

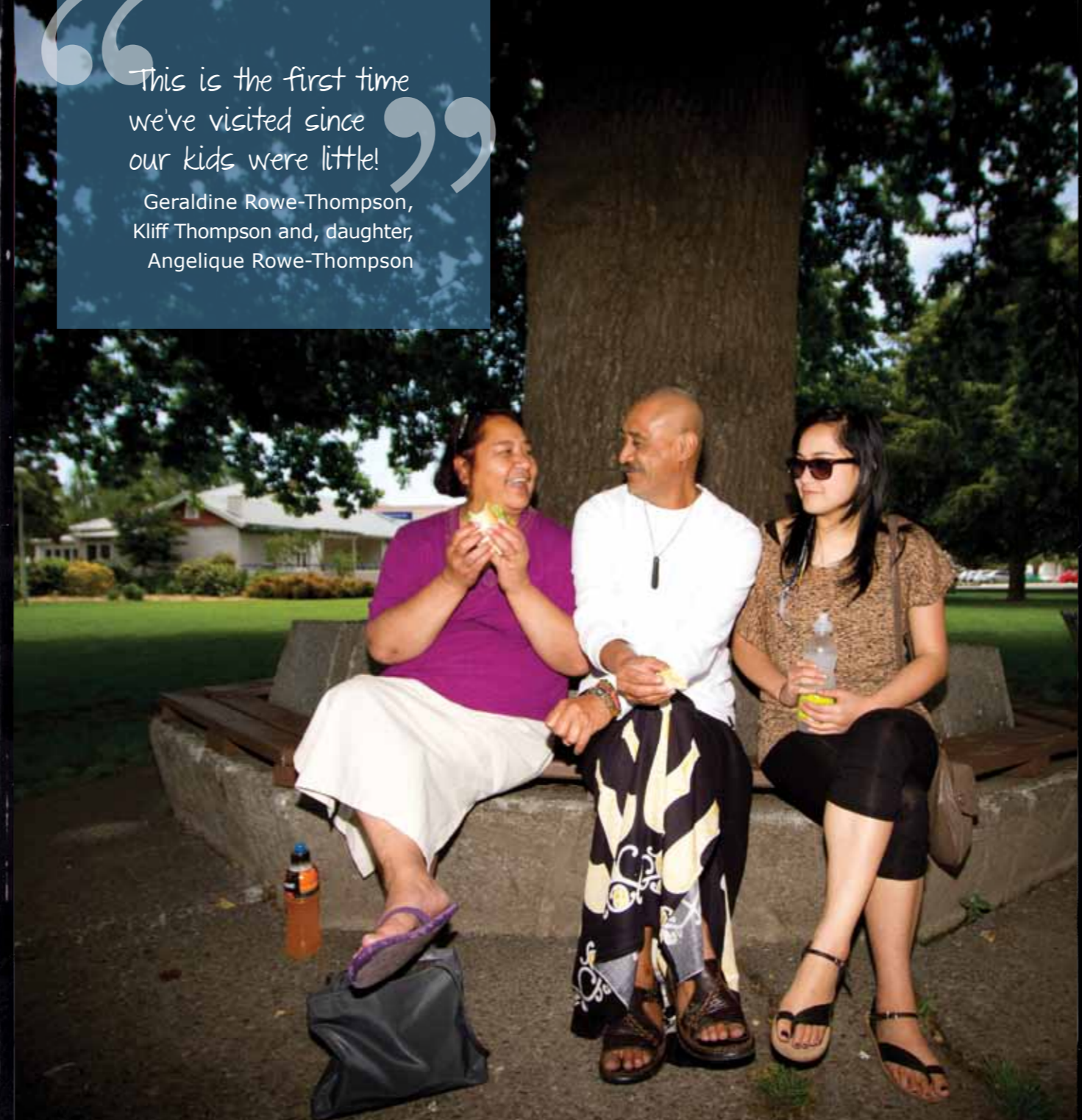


CIVIC SQUARE
DESIGN COMPETITION BRIEF

GENERAL OVERVIEW

This is the first time we've visited since our kids were little!

