



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item  
Meeting of March 10, 2012**

**DATE:** February 13, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Water Pollution Control Plant Fence Design Enhancement Project (“Project”)

**C. M. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Approve the Award of a Contract to Tejo Remy in the amount of \$320,000 and authorize an allocation of \$30,000 as a contingency for change orders for the total authorization amount not to exceed \$350,000; and
2. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to execute the contract documents, after the review and approval of such documents by the County Attorney.

**ISSUES:** The County Board is being requested to approve the Award of a Contract to artist Tejo Remy to design, fabricate and install a design enhancement for the Water Pollution Control Plant fence. No issues have been identified.

**SUMMARY:** The intent of this Project is for the development and implementation of a compelling, innovative design concept for the fence that separates the bike trail and South Eads Street from the Water Pollution Control Plant. The area available for design enhancement is approximately 1600 linear feet of fence.

The design and installation of the design enhancement of the fence will serve as a unifying element to four current projects within the Four Mile Run area while adding distinction to the fence of the Water Pollution Control Plant. The four current projects are: the parks and transportation system including bike and pedestrian trails (existing and proposed); the Water Pollution Control Plant fence replacement and landscaping initiative; the Arlington landing area for the future pedestrian-cyclist bridge; and, the demonstration project for restoration of the tidal portion of the stream corridor. The design work for the four projects is currently at the 90 percent level. The design for the fence enhancement for this Project will be informed by and integrate these four current projects.

County Manager:

*BMD/mjs*

County Attorney:

*JAM*

*[Signature]*

Staff: Deirdre Ehlen, AED

23.

**BACKGROUND:** Located in the heart of the restoration corridor, the Water Pollution Control Plant currently processes approximately 26 million gallons of water per day from the approximately 213,300 residents and 209,200 employees who work in Arlington County. The Water Pollution Control Plant was originally put into service in 1933 with a capacity to process five million gallons of water. A major, multi-year construction process to expand the capacity of the plant to 40 million gallons per day and incorporate state-of-the-art, advanced wastewater treatment controls is nearing completion.

On May 19, 2011, qualified artists submitted images of past work, letters of intent, and resume in response to an Open Call to Artists for the Project. County staff then followed Article VII-1 of the County-initiated Project Guidelines in order to convene an *Art Advisory Panel* (AAP) to select the artist(s). As per the County Guidelines, the AAP was composed of no less than five and no more than seven voting persons from the following categories: one or two representatives of the community; two artists, or one artist and arts professional; one project design professional; the project manager from the County Department collaborating on the project; and one or two representatives from the project/building user group. The AAP for the WPCP Fence Enhancement Project was:

| <b>Categories</b>                           | <b>Art Advisory Panelists</b>   | <b>Alternates</b> |
|---|---|-------------------|
| Community Representative(s)                 | Andres Tremols- Arlington Ridge Community<br>Nick Giacobbe- Aurora Highlands Civic<br>Association | Susan Hand        |
| City of Alexandria<br>Representative        | Karen Conkey – AIA, LEED AP   | Alisa Carrel      |
| Arlington County Staff<br>Representative(s) | Gregory Bruno, WPCP<br>Aaron Wohler, PRCR   |                   |
| Public Art Committee<br>Representative(s)   | Leo Sarli, AIA  | Jon<br>Hensley    |
| Art Professionals<br>Representative(s)      | Foon Sham   |                   |

The AAP recommended Tejo Remy and his subcontractor, Rene Veenhuizen, for the commission, pending staff review of references. On December 7, 2011, the artists were recommended by the AAP and approved by Arlington Commission for the Arts' Public Art Committee based on the quality and originality of their past projects and likelihood for successful completion of this commission.

**DISCUSSION:** The Water Pollution Control Plant Fence Enhancements Project offers the opportunity to develop designs that integrate the plant, Four Mile Run, and the bike/commuter route into a unique public space. The goals for the Project are as follows:

- Reflect the function of the Plant;
- Raise awareness of the Four Mile Run Watershed, its water quality, wildlife habitat and biodiversity;
- Create a learning environment and incorporate specific locations along the fence for informal environmental education for people of all ages;

- Create distinct destinations along the fence with unique forms and innovative materials to serve as a magnet for the local neighborhoods.

The design ethos of Tejo Remy and Rene Veenhuizen stems from a strong industrial design background, reusing existing resources rather than consuming new materials, and building awareness about our connection to the environment.

Tejo Remy and Rene Veenhuizen will focus on raising awareness about the Four Mile Run watershed, wildlife habitat and biodiversity, the function of the plant, and our connection to both as consumers of resources and potential stewards of our environment. Tejo Remy and Rene Veenhuizen are intrigued by the challenge of developing a design that both achieves the County's goals for the Project and redefines the traditional purpose of a fence.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Funding for this Contract is included in the approved \$568 million budget for Master Plan 2001 (MP01) upgrade and expansion project at the Department of Environmental Services Water Pollution Control Plant. The account number to be used for this project is 519.43545.WPFE.0000.0000 (Utilities Capital).