

Explanatory Document for Temporary Installation of Sculpture by Thomas J Price on Embarcadero Funded by Public Art Trust

Motion to approve the temporary installation of a bronze figurative sculpture by artist Thomas J Price, entitled *As Sounds Turn to Noise* which measures 9'2.5" x 4' x 3'9" which will be loaned to the Arts Commission by the Hauser and Wirth Gallery, to be installed at a prominent site on the Embarcadero determined in consultation with the Port, and pending Port approval and final negotiation of the loan agreement, for a period of six months commencing late February/early March 2024 at a cost not to exceed \$40,000 from the Public Art Trust with a possible contribution of \$20,000 from the Port, thereby reducing the amount of Public Art Trust funds to be used.

This proposal will utilize a portion of the balance of the \$300,000 in funds authorized by Arts Commission as part of RESOLUTION NO. 0402-18-121. The applicable provision of the resolution reads:

\$300,000 to be used for temporary public art projects in the Civic Center Commons and other sites as recommended by staff and approved by the Commission.

Objectives:

- Fulfill the Mayor's mandate to enliven the downtown with a variety of artwork. In Mayor Breed's 2023 State of the City speech, she stated her objective to **"Transform Downtown into a leading arts, culture, and nightlife destination. *By leveraging San Francisco's world-renowned culinary, cultural, and entertainment offerings, and adding new arts, leisure, and recreational experiences Downtown, the city can enhance its brand as the center of one of the most unique and culturally vibrant cities in the world.*"**
- Enliven the City by increasing foot traffic to these sites. Demonstrate that San Francisco is a city with an exuberance of cultural vitality.
- Create new destinations for both residents of, and visitors to the City.

Funding:

- Estimated cost for round trip transportation, installation/deinstallation, engineering, insurance and signage is approximately \$40,000.
- Potential \$20,000 sponsorship/cost share with Port of San Francisco (to be confirmed)
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Proposal:

We propose to install the *As Sounds Turn to Noise* bronze sculpture by Thomas J Price, which measures 9'2.5" x 4' x 3'9" which will be loaned to the Arts Commission by the Hauser and Wirth Gallery for a period of six months commencing in late February/March 2024, pending Port approval and final negotiation of the loan agreement. Thomas J Price is an artist from the UK. His larger-than-life sculptures of Black people are monuments that celebrate the everyday person which challenge norms about who gets to be memorialized in bronze. His work has been exhibited widely in Europe including a sculpture that is displayed in front of the National Portrait Gallery in London. The Museum of Harlem in NY also exhibited one of his sculptures in the Marcus Garvey Park in Manhattan. Please see photo of sculpture below.

Process:

The City Attorney has advised that the loan of artwork is not subject to the same procurement methods as the purchase or acquisition of artwork,