Geraldine Rowe-Thompson,
Kliff Thompson and, daughter,
Angelique Rowe-Thompson



The District has a long history of Maori settlement, with a traditional economy based on hunting, cultivation and fishing in the fertile Heretaunga Plains, rich in food resources. There are historical marae and rural communities in the hinterland, including pa sites on the undulating plains and the coastal promontories. Apart from these settlements and the Maori place names, including names of the major landscape features which provide the visual context for the district, there is very little evidence of Maori heritage manifest around the district.

The district economy has experienced changing waves of rural production activities, from pastoral through to horticulture and viticulture, as technological advances in the food processing industry and transportation are made. Despite periods of recession, fruit-growing and other industries associated with a variety of primary production, particularly the wine industry, remain the mainstays of the district economy. Associated food processing industries, such as canning and freezing works, are located on the outskirts of town.

The present day character of urban Hastings has evolved from the 1860s. Hawke's Bay North was the earliest settled area in the Hastings district. Subsequent land purchase and subdivision on the Heretaunga Plains, growth of population, commerce and industry were boosted by the extension of railway through what is now Hastings town centre and to the west.

The grid pattern of subdivision is typical of early settlements, with standard lots, standard blocks and standard road widths. Following the devastating 1931 earthquake, Hastings was rebuilt – a major achievement in the Great Depression of the 1930s. Falling cornices and masonry had caused many deaths and the local architects of the day – including the firms of Edmund Anscombe and Associates, and Davies, Garnett and Phillips – wanted to rebuild the city in a modern style, resistant to earthquake and fire and without the dangers associated with heavy decoration.

The preferred construction material was reinforced concrete; Spanish Mission, Art Deco and Stripped Classical were selected as appropriate styles. Spanish Mission was already established in Hawke's Bay and capable of being designed and built in a clean, simplified manner suited to the needs of a speedy reconstruction programme. Art Deco was the fashionable style world-wide and equally efficient to build with its sparse, geometrical decoration and crisp forms. Stripped Classical, with a classical facade but simplified decoration, suited those architects and clients seeking a more familiar, formal style.

Post 1960s suburban residential expansion was boosted by the motor car. More recently, since the 1980s, development in the district has been associated with the growth of small rural settlements and communities which offer the advantages of accessibility to urban facilities, a spacious rural setting, scenic views and proximity to a range of outdoor recreation activities and the natural environment.

Overall, the varied social and cultural history (debate and interaction between Maori and European settlers, the early growth of urban Hastings, the destructive fire and catastrophic earthquake, participation in the two world wars) has meant architecture has held a symbolic place in the history of Hastings. Partly destroyed by fire and almost completely destroyed by earthquake, the city was rebuilt in a style symbolic of the time. The clock tower remains an enduring symbol of rebirth for Hastings. Only a few original buildings in the historic urban core are still standing today, notably the Albert Hotel and 23 marae in the district.

The unique relationships of Hastings are worthy of clear expression in the cultural activities and spaces designed to be suitable for them, such as Civic Square.

CIVIC SQUARE

At 1.94 hectares, Civic Square is the largest open space within the Hastings CBD. Comprising of two blocks, it is flat and aligns with the city's northwest grid orientation. Civic Square, in its current guise, houses a number of assets which include the Hastings War Memorial Library, Hastings City Art Gallery, Heretaunga Women's Centre, the memorial cenotaph, water fountain, wishing well, car park and a playground.

The Hastings District Council has considered the refurbishment of Civic Square on a number of occasions, with a keen understanding of its potential to add value to the city's cultural and physical landscape.

However, due to changing priorities and other complexities, this project has not progressed to any point of significance, until now.

The following points can be made of the existing Civic Square situation:

1. It is an under utilised asset.
2. The library and Hastings City Art Gallery could benefit from better integration into Civic Square as well as the wider urban fabric.
3. It lacks connection to adjoining land uses as well as the wider activities in the CBD.
4. Activities/events occurring in Civic Square could benefit from better coordination.
5. Space usage is influenced by the position and orientation of substantial buildings, a number of large mature trees and parking/transport facilities.
6. The area lacks any visibility of the existence and importance of cultural connections including mana whenua, settler and migrant heritage.

