



30 June 2016

Nagal Pass Artwork receives thumbs up

The artwork commissioned for the Nagal Pass Public Artwork has received the thumbs up from motorists after its installation on Monday night.

The artwork “The Grandis Leaf” has been developed and designed by visual artist Leanne Bray over the past 12 months, in response to the Public Art Project run by the Nedlands Arts Committee.

The artwork has been installed against the 30 m long retaining wall at Nagal Pass and Stubbs Terrace in Karrakatta.

City of Nedlands Mayor Max Hipkins said “The City is pleased to welcome the arrival of our new artwork to the City.”

“We are delighted with our newest public artwork. Previously, the underpass at Stubbs Terrace and Nagal Pass was crying out for something that would make a striking visual statement about our natural heritage. Leanne has delivered an outstanding feature for the area.”

Leanne said that the artwork combined her passion for local history and patterns.

Part of her intention was to capture the City’s history including the years before European settlement including its river, beaches and bushlands that provided an abundant home for the traditional owners of the area, the Noongar people.

The purpose of her piece is to bring to mind the natural flora and fauna of the area before development and has used the artwork to indicate where there was an abundance of native plants and as a reminder of how civilisation can be ruthless when it comes to progress.

“The artwork has been developed through careful consideration of a design theme that offers an ageless and holistic solution that will do justice to the ‘record-keeping’ in this vibrant and influential corridor to Perth,” said Leanne.

“The intention was to produce site specific artwork that celebrates and responds to just one family of plant life: the Banksia. I was attracted to the concept of finding a design solution or symbolic connection to place - and the ‘grandis’ leaf offers splendid opportunity to embrace rich bush colour, dynamic patterning - and it becomes the symbol of the surrounding native bushlands. The very nature of the Banksia Grandis offers dynamic inspiration on which to base the robust creative possibilities.

“Leanne has done a remarkable job with the concept and design. She has carefully considered the cultural history and horticultural significance of the area, and emphasised the importance to the City with the use of colour, patterns, and space.

“In the coming weeks, the area will be landscaped and City’s Park staff will plant two large and two medium sized Banksias adjacent to the artwork and smaller Banksias on the ground around the base,” said Mayor Hipkins.

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About the City of Nedlands

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of over 21,000 live in the suburbs of Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta, and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

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