

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 17, 2020

TO Honorable Members of the Quality of Life, Arts & Culture Committee

SUBJECT **Public Art Project Updates**

This memorandum provides updates on public art projects, including some that were briefed to the Quality of Life, Arts & Culture Committee on August 17, 2020.

Arthello Beck Project at Twin Falls Park

Contracts for artists Jennifer Cowley and Tyra Goodley were executed August 31, 2020. The artists were also notified on August 31, 2020, and provided with executed contracts as well as instructions for invoicing. On September 9, 2020, public art staff conducted a conference call with each artist to answer any outstanding questions and confirm that they are proceeding with Phase I of the contract. Staff expects invoices for tasks assigned as a part of Phase I prior to the deadline of November 1, 2020, and completion of the project by March 31, 2021.

Policy for Artwork Depicting Individuals/Groups

On September 8, 2020, the Public Art Committee made the following recommendations for review criteria for City of Dallas Public Art depicting individuals or organizations. These recommendations will be forwarded to the Arts and Culture Advisory Commission on September 17, 2020. If approved by the Commission, these review criteria will be used to assess City of Dallas public art depicting individuals or representing organizations.

- Consideration of artworks that represent individuals or organizations who have made ethical and humanitarian contributions.
- At a minimum of every 10 years or in light of new information and support by a majority vote of the Public Art Committee, review documentation of the contributions of individuals or organizations for any issues of inappropriate, unethical, or prejudicial actions or behaviors that are not acceptable in contemporary society.
- Special consideration will be given to artwork that promotes cultural and social equity.

Memorial Marker for Allen Brooks

A site visit at the corner of Akard and Main Streets in downtown Dallas was conducted on September 9, 2020, with representatives from the Park & Recreation, Park Board, Office of Arts & Culture, Equal Justice Initiative Coalition from Dallas County, and DART.

This site is the preferred location for a memorial marker because Allen Brooks' body was suspended from an archway over this intersection on March 3, 1910. The marker will be a part of the Equal Justice Initiative Community Remembrance Project, a program that collaborates with communities to memorialize documented victims of racial violence and support community dialogue about the impact of lynching on communities.

DATE September 17, 2020
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DART is expected to begin demolition of the Pegasus Park location for the construction of the D2 Subway in late 2021. Park & Recreation staff will provide a site plan and conduct an investigation of underground conditions at the southeast corner of the intersection where there is sufficient space to display the marker, as well as confirmation that there will be no interference with the construction. The EJI memorial marker stands approximately 5 ½ feet tall and is 24 x 20 inches with text on both sides.

Once the location is confirmed by DART and the Park and Recreation Department to be outside of the scope of demolition from the DART project, the location approval will go to Park Board.

The marker is scheduled to be dedicated on March 3, 2021, which is 111 years after the lynching of Allen Brooks.

Hall of Negro Life Project

King Hollis, a partner with South Pictures, is the selected film maker for the Hall of Negro Life film project and leads a Dallas-based, ALAANA-qualifying film team. Project funding is provided by a National Park Service grant and donors Inspire Art Dallas and Fair Park First.

On September 24, 2020, King Hollis will make a presentation to the steering committee and donors, Inspire Art Dallas and Fair Park First. Research on the Hall of Negro Life is the next phase with completion of the Hall of Negro Life archive at the City of Dallas, the film, and podcasts scheduled for completion by January 2023,

Vaughan Brothers Public Art Project at Kiest Park

Due to COVID-19 restrictions that will not allow a dedication at Kiest Park for a new work of public art paying tribute to the musical contributions of Stevie Ray and Jimmie Vaughan, who grew up near Kiest Park, a series of interviews will be posted on Facebook and the City's Arts and Culture channel. Filmed by the City's Communications and Media team, the interviews will be posted on or before Oct. 3. A celebration is planned at the site for March 20, 2021, if COVID restrictions allow.

Interviews will be conducted with

- Carolyn Arnold-Councilwoman from CD 4
- John Jenkins, Park and Recreation Director
- Jennifer Scripps, Office of Arts and Culture Director
- Kirby Warnock-Lead Fundraiser
- Jimmie Vaughan, Musician
- Gary Clark Jr. Musician

DATE September 17, 2020
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For additional information, please contact Jennifer Scripps, OAC Director.



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