In September 2009, the Council commissioned urban design consultant Urbanism Plus to identify and investigate urban issues of relevance to the district and offer a framework for future urban development. Civic Square was highlighted in this investigation as a key civic asset in need of reinvigoration and integration into the wider CBD.

In August 2010, the Hastings Urban Issues and Urban Design Framework included the proposal to redevelop Civic Square. Such a development will have a positive impact on the wider CBD context by providing a beating heart to a vibrant cultural precinct.

The importance of taking a long term sustainable approach to the district's future is crucial to this vision. The identification of cultural, economic, social and environmental wellbeing as a quadruple bottom line is part of our core business.



Hastings War Memorial Library

The 2009/19 Long-Term Council Community Plan states that we will progress as "town and country" together and sustain our natural resources, enhance our valued lifestyle, culture and heritage, and build a strong economy and community founded on innovation and partnering for success. Hawke's Bay aims to be the premier land-based production region of the South Pacific.

The creation of compact urban forms will allow the district to be a connected network of urban centres, each with its own character and sense of place reflective of the district's geography, heritage, scale and culture. This is aligned with the district's founding motto, "Urban et rural Concordia" which speaks to the notion of creating a balance between the demands of our rural production, natural ecology and urban development.

Mana whenua is the unique and pivotal component in the culture and heritage of Hastings. It is a requirement that this is acknowledged and taken into account in an integrated way throughout the redevelopment of Civic Square. Mana whenua designs a re unique referring to history, oral traditions and relationships (whakapapa). They account for the past, the present and the future and integrate humanity with the landscape and the environment.

Council has taken the opportunity to establish an active working relationship with mana whenua on the Civic Square project as a signal of positive partnership in culture, heritage and design. It can be clearly stated that Hastings is rich in mana whenua, settler and migrant culture.

The development of a vision for the development of the Civic Square began with the public engagement process that was engaged with through the Hastings Urban Issues and Urban Design Framework and continued via workshops, consultation and engagement activities.

These can be crystallised as follows:

Civic Square – "our people, our place, our stories"

In 2020, Civic Square is the vibrant hub at the heart of the Hastings community. A place where our people – mana whenua, settlers and migrants – gather to engage with our arts, to embrace our culture and to celebrate our proud heritage, Heretaunga, in Matau a Maui.

Civic Square embodies the dreams, ambitions and endeavour of our people and the lives they have created.

Full Vision – See Attachment 1

A number of core elements fulfil this vision. These can be categorised into eleven broad themes of intervention which capture these opportunities. Interventions range from structural changes to the existing buildings and landscaping, through to operational enhancements including, but not limited to, a wide range of events, educational programmes, and workshops.

PROPOSAL

This is a design competition to put forward how Civic Square can become an arts, culture and heritage hub of the future Hastings city.

We are interested in exploring the idea of architecture as a vessel for cultural connectedness and evolution, an enabler and catalyst for social, cultural and economic growth.

We are calling for blue sky thinking that can lead the district forward, so that we may achieve our desire to create a cultural heart for our city which showcases our arts, culture and especially our mana whenua heritage in a way that symbolises a positive future, promotes civic pride and embraces cultural connection and integrity.

One of the key challenges in this project is for proposals to be both visionary and practical. We are promoting the idea of visionary pragmatism.

To allow the wider community to appreciate the concept fully, design ideas are required. The outcomes of this design competition will be used as a primary vehicle for consultation and ultimately presenting to Council for consideration as part of the 2012/22 Long Term Plan.

