

To Vanessa Brown
Cc Sam Bourne, Principal Advisor urban Design and Landscape
From Chris Farnsworth (NZTA)
Date 19 September 2019
Subject SH5/SH30 Hemo Road Intersection: Rotorua Lakes Council Artwork

Dear Vanessa,

This memo follows your email to Sam Bourne on the 18th of September. and see to provide some specific information on the Hemo Roundabout project, in relation to the council's art project and the NZ Transport Agencies input into this item.

Background:

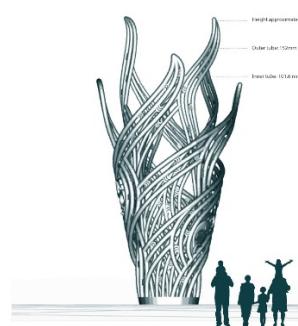
The Rotorua Lakes Council Artwork (the artwork) is planned for the southern gateway into Rotorua, adjacent Te Puia (a major tourism attraction), the golf course and polytechnic. The artwork is a council project (in partnership with the Transport Agency, Te Puia, and a number of local businesses), which sits within the State Highway corridor located at the centre of the completed intersection. In this context the artwork will form an obvious gateway/landmark to Rotorua from the south.

The initiative for the council artwork was triggered through the NZ Governments initiatives in 2014/15 in relation to Tourism and cycling in Rotorua. Given the location and opportunities around the infrastructure development and the intersection build the Transport Agency worked in close partnership with Council to assist in realising this gateway vision. One of the project objectives for the intersection itself was *"to create a gateway to Rotorua in partnership with Council and the local tourism businesses"*.

Council embraced the gateway opportunity and the Transport Agency supported the council to lead the sculpture/artwork as this would become a Council owned asset. The Transport Agency earmarked \$200k contribution towards this part of the project in 2015. Part of this funding (\$80K approx.) was specifically earmarked to cover the engineering review and plinth works to ensure that the Transport Agency were satisfied that council's artwork would be developed in line with 'good practice'. The remaining (\$120K) was then the Transport Agency's contribution to the remaining artwork outcomes, this has been a progress payment which is has now all been paid out. This funding assisted to both ensure that money was available to achieve a quality of design and review process and support the artwork development set up by council.



SH5/SH30 Hemo Road Intersection, Council Artwork design



Origins of the design:

Council undertook an art session where various groups pitched concepts. [REDACTED] s 9(2)(b)(ii)

[REDACTED] It also captures the narrative of the Iwi around the geothermal themes. There was significant consultation on these ideas.

Development process:

Council have in leading the project have been developing the artwork. The initial plan was for wood, the original artwork could only be done in bent steel tubes. Council procured and awarded a contract, but it was found that contractor could not deliver the piece to the design, they even looked offshore with a Canadian steel fabricator ensuring it could not be done with any strength to the design concept proposed.

At the same time the Transport Agency were building the intersection/roundabout and set a concrete plinth into the centre based on the specification required to satisfy the initial design (a large structure to take the heavy load of a steel or wood structure). The Transport Agency provided structural Professional Service through Opus for the sculpture tendering and design review.

The original Sculpture contract was terminated after not being able to be delivered. Kilwell (a local company to Rotorua) picked up the job (in support of Council) and also utilised this as a trial on an alternative fabrication method being 3d printing and their epoxy/carbon wrapping processes.

Council and Kilwell have been working on this fabrication for a couple of years with multi printing trials followed by carbon/epoxy/glass wrapping variations, and then various break/load testing via their supplier Scion with results passed back to the Transport Agencies supplier Opus to ensure the sculpture is not an issue for the highway (e.g. risk and safety).

We understand Council and Kilwell have progressed and committed to this job. Project fabrication is yet to be complete (expected in Nov/Dec? 2019).

Future involvement:

The Transport Agency are yet to see the Traffic Impact Assessment and implementation methodology for the artwork for installation. Early feedback may indicate a helicopter lift in and quite a major disruption to this part of the Highway network including a temporary road closure. The artwork will likely be implemented as Two pieces, an inner and outer vortex.

Due to its scale and install type it will be quite an event and we can expect relatively large stakeholder/partner, political and media presence.

We will separate the initial install from a public event, as for this type of activity the heli company would have an exclusion zone of approx. 200m. [REDACTED] s 9(2)(g)(i)

[REDACTED] Even though this artwork component is a Council project we will be having a large input in the install/event due to the fact the work is within the highway corridor.



Hemo Roundabout, the artworks plinth in the small circle in the middle

Associated links below supplied for information only.

Please note when reading the articles on costs that the Transport Agencies contribution remains at \$200k. Council have signed up various other contributors also.

https://www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/our-council/news/Pages/default.aspx?utm_source=ehq_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ehq-Our-Rotorua-Issue-11---September-15,-2017&newsItem=7699&utm_campaign=website&utm_source=ehq&utm_medium=email

<https://rotoruapublicarttrust.co.nz/hemo-gorge-gateway-sculpture/>

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/rotorua-daily-post/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503438&objectid=12215047

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/rotorua-daily-post/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503434&objectid=11951348

<https://www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/our-council/news/Pages/default.aspx?newsItem=8207>

Your sincerely

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