

Bastion Point Steps Project Overview – as at 1 July 2015

Background:

Over the past three years, arts and culture staff have worked closely with the Ōrākei Local Board and the City Transformation Team to identify a project worthy of investment of local board capex allocated for permanent art. The project is envisioned as an integrated artistic treatment for the area encompassing the steps that connect Tāmaki Drive and Bastion Point. This location offers an optimal opportunity due to its physical characteristics and proximity to Bastion Point, a site of significance to Auckland Tāmaki Makaurau.

In January 2014, a discussion was held with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Heritage and Resource Management Unit on the initial brief. The draft project brief was presented to the Ōrākei Local Board in February. A site visit took place on 27 March 2013 with Local Board members, Hana Maihi of Ngati Whatua Orakei, Megan Burgess of the Mission Bay Business Association, and staff from the Arts & Culture, City Transformation and Built Environment Units. It was agreed that council teams, including Parks, would work further with Ms. Maihi to develop the project brief. A meeting for this purpose was requested for 10 April 2014.

The project objectives / outcomes agreed with Ngati Whatua Orakei are:

- Integrating arts and culture into everyday life(Auckland Plan)
- Māori have visibility across Auckland, especially in key locations (Public Art Policy).
- Increased visibility of the steps and memorial / marae entrance thereby reducing safety risks in the area
- Landmark work that enlivens the area through innovative art and design, complex narrative, and commitment to place-making and heritage values.

February 2014: Arts and Culture and Built Environment Unit staff identified the steps that connect Tamaki Drive and Bastion Point as an optimal site for a permanent artistic intervention. This will align with roadway and safety improvements identified in the Tamaki Masterplan, and will provide an opportunity for Ngati Whatua collaboration. Staff are developing a project brief for local board review. This will likely include a recommendation to defer the board's \$55K public art CAPEX to 2014/15 in order to maximise investment of these funds.

April 2014: Public Art Manager met with the local board, city transformation team and Auckland Transport (AT) to discuss scoping of this project within the context of Tamaki Drive Masterplan implementation. The proposal that was favourably received by all parties concentrates around the stairs at the western end of Mission Bay to Bastion Point/Whenua Rangatira. The proposal is to combine three financial years of public art CAPEX budget and defer to FY 14.15 for realisation. Artist brief and artist selection process will be developed in partnership with Ngati Whatua Orakei. Project brief has been workshoped with Orakei Local board on 27.02

Next steps: Project brief prepared for input from programming team, sign-off by tier 5 before formal report is prepared to recommend deferral of CAPEX funds to FY 14/15

June 2014: The Orakei Reserves Board endorsed the project at its May meeting. A contribution of \$20,000 from the regional public art capex budget was approved by the Arts, Culture and Events Committee in June. Project brief has been well received by project team and Mana Whenua. The City Transformation team is in the process of procuring design contractor who will lead the baseline design process. Update due in July 2014. Ngati Whatua are yet to provide feedback on the brief.

October 2014: City Transformation team is yet to provide the update on where the procurement process is in terms of appointing a designer for a baseline area design. Ngati Whatua representative on the project is on leave until October and will be replaced by Mei Hill. Public Art PM to brief Mei Hill on project discussions to date. Ngati Whatua will be leading the kaupapa for the project including framework setting in terms of preferred artist selection process etc. Considering there has been no movement in project planning since the beginning of the new financial year, this project is at risk of deferral due to truncated timeframe for completion (see project risks section)

Bastion Point Steps Project Overview - November 2014 - June 2015:

November 2014: Establishment of a project team (to provide advise and support the Arts & Culture team to give the Local Board the best informed advise possible), consisting of representatives of Ngati Whatua (Hana Maihi), City Transformation (Karen Carlyle), Auckland Transport (Melanie Dale), Parks (Pippa Sommerville).

January 2015: Planner Tania Richmond delivered report on Bastion Point site: this confirms the steps are on Ngati Whatua land as well as Auckland Transport land.