Site History - Refer to www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/history

Site Maps – See Attachment 2

Site Activity Summary – See Attachment 3

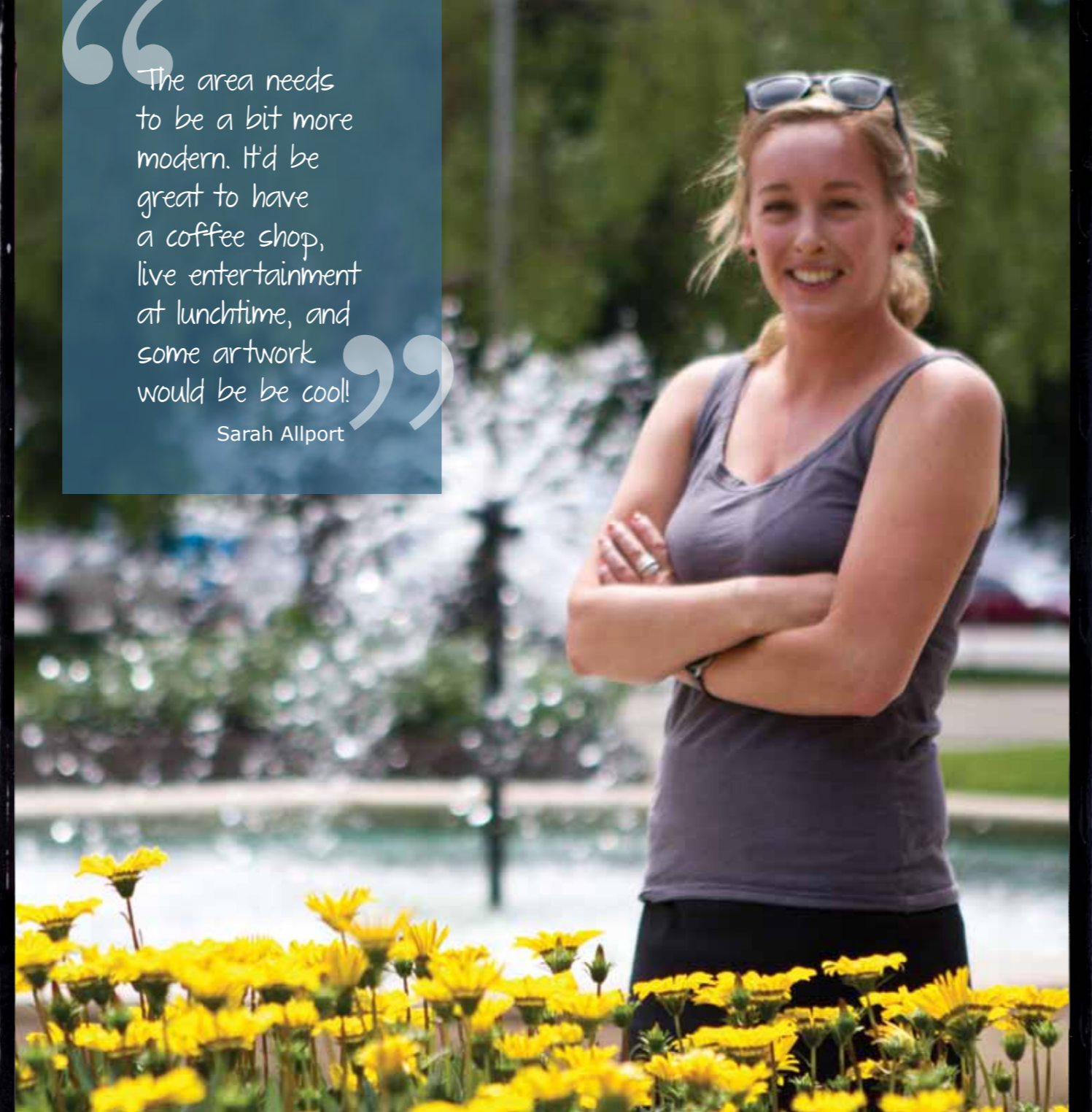


“I adore the big, old trees here. With a café and a general tidy-up, this place would be fabulous.”
Helen Paul-Smith

COMPETITION OBJECTIVES

“The area needs to be a bit more modern. It'd be great to have a coffee shop, live entertainment at lunchtime, and some artwork would be be cool!”

