



# PUBLIC ART: DALLAS WATER UTILITIES ARTIST RESIDENCY

Briefing to the  
Quality of Life Committee

January 9, 2006

## Purpose of this Briefing

- Provide background on the Water Utilities Public Art Fund and on the development of this project
- Update the Committee members on the progress of the residency/research phase
- Provide information on the purpose and implementation of the project, timeline and completion date

# Background

- Funding for the Water Utilities Public Art Fund was established per public art ordinance in September 1988 (Resolution # 20064)
- Water Utilities Public Art Fund is financed by the application of .75 percent of the total water utilities revenues appropriated for capital improvement projects
- Water Utilities Artist Residency Project was identified in the 1998 Public Art Program as an environmental/educational project (Resolution # 003440)
- Project was advertised and Dallas artist Susan Magilow was commissioned via the process outlined in the City's Cultural Policy
- Artist contract was approved by City Council on October 27, 2004 (Resolution # 043051)
- Total project budget is \$160,000

# Goals of the Water Utilities Residency Project

- To spend sufficient time and effort to thoroughly research the services and needs of the Dallas Water Utilities Department
- To ultimately produce an appropriate and meaningful artwork that will convey information to the citizens of Dallas about the importance of water and the processes of providing clean water

# Residency/research phase progress and results

January – September 2005 (see attachment)

- Visited Water Utilities facilities
- Interviewed staff
- Researched related programs on-line and available periodicals in Library
- Reported regularly to Water Utilities and Office of Cultural Affairs project managers
- Developed 6 potential concepts for consideration by Water Utilities Public Art Committee
- Committee selected “Video Fountain” concept to be located in City Hall
- Preliminary budget for fabrication and installation of artwork completed
- Presented to Public Art Committee on November 8, 2005

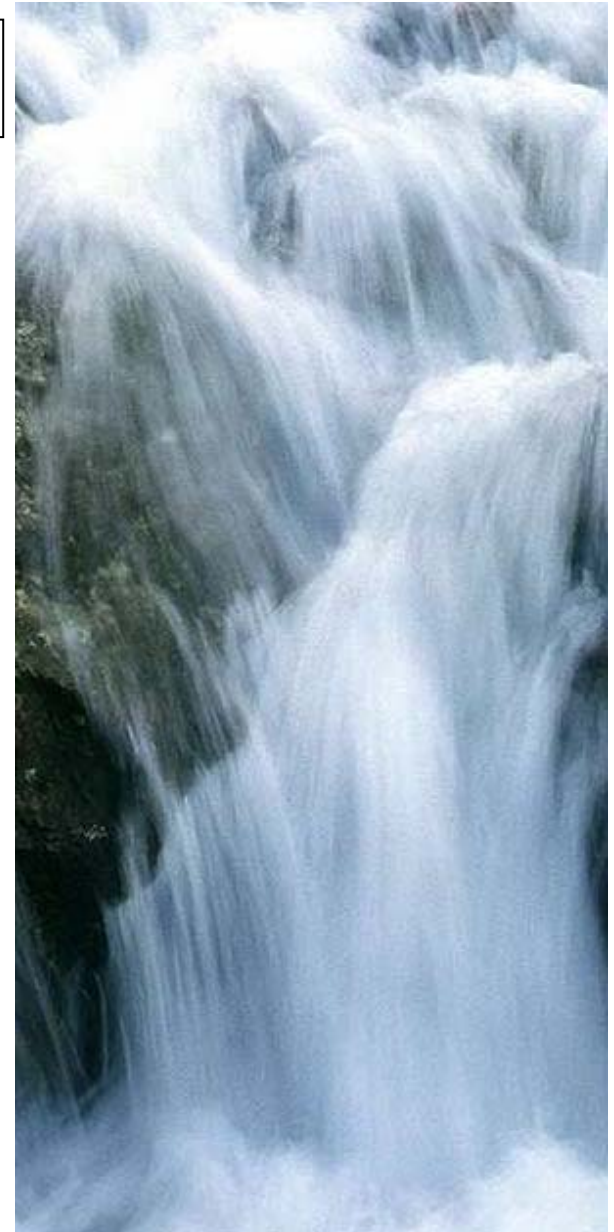
# Implementation of the project

## **Description –**

The project selected is “Video Fountain,” an installation of plasma displays running content that shows a variety of the processes used by Water Utilities to treat water and wastewater in order to produce clean, safe drinking water for the City of Dallas

## **Timeline/Completion –**

estimated completion and installation of the project is July 2006



## Next Steps

Artist will:

- Confirm and finalize all cost figures
- Develop timeline for completion of each phase of fabrication
- Develop maintenance recommendations with annual cost
- Coordinate scheduling for installation with City Hall staff