

Artist Brief

Monument to 1932 Port Ahuriri Tragedy

Introduction

The Napier City Council is seeking proposals for an artwork to be installed at Perfume Point Reserve at Port Ahuriri (off Nelson Quay) to commemorate the sinking of the launch *Doris*, a lighter (small barge-type vessel), that had 31 men on board, 10 of which tragically drowned.

Background

It recently came to the attention of the Napier City Council that the story of the Port Ahuriri tragedy has not been widely told, nor commemorated. Michael Fowler, local historian, articulated the story in an article published in the Hawke's Bay Today dated 17 September 2016, and called for a memorial to the perished men to be installed on the reserve at the entrance to the Ahuriri Port (see article transcript attached).

Mr Fowler tells the story of how at a late hour on the evening of 28 December 1932, the launch *Doris*, was transporting cargo to the roadstead – a ship anchored some distance from the harbour's entrance – when it collided with a lighter, the *Tu Atu*. The *Doris* tipped over when it became unbalanced under the weight of men rushing port side to avoid being struck. Men were pulled from the water by the quick reactions from those aboard the *Coralie*, a nearby tugboat, and the lifeboat launched from the *Tu Atu*, however 10 of the men on board were unable to be saved.

This tragedy took place at a time when the devastation of the 1931 earthquake was still fresh in the local peoples' minds and was therefore a terrible blow to the township. The men left behind wives and children who were in the thick of rebuilding their lives after the quake.

Invitation to Submit Artist's Proposal

To commemorate this significant local tragedy, the Napier City Council, in partnership with historian Michael Fowler and members of the Old Customhouse Trust, Ahuriri, is seeking proposals for the installation of an artwork that symbolises the tragedy that occurred, the loss of life, the actions of the heroes, and the generosity of those who rallied around the families left behind.

There is no prescribed media for such an art installation, and no fixed size or site where it is to be installed, other than near the Ahuriri Port entrance, on Perfume Point Reserve (map attached).

Scope of Work

Stage One – The Proposal

The artist will submit to the Napier City Council's Arts Advisory Panel a proposal that contains as a minimum;

1. Concept drawing(s) or scale model(s) of the proposed art work to be installed
2. A description of the subject matter selected by the artist and its significance to the Ahuriri Port Tragedy event
3. Visual evidence of previous artworks the artist has had commissioned
4. The timeframe for completing the artwork
5. The price of the artwork including installation.

The proposal must be submitted to the Napier City Council reception by **Monday, 3rd July 2017** marked attention to the Director Community Services.

The Arts Advisory Panel will consider the proposals submitted and make a recommendation to the Council on the preferred proposal. The proposals shall be assessed in accordance with Napier City Council's Arts Policy and in particular with the strategic priority of "*high quality art in public places is maintained and developed*".

Due to the subjective nature of artworks, the Arts Advisory Panel is represented by a diverse membership from community arts, fine arts, heritage, Maori and urban design backgrounds. Please note that the arts advisory panel is not bound to select any of the artworks presented and its recommendation will be final. The preferred proposal will proceed to Stage Two subject to funding.

Stage Two – The Artwork

The selected artist will liaise with Directors, Community Services and City Services in the preparation of the area and installation of the artwork.

Price and Payment Schedule

No budget has been identified for this commission however funding by way of Council contributions, community funding and sponsorship will be sought once the total commission cost is known.

Artworks will not be selected on price attributes but rather the quality of craftsmanship and materials, track record and experience of the artist, and the proposal's ability to express the sentiment of the event.

For comparison a list of other Council-commissioned artworks and their prices are set out below:

Artwork	Price¹
A Wave in Time – Emerson Street	\$103,400
Art Deco Boy – Emerson Street	\$51,200
Flight of the Return - Paxie's Lane	\$47,200

¹ Adjusted to today's dollar

The Builders – Dickens Street	\$109,100
The Heritage Fountain – outside i-SITE	\$50,000

Payment will be one-third on commencement of the artwork, one-third progress payment at a stage of the development agreed to by the Director Community Services and the Artist, and on-third upon completion of the artwork to the Council's satisfaction.

Project Completion and Deliverables

Timeframes for the deliverables are to be submitted as part of the proposal.

Resources

The Artist shall use their own resources to complete the artwork and will ensure all necessary health and safety measures are taken in its completion and installation.

Client Liaison

Upon contractual agreement the Consultant shall liaise with, and report to:

Antoinette Campbell
Director Community Services

Phone: (06) 8349810
Mobile: 027 520 0457
Email: antoinettec@napier.govt.nz

Napier City Council
Private Bag 6010
Napier 4142