Sarah Allport



OUR PEOPLE, OUR PLACE, OUR STORIES

1. Convert the vision and incorporate themes into an exciting and innovative design proposal for Civic Square.
2. Existing buildings are to be retained.
3. Address the following 11 themes of intervention:
 - i. Draw people to the front door of the Hastings City Art Gallery and Hastings Library through its outward facing (north) front edge.
 - ii. Provide for new economic and retail possibilities which encourage the local community and visitors to stay and spend, and providing opportunity for outward activity into the park/forecourt.
 - iii. Investigate appropriate ways to physically integrate the Hastings Library and Hasting City Art Gallery recognising the importance of connections, security and navigation and from key arrival points.
 - iv. Provide a series of flexible and configurable multipurpose, multifunctional spaces which enable the opportunity for performance, exhibition and meeting of various scales.
 - v. Allow for future library and gallery growth in a manner which does not adversely impact upon operations.
 - vi. Public space design which enhances the valued park-like character of Civic Square in a way that is in balance with safety, accessibility and visual connection. CPTED and low impact urban design principles should be adhered too.
 - vii. Enhance the visual experience of Civic Square from Eastbourne Street in a way which provides for public transport and maintains parking provisions.
 - viii. Provide an appropriate marker or entry statement at the interface of Karamu Road and Civic Square.
 - ix. Provide variety in open spaces with potential for fun and engagement in innovative public spaces.
 - x. Energise and add colour to Civic Square through events, entertainment and promotions.
 - xi. Give prominence to the cenotaph in existing or reconsidered location.

4. Also account for the following specific spatial expectations:
 - i. Commercial functions that incorporate an iconic café and the possibility for retail opportunity.
 - ii. A suite of multifunctional flexible arts and cultural spaces* able to accommodate **large and small groupings**, that add to the existing facility offering by providing:
 - a. internal and external performance space (including outside stage provision as part of landscaping)
 - b. internal and external exhibition/interaction/education spaces
 - c. internal and external gathering / meeting spaces
 - d. internal and external space for formal ceremony, powhiri and informal exchange
 - e. memorial space
 - iii. Formal entry space which is respectful of our cultural diversity.
 - iv. External play space/facility.
 - v. Utility/archival and service spaces as required.
 - vi. Security and climatic control.
5. Provision for parking especially for the elderly, mobility impaired and parents with young children.
6. Provision for all modes of arrival (public, private, vehicle, cycle or pedestrian).
7. A redeveloped square and park which strengthens the Civic Square as an important green space.
8. Staging plan (≤5 years)

BUDGET LIMITATIONS

For the purposes of this competition, the redevelopment budget is \$8.5 million (NZD).

This total budget includes all project cost including but not limited to detailed design, working drawings, specifications, sub-consultants, building consent fees, site investigations, project management, contract preparation, construction and build and fit out, fixtures and fittings costs. Operational costs are excluded.

This budget allocation is indicative only for the purposes of this competition, is in no way binding, nor has it been committed to by Council. The inclusion of this redevelopment budget is intended to give submitters a better understanding as to the financial constraints of this competition. This will help to eliminate the submission of fiscally unrealistic proposals.

* Although a specific floor area for internal spaces has not been set, we are looking for proposals which fulfil the vision by maximising useable internal and external space opportunities.



I have my lunch here every day - it beats sitting on the bus! I reckon a public BBQ would be pretty cool.

Michael Kekely, Go Bus driver

DESIGN COMPETITION RULES



“ I visit here all the time. A café and more trees would make Civic Square even better. ”
Fiona Hunter

TYPE OF COMPETITION

It is proposed to hold a two-staged design process:

Stage 1: Idea Generation Design Competition (this competition)

Based on the results of the open competition, consult with the Hastings community on the top design ideas as part of the 2012/22 Long Term Plan.

Stage 2: Detailed Design Process

Conditional upon outcomes of the formal Draft 2012/22 Long-Term Community Plan consultation process, and resolution by Council to commit or otherwise to the redevelopment of Civic Square as part of the 2012/22 Long-Term Community Plan.

Refer to Future Design Works section in “Competition Rules” section of this brief for conditions associated with any further design.