Public Art Manager and Project manager met with City Transformation project manager for this area. City Transformation has no immediate plans for this area.

Budget confirmed for FY 2014/15:

- \$60,000 Local Board Capex
- \$20,000 Public Art Regional Capex
- \$ 6,000 Public Art OPEX for concept designs and Ngati Whatua advise (spent)

FY 2015/16:

- \$44,000 Local Board Capex.

Total budget: \$124,000 CAPEX + \$6,000 OPEX

January 2015: First meeting of Project Team. Considering the truncated timeline to ensure the funding, the project will be focussing on the entry to the steps, which is Auckland Transport land. Project team supports the wording of Expression of Interest document.

February 2015: Call for Expression of Interest sent out, 30 replies. Project team recommends the four shortlisted to manager Public Art:

- 1) Arapiki (a group of five artist/architects)
- 2) Rangi Kipa working with Bernard Makoare,
- 3) Len Philips
- 4) Graham Tipene and John Botica (the project team paired them together)

March 2015: Shortlisted artists, project team and local board representatives visit the site and are welcomed by Ngati Whatua at the "red shed".

April 2015: Shortlisted artists present their concepts to the project team, who advises the Graham Tipene/John Botica team to the Manager Public Art to be recommended to the Orakei Local Board (OLB). The OLB supports the recommended artistic team and their concept. Two local board members, the project team and the artist meet to discuss themes for the "mosaic medallions".

May 2015: The OLB supports the recommended concept with the notes as per resolution OR/2015/37 (attached).

June 2015: The OLB supports the first two designs and John Botica starts producing these medallions. Graham Tipene and John Botica start design for the three other designs.

July 2015: First visuals of mosaic medallions ready.

Next steps:

July 2015: Submit plans for resource consent and prepare documents for tender

August 2015: Tender documents sent out to selected contractors (4 weeks to prepare quotes)
Remaining mosaic medallion designs agreed

September: Tender documents evaluated and winning tender selected

October / November / December 2015:

Preparation and construction of site works, ready for the medallions

January 2016: Installation of all five medallions

February 2016: Unveiling

Hana Maihi indicated a workshop with the artists and local residents would be preferred before the delivery of the full project. Details to be confirmed, pending on budget requirements.

Concept Design – Medallion 1

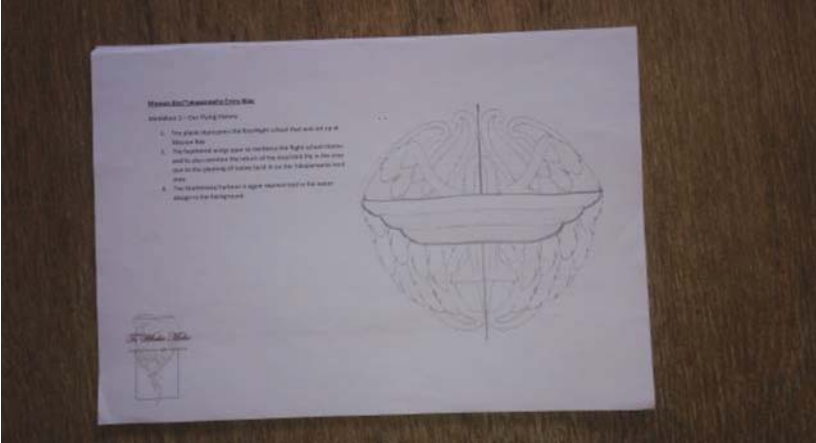
Mission Bay/Takaparaha Entry Way

Medallion 1 – Our Sailing History

1. The canoe represents the earliest sailing ships and the navigation techniques used by Māori and the early settlers.
2. The early European sailing traditions within the Mission Bay area are represented by the compass points.
3. The Waitemata Harbour is represented in the water design in the background.



Concept Design – Medallion 2



Work in progress – Medallion 2

