' to 14', leaning inward and

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outward along the sidewalk, creating a spatially perceptive coastal edge. The work will offer two readings depending on vantage point: looking in the east-west direction, the stone towers align in perspective to create the illusion of a solid bluff; alternatively, a north-south view will emphasize the discrete rhythm of the individual towers (Transmittal 4).

Schedule - Both projects were approved in concept by the City Department of Cultural Affairs Commission on March 18, 2010, and both received final approval on February 17, 2011. Fabrication and installation of the artworks were delayed until after completion of the park construction contract, including the maintenance and warranty period, to avoid a conflict with the general contractor's guarantee. Upon approval of the attached Agreements, an initial payment will be issued to both artists to allow procurement of materials. Further payments will be issued after completion of fabrication, installation, and full commissioning of the art works. All work is anticipated to be completed within Fiscal Year 2012/2013.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is approval of two personal services agreements, one with Fountainhead Design, Inc. and the other with Hood Design Studio, LLC to fabricate and install public art at the Wilmington Waterfront Park. The construction of incidental architectural structures was included as an element of the Wilmington Waterfront Park project, which was analyzed in the Berths 136-147 [TraPac] Final Environmental Impact Statement/Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIS/FEIR). The FEIS/FEIR was approved by the Board in December 2007. Therefore, as an activity for which the underlying project has previously been evaluated for environmental significance and processed according to the requirements of CEQA, the Director of Environmental Management determined the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Article II, Section 2(i) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS:

Approval of the proposed Agreements will have two direct employment impacts.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval of the proposed Agreements with Fountainhead Design, Inc. and Hood Design Studio, LLC will commit \$135,000 and \$292,500 during Fiscal Year 2012/2013, respectively, for the proposed art in public places projects. Funding for these two Agreements have been budgeted in the Fiscal Years 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 Budget,

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Account No. 54290, Center No. 1040, Program No. 624. Subsequent to project completion the Harbor Department will be responsible for ongoing operating and maintenance costs of approximately \$5,000 annually.

CITY ATTORNEY:

Agreements have been approved as to form and legality by the Office of the City Attorney.

TRANSMITTALS:

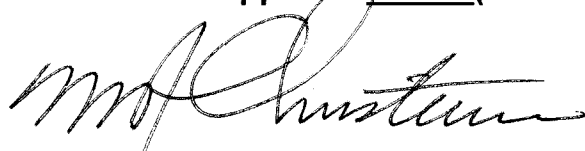
1. Agreement with Hood Design Studio, LLC
2. Agreement with Fountainhead Design, Inc.
3. "Wilmington Wave" Exhibit
4. "Coastline" Exhibit

FIS Approval: WP (initials)

CA Approval: TAR (initials)



ANTONIO V. GIOIELLO
Chief Harbor Engineer



MICHAEL R. CHRISTENSEN
Deputy Executive Director

APPROVED:



GERALDINE KNATZ, Ph.D.
Executive Director

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