

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: 08/23/2010		Item Number: <u>C-6</u>	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: Approval of an Amendment to the Existing Professional Services Agreement with Sculpture Conservation Studio for Continued Maintenance of Certain City-Owned Sculptures			
Contact Person/Dept.: B. Christine Byers/ Phone Number: (310) 253-5776 Community Development			
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☐ Attachments: ☒	
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒ Date: _____			
Public Notification: Meetings and Agendas – City Council (08/18/10); (EMAIL)			
Department Approval: Sol Blumenfeld: (08/11/10)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (08/18/10)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by N. Kimball) (08/18/10)		City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (08/18/10)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council approve an amendment to an existing professional services agreement with Sculpture Conservation Studio (SCS) for continued maintenance of certain City-owned sculptures. <u>BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION:</u> Of the approximately 90 individual art works in Culver City commissioned through the City's Art in Public Places Program, nearly 40 of these are owned by the City. Maintenance of art work, per Section 15.06 et seq. of the Culver City Municipal Code, rests with the property owner. Of those art works owned by the City, there are several outdoor metal sculptures whose regular maintenance involves regular cleaning using distilled water and mild solvents followed by the application of a thin layer of wax. This treatment ensures the preservation of both the sculpture's patina and retention of integrity of the metal for an extended period of time. The City employs a number of different contractors for restoration and maintenance of its public art, depending on the scope of services required. SCS, whose hourly rates are competitive with other similarly qualified conservation firms in Los Angeles, has been under contract with Culver City since 2006 for the maintenance of certain outdoor sculptures. The initial contract, executed in 2006, was for \$10,000. In			

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March 2008, the City Council authorized the first amendment to the 2006 contract in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for the maintenance of five outdoor sculptures (*Cougar I and II*, *Film Strip USA*, *Path of Life*, *A Moment in Time*, and *The Lion's Fountain*). At that time, staff estimated that \$20,000 would last two years; this amount was exhausted earlier this month.

Due to the specialized nature of conservation work, there are only a small number of firms in Southern California qualified to treat outdoor sculptures pursuant to professional standards established by the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC). SCS is one of the firms affiliated with the AIC; staff has worked with several other AIC affiliated firms on other projects and SCS's rates, level of service and experience are competitive to those of similarly qualified conservators. In light of this staff recommends amending SCS's contract a second time for another \$20,000. This amendment would also include maintenance of an additional sculpture, *Tree of Life*, located in Carlson Park.

Based on the average costs listed below, staff estimates that the \$20,000 amendment will last approximately 18 to 24 months.

<u>Art Work</u>	<u>Average Treatment Cost</u>
<i>Film Strip U.S.A.</i>	\$3,600/yr
<i>The Lion's Fountain</i>	\$1,500 x 2 – 3 /yr
<i>Cougar I and II</i>	\$1,000/yr
<i>Path of Life</i>	\$1,200/yr
<i>A Moment in Time</i> (Harry Culver monument)	<u>\$1,200/yr</u>
 Total Average Annual Treatment Cost	 \$10,000 - \$11,500

(For *Film Strip U.S.A.* and *The Lion's Fountain*, the fountain portion, including water systems, mechanics and lighting are maintained by the City's Public Works Department. In 2009, the City paid approximately \$1,700 to restore the newspaper for *A Moment in Time* after it was badly scratched which included the application of a durable, protective coating to the metal to help minimize the impacts of future scratching and tagging. *Tree of Life* in Carlson Park will first require some restoration work to address the scratch marks in the brass sections of the sculpture, currently estimated at \$1,500 - \$2,000 for time and materials. Thereafter, routine maintenance would include cleaning and waxing of the sculpture.)

Per Culver City Municipal Code § 3.07.070.A, the award of professional services agreements are not subject to the formal competitive bid process.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

All costs associated with maintenance and restoration outlined in this staff report are paid from the Art Fund (Fund 413). Currently there are \$26,937 available for

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maintenance (41300634) and \$63,047 for (41300824) for restoration of art work (of which \$2,750 is Fiscal Year 2010/2011 appropriations in P-634; the balance of what is available are carryover funds from Fiscal Year 2009/2010).

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Background and reference information on Sculpture Conservation Studio
2. Before and after treatment images of *The Lion's Fountain*
3. Images showing current condition of *Tree of Life* in Carlson Park

MOTION:

That the City Council:

1. Approve an amendment to the existing professional services agreement with Sculpture Conservation Studio in the amount of \$20,000 for continued maintenance of certain City-owned sculptures; and
2. Authorize the City Attorney to review/prepare necessary documents; and,
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute such documents on behalf of the City.