PROJECT SPONSOR

The Hastings District Council is the principal sponsor of this project and the owner of the site.

ASSESSOR PANEL

The assessor panel for this competition will consist of the following personnel:

NAME	REPRESENTING
Jacob Scott	HB creative community
Georgina Thow	HB landscape architect
Tama Huata	Mana whenua
Margaret Twigg (Councillor)	Hastings District Council
Cynthia Bowers (Councillor)	Hastings District Council
Professor Andrew Barry	NZIA Auckland University
Kerstin Thompson	AIA Victory University

If one of the assessor panel members has to withdraw prior to the completion of judging, the Council reserves the right to appoint another member of equivalent credentials if deemed necessary.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for consideration, all contest entries must comply with the contents of this brief.

This competition is open to design professionals and tertiary students* including but not limited to: architects, landscape architects, urban designers, planners and industrial designers.

Entrants are encouraged to work in multidisciplinary teams.

For those students who may have finished their studies this year (2011) but have not yet graduated, acceptance in the student category will be based on provision of evidence as above.

Entries are limited to one per eligible organisation/group.

Council officers, elected members and assessor panel members are precluded from entering this competition.

COMPETITION ASSESSMENT PROCESS

A predetermined process will be followed by the assessor panel using the criteria listed on the adjacent page.

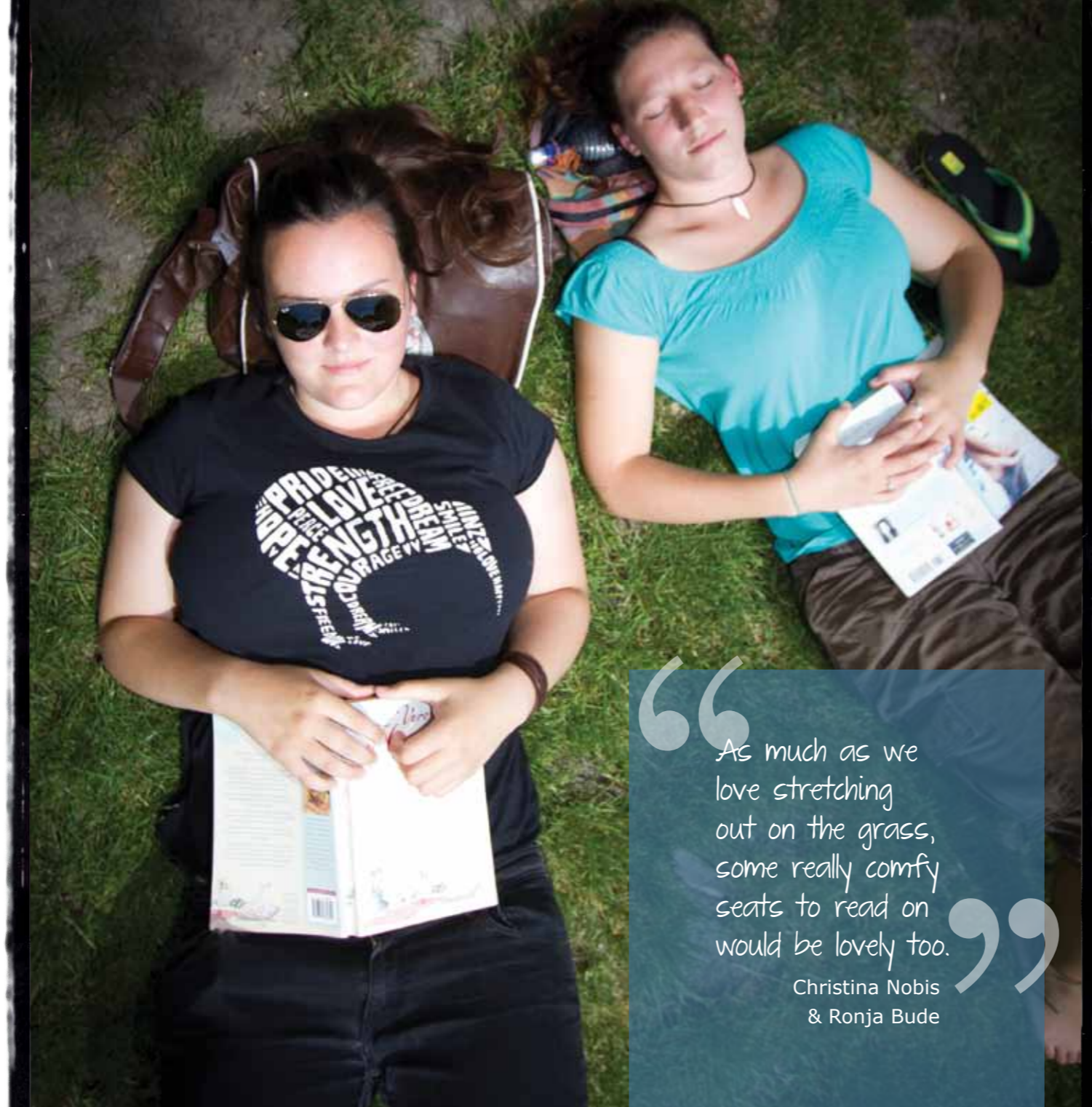
The assessor panel will report back to the Hastings District Council, and possibly other groups, with recommendations before a decision is confirmed, competitors are notified and any results announced.

