

Paekākāriki Seawall

Community Suggestions and Preferences for Urban Design

Paekakariki Community Meeting – 25 November 2018, St Peter's Hall

1. Overview

Public feedback was primarily positive to the latest designs with approximately 30-50 attendees over the course of the day. From 10.30am - 3.30pm the public were free to peruse plans and share their ideas in workstations themed to specific treatments/areas.

The results show a desire for consistency throughout the artwork/design including incorporating the existing pathway to the south of the Parade in the surface upgrade and planting. Aesthetically there is a united voice; simple, bold, comfortable and fit-for-purpose with agreement over the current palette of timber, concrete and steel. A reiteration and refinement of earlier consultation.

Strong support for imprinting a design into the concrete terrace wall (with many positive comments on the Patricia Grace wall at Waikanae) with an opportunity for Ngāti Haumia stories here and historical nods to our railway heritage through furniture. Support for a pouwhenua in the space indicated. The planting feedback was positive, with request for a robust maintenance/management plan that could be commissioned to our local environmental groups.

There is concern over lack of wind/sun shelter that the current stormwater outlets provide with the community wanting to see multi-purpose furniture that may provide these. General concern/interest in what the proposed new stormwater outlets will be and where they will be placed along the wall. Shared pathway feedback tended towards utilitarian with a fear of the project becoming over decorative with little obvious support for sandblasting. The community would like to walk barefoot along the pathway. There were comments that aggregate would be too hard on feet and wheelchairs.

There was little feedback on artwork placement and seating.

The community would like to see the commissioning of our local artists in the utilities, wall-face, and bollards.

2. Design Group Recommendations

Continuity:

The pre-existing southern walkway/shared path is not performing its function and in need of repair. Without connecting the two we run the risk of building a shared pathway which is difficult to access at both north and south ends.

- This will already have a maintenance budget that we would like to look into transferring to the project.
- If we also save money on the concrete treatment of the whole pathway, we may be able to afford to extend it, and planting, further south
- It is optimal time for the PCB to start discussions with GWRC as they are in their parks planning review about the connection to the Te Ara o Whareroa cycleway from the beach at the northern end of the Parade

Placement

Support the current placement of artwork along the terrace of the wall and the current seating placements

- Would like to consider the request of a resident to move the accessway from directly outside 54a to slightly further north so it opposite the driveways rather than a house.

Seating/bollards/bins

Support the commissioning of selected local artists to carve bollards and make feature seating/tables that fit the design brief

- 2-3 feature seats
- At least one seat should be multi-functional ie provide some shelter from wind/sun
- Bollards, tables and some seats could include umbrella holes
- Seating with backs should be interspersed along the length of the site
- Rubbish bins?

Planting

Support the engagement of local community groups to contribute to the growing of a nursery of suitable plants with the potential for maintenance post-planting

- provided they don't do so at their own cost

Retain established native growth (flaxes) at the northern end of The Parade

Pathway/steps/ramps/landings

Investigate a mix of two different timber treatments for the pathway:

- A reiteration of the same weaving pattern as the wall imprint around secondary or primary accessways
- Simple panel timber inserts as per the design
- Investigate another simple visual element for the shared pathway that is easy on feet, wheelchairs, bikes and scooters.

Imprinted concrete terrace wall

- A deep relief imprint of a simple, large, repeating weaving design (potentially niho Taniwha) in the style of a tukutuku panel
- Open to having less of these imprints along the wall if budget won't allow -- preference to strong and bold over quantity
 - If we opt for less imprints on the wall is there potential for the inclusion of timber/concrete panelling in the weaving design as suggested in the accessway points?

Process/procurement

The Design Group expands to include local artists & skilled practitioners and

- Set a criteria and design brief that artworks must meet
- Rubbish bin design community call-out
- Share updates via PCB meetings in Matters Under Action
- Share updates via PCB Facebook page and Paekakariki.nz website

Other artworks

Whalebone gateway along the path. Ngāti Haumia welcome the idea to acknowledge the 1996 stranding of sperm whales on the beach. These are buried and QE Park.

- We encourage this discussion to go further to assess viability
- Where will the funding come from?

Include provisions for a Pouwhenua at the allocated site

- Clarification needed as to where funding for this is coming from and what final design will be

It's important to leave spaces / opportunities for additional creative works to appear over time.

Other considerations

Four drinking-water refill stations along the length of the Parade

3. Community Feedback

UPPER SHARED PATHWAY

Preference for the extent of non-standard concrete for upper shared path (brushed concrete being standard) and in what areas? Perhaps a mixture of exposed aggregate and timber treads around accessways?

- Timber Tread:
 - A repetition of the weaving design in timber/concrete around the two secondary accessways provided this will be good for bikers and walkers
 - A combination of the above and more simple 'fanning' of timber around accessways
- Concrete:
 - A priority for surfaces to be pleasant for walking in bare feet and for ease of wheelchair & bikes. Will the aggregate be tough on soles?
 - Support for standard concrete. Is it possible to colour the concrete with black sand, shells or similar to use instead of aggregate?
 - Scooter and skateboard friendly
 - Extend concrete treatment to the pre-existing Southern walkway which is in a bad state and unusable
 - Some sort of line/separation for bikers/walkers so when we do cross other people's bikes easy to see which way to go
 - Gutsy design on paving

Preference for areas/extent for sand blasting artwork/designs into concrete? For example to highlight accessway areas and on ramp landings?

