

Committee(s)	Dated:
Culture, Heritage and Libraries – For Decision	20/01/2020
Subject: City Arts Initiative: recommendations to the Culture, Heritage & Libraries Committee	Public
Report of: Peter Lisley – Director of Major Projects	For Decision
Report author: Nick Bodger, Cultural and Visitor Development Director	

Summary

This report presents the recommendations of the City Arts Initiative (CAI) which met on 28 November 2019. At this meeting, the CAI considered public art proposals 1 - 4 (below):

1. **Red Sand Project:** an interactive sand installation by Schrodgers which will mark Anti-Slavery Day 2020.
2. **David Breuer-Weil:** a monumental sculpture by artist David Breuer-Weil
3. **Sculpture in the City:** the longlist for Sculpture in the City's 10th edition
4. **Fearless Girl:** a statue commissioned by State Street Global Advisors

Recommendation(s)

Members of the Culture Heritage and Libraries Committee are asked to:

- Ratify the City Arts Initiative's recommendations in relation to proposal 1-3 above as follows:
 - **Red Sand Project:** approve the application, subject to final consent from Highways and implementation of the recommendations;
 - **David Breuer Weil:** decline the application due to unsuitability of the artwork at the proposed location;
 - **Sculpture in the City:** approve the longlisted artworks for the project's 10th edition, launching June 2020.
- Note that the City Arts Initiative received an application from State Street Global Advisors to install **Fearless Girl**. However, this application has been deferred by the applicant and will be considered at a later meeting.

Main Report

Background

1. The City Arts Initiative (CAI) was established to improve the management of public art in the City. It provides advice to your Committee and other service Committees as appropriate on proposals for new public art, the maintenance of the City's existing public art and, if necessary, decommissioning.

2. The CAI comprises elected Members drawn from your Committee and relevant officers across planning, highways, open spaces, and cultural and visitor development, as well as those with specific expertise in the visual arts.
3. At your Committee in May 2019, Members confirmed that those occupying the roles of Chairman and Deputy Chairman on the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee, and the Chairman of the Sculpture in the City Partner Board should have permanent seats on the City Arts Initiative. Your Committee also elected Mrs Barbara Newman and Mr Jeremy Simons to serve on the CAI for the 2019/20 committee year.
4. Apart from officer time handling enquiries and managing the installations, there are no resource implications other than where specifically noted.

Current Position

5. The CAI met on 28 November 2019 to consider the proposals outlined below.
6. Full-colour visual representations of the proposed artworks are circulated electronically with this report and are available in appendix 1 and 2. Full details of all the applications to the CAI are available on request from the Director of Major Projects.

Proposals

Red Sand Project - Schrodgers

7. The CAI received a proposal from Schrodgers for an interactive sand installation called the Red Sand Project.
8. Schrodgers seek to activate a public space in the City of London and create a participatory experience by inviting the public to place sand in the cracks of the pavement.
9. The method of placing sand in the cracks will symbolically mark Anti-Slavery Day 2020, with the grains of sand representing those individuals who fall through the cracks of our society.
10. The sand is made from a completely natural and non-toxic material and is coloured red using organic pigments and resins. In terms of environmental impact, their sand manufacturer uses only natural and organic ingredients to manufacture the sand.
11. Versions of the Red Sand Project have taken place in all 50 states of the US and in 70 countries, with more than one million participants.
12. Installation will take place on the afternoon of Friday 16 October 2020 and will be there until the afternoon of Sunday 18 October 2020, which will be Anti-Slavery Day.