The top three design proposals, along with the top student submission, will then be used as a primary vehicle for consultation with the community. This will be done within the formal consultation process of the Council's Draft 2012/22 Long Term Plan. The community's response to the design ideas will be sought and taken into account when making a final decision.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The assessor panel will consider entries in terms of the criteria in the adjacent table to embody the vision and key elements detailed in this brief. Each proposal will be given a score out of 100.

* Professionals must hold a degree from an accredited tertiary institution be registered or on a pathway to registration of a relevant professional association or institute, or be studying toward an NZQA accredited tertiary qualification, and provide evidence of this upon registration.



“As much as we love stretching out on the grass, some really comfy seats to read on would be lovely too.”
Christina Nobis & Ronja Bude

CRITERIA	MAX SCORE	DETAILS
Mana whenua and cultural connectedness	30	Ideas which clearly express the connection and fusion of mana whenua and other cultures evident throughout Heretaunga. <i>Key words: mana whenua, migrant, settler, social history, civic, community, inclusion, fusion, cultural connectors, landscape, global, pathway, whanau</i>
Architecture urban design and landscape: integration and connection	20	Ideas which ensure the integration of facilities and functions on the site and how these connect with surrounding land uses, cultural precinct CBD and wider landscape. Physical connectivity between the Memorial Library and HCAG is a priority incorporating features such as a café and a series of flexible and configurable multi functional spaces. <i>Key words: knowledge, memory, culture, connectivity, interface, form, function, stories, korero, flexibility, configurable, play, stimulation, performance, circulation, pathway, information, enjoyment, relaxation</i>
Sustainability and green technology	15	Ideas which showcase innovation and best practice sustainable design principles in order to minimise impact on the environment, reduce reliance on non-sustainable technologies and which are energy efficient. <i>Key words: landscape, LIUDD, passive solar, LED, sustainable, recycle, reuse, efficiency, photovoltaic, ecology, biodiversity, 21st century, kaitiakitanga</i>
Flexibility and adaptability	15	Ideas which allow for ceremony, performance, events, workshops, meetings to take place both inside and out, large and small, in a manner which allows for the facilities to be reconfigured in an effective and replicable manner. A design that allows for spaces to be reconfigured and/or adapted to accommodate for change in use, accommodate specific needs and accommodate both large and small groups (internal and external) for the purposes as noted in this brief. <i>Key words: activation, people, energy, hub, centre, stories, korero, dialogue, adaptability, flexibility, indoor/outdoor spaces, multipurpose use, education, interaction, new media</i>
Integration of Public Art with the Site	10	Ideas which seamlessly integrate public art within the proposal, including the potential for an entry marker and/or structure which embodies the vision. <i>Key words: integration, story, context, history, future, aspirations, place, education, activation, interaction, connection</