- Feedback that sandblasting won't be bold enough with the potential to get lost in the environment. A preference for money to be spent elsewhere.
- A lot of support for poetry in concrete

CONCRETE WALL FACE

Preference for areas/extent for imprinted artwork/designs? For example, on the face of the raised terrace – facing the beach?

- No feedback on placements. The group are happy with the proposed sites

Suggestions for artwork designs?

- Niho Taniwha design to represent Raparoa & Chief Haumia
- Support for the weaving design imprint along terrace, provided it is bold and has depth similar to the Patricia Grace wall at Waikanae
- Ngāti Haumia tukutuku panel, Holly currently chasing up
- Kowhaiwhai as seen on artwork panels in railway station carpark, apparently Ngāti Haumia, Holly following up
- Te Haerenga (the journey) a gateway made from two whalebones along the path (whalebones from 1996 sperm whale stranding, buried in QE Park) Ngāti Haumia support for this
- Rep of history as old SH1 with horse and carts, maybe imprint a horse in cart at one section
- Doesn't need to be overdone. Something bold, strong, considered and consistent. Not unnecessarily decorative.
- Support for a Pouwhenua
- Utilities should be pieces of art ie seating, rubbish bins

PROCESS & ENGAGEMENT

How would the community propose to engage artists and develop designs?

- The Design Group expands to include local artists & skilled practitioners
- KCDC commission artists with the Design group with the PCB & Design Group making recommendations

**Suggested opportunities for community to have input into the construction phase?
Perhaps planting and/or seats/tables?**

- Commission community groups: school potty potters, Nga Uruora, school, playcentre to grow plants with a maintenance plan and budget
- Approach Steam Inc for purchase of reusable materials ie sleepers, wheels
- Commission our local art & craftspeople to make feature seats
- Commission local artist to sculpt bollards

KICKSTANDS

Thoughts on the proposed kick stand design for the concrete ramps and landings around accessways?

- Landings:
 - Preference for a mix of timber (slip-proof)
 - Compass on landing made from railway or coach wheel identifying significant landmarks and/or a human sundial as per the one near Carter observatory
 - Kickstand on landings could be higher so doubles as a bench
- Steel railing plenty of zinc-coated triple dipped & maintained
- Ramps & ramps:
 - A slide from top walkway to beach
 - Steps as seating too
 - Love concrete

BIKE RACKS & BINS

Bike racks and bins

- People wanting dog poo bins?
- Something to lock bikes to at every access
 - Bike stands need to be ones that D locks fit on
 - High-quality stainless steel bike racks for huge variety of of bike and wheel types & ease of locking through the frame
- Bins could be artworks

BOLLARDS

Thoughts on the proposed barriers for the upper shared path?

- Old railway posts that held electric wires with chainsaw decoration
- Artistically carved bollards
- Rope weaving

SEATS/TABLES

Preferences for the design of seating and tables?

- Multi-functional
 - pod-like seats or seating nooks that can offer real sun/wind shade protection.
- Simple, unique timber seats/table
 - recycled railway timber & steel
- Some seating with backs and arms for older people to push up on
- Timber seats for sore bottoms
- Space for fish and chips at a picnic table to watch sun go down

PLANTING

Suggestions for the proposed locations for planting into rock areas?

- The beach daisies have become a feature
- As much planting as possible so more natural look and not so neat and tidy
- Planting to cover most of the rocks
- Include some feature trees
- These plants are the right ones for the environment
- Need a budget to support planting
- Commission community groups: school potty potters, Nga Uruora, school, playcentre to grow plants with a maintenance plan and budget
- Keep flax and vegetation along the parade to the north end (where last car parks are on the design)

PRIORITIES

If you had to prioritise, what would be the top 2 urban design elements you would like to see incorporated into the final seawall design?

- Warm, bare feet, somewhere to rest your back
- Natural - concrete, wood, steel
- Use timber as much as possible - seating posts, stands etc
- Consistency - not random artworks plonked willy-nilly
- The drain projections get used heaps on sunny windy days
- Coloured concrete design
- Create a bike path to link shared path with yankee trail access and Te Ara o Whareroa
- Integrate the upper path design and design elements and plantings seamlessly and seating with the continuation of the shared path along the top. Also make accessways match.
- Restraint - less is more
- History relevance to the place
- Strength for marine environment

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Any general comments regarding the urban design elements of the wall?

- Placements:
 - Looks great but move steps from outside 54A slightly north so as they are opposite two driveways not my house
 - Primary access needed at south end for accessibility
- Parking:
 - Not enough car parking esp campbell park
 - Consider recessed parking so cars do not obstruct views for residents
 - Car Parks outside 118-122 not needed, plenty elsewhere which are never full
- Utes and 4WD need to be prevented from having access to beach
- Ocean Rd: Parking signage for campervans to park at the Northern end by surf club
- No parking on seaward side outside this area -- destroying road
- How will stormwater exit onto the beach, what will it look like?
- Drinking water. Beach-goers and cyclists need taps to refill drink bottles