13. The siting of the red sand installation is still to be confirmed but it will be confined to a specific location. Schroders wish to work with officers in Highways to ensure that the location is appropriate and logistically feasible.
14. Schroders will provide signage next to the installation which will explain the project and develop public engagement with the campaign. All will be able to participate.
15. Funding of all elements of the project would be covered by Schroders.
16. Your Department of the Built Environment advised that the sand should be tested on a small sample of the ground prior to being fully installed to ensure it doesn't stain or damage.
17. The CAI advised full details of the cleaning measures will need to be outlined by the applicants.
18. Your Department of the Built Environment advised that there needs to be sufficient space for pedestrians with access requirements to navigate around the installation.
19. **The CAI recommends that this application be approved subject to final consent by Highways, as well as the following recommendations:**
 - a. **The applicant adheres to all necessary access requirements;**
 - b. **The applicant ensures that the sand is tested at the location prior to full installation and all proposed cleaning measures will deliver effective clean-up after the event;**
 - c. **The applicant ensures that any proposed location has the consent of Highways and the landowners.**
20. David Breuer-Weil – Monumental Sculpture
21. The CAI received an application from Chloe Nelkin Consulting on behalf of the artist, David Breuer-Weil.
22. The application proposes one of three sculptures be installed in the gardens surrounding St Paul's Cathedral.
23. Sculpture one is titled *Alien* and is approx. 1.4m x 2.4m x 6.0m tall. Its weight is 550 kg.
24. Sculpture two is titled *Flight* and is approx. 2.9 wide x 3.1 m deep x 7.0 m tall. Its weight is 3,800 kg.
25. Sculpture three is titled *Brothers* and is two cast sculpture sections, each approx. 1.4m x 2.4m x 6.0m tall. Its weight is 400kg.
26. As the sculptures are cast in bronze, maintenance would be very minimal as the material is weather-proof and durable.

27. Funding for all elements, including but not limited to insurance, installation, de-installation, PR and contingencies, is already secured by Chloe Nelkin Consulting and the artist.
28. Your Department of Built Environment advised that the installation of the proposed sculptures would not receive planning permission as it would visually impact the adjacent heritage site, St Paul's Cathedral and the surrounding area.
29. Your Open Spaces Department advised that the sculptures may damage underlying irrigation systems due to their size.
30. The location proposed is also used for major annual events such as Lord Mayor's Show. Event and crowd management may be impacted if one of these artworks were to be installed at the proposed location.
31. **The CAI recommends that the application is declined due to inappropriateness in terms of size and weight of the artwork at the proposed location.**

Sculpture in the City

32. The CAI received a presentation on the longlisted artworks for *Sculpture in the City's* tenth edition. The longlist comprises 30 works with visual of these provided separately from other applications in this report in Appendix 2.
33. Six of the artworks presented in Appendix 2 are already installed as part of the ninth edition with the aim that that they will be extended for the 2020 programme.
34. It should be noted that the final installed exhibition will not include the full longlist. The final works for installation will be selected from this list based on their technical feasibility and in consultation with Highways, Planning and Open Spaces where appropriate, as well as through negotiations with landowners on locations.
35. The project is funded by the City Corporation in partnership with local businesses, largely in the Eastern City Cluster area. The City Corporation's contribution derives from the DBE Local Risk Budget approved by the Planning and Transportation Committee.
36. The CAI agreed that all artworks were appropriate and congratulated Sculpture in the City on another diverse and strong selection of artworks.
37. **The CAI recommends that the longlist be approved in principle subject to necessary permissions and licences from Highways and Planning Teams and final consent from City Gardens (as relevant).**

Corporate & Strategic Implications

38. The City Arts Initiative was formed to support the City's management of public art which supports the delivery of the City's Cultural and Visitor Strategies.

Conclusion

39. This report summarises the discussions of the City Arts Initiative and presents recommendations in relation to the public art applications considered on 28 November 2019.

Appendices

- Appendix 1: CAI Images, 28 Nov 2019
- Appendix 2: Sculpture in the City images, 28 Nov 2019

Background Papers

Full details of the applications received by the City Arts Initiative are available on request from the Director of Major Projects.

Nick Bodger

Cultural and Visitor Development Director

T: 020 7332 3263

E: Nick.Bodger@cityoflondon.gov.uk