

Silas Street Roundabout Public Art Installation

Project Purpose

The purpose of this project is to install a unique and memorable landmark artwork that creates a focal point for the East Fremantle Town Centre. This piece will be an entry statement that:

- captures the spirit of East Fremantle;
- reinforces the Town Centre as a unique location where people work, shop, recreate and visit; and
- interprets aspects of the area's unique cultural heritage.

Project Background

This location was considered as one to be included in the "Art on Loan" project (Preston Point Roundabouts). It was ultimately decided that it was preferable to have a commissioned, perpetual installation at the site. In October 2019 expressions of interest were called for from WA-based artists and four concept designs were commissioned by the Public Art Panel, but at their February 2020 meeting, the Panel were unable to recommend one of those designs to Council.

A New Vision

Following an update to the Artist's Brief, the Panel chose five artists who were approached to consider working on the installation. Three artists were then invited to submit a concept design, with these designs were reviewed at the most recent meeting of the Public Art Panel (3 March 2021). A unanimous decision was made at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 16 March 2021 to accept Public Art Panel's recommendation to engage Judith Forrest and Dan Gentle to install their work. A full report on the work and the reasons behind the Panel's recommendation are available online:

<https://www.eastfremantle.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/ordinary-council-meeting/council-meeting/350/documents/ocm-minutes-160321.pdf>



Artist's concept of the new artwork that will be on the corner of Silas Street and St Peters Road

About the Work

The new art installation is described as "fun, quirky and whimsical, depicting Town centre life portraying a sense of community and belonging. A localised, colourful and inviting approach to the landscape."

Public Comment

Residents and ratepayers, with a focus on those within close proximity to the proposed installation, will be invited to make comment on the selected piece prior to the preparation and signing of a Public Art Agreement.

The "Invitation to Submit a Concept Design" (Artists' Brief) which includes considerations in relation to safety and amenity, will be released for further information for interested residents, along with visual and written information regarding the proposed design.

It is proposed that the public comment period will open on 18 March 2021 and run for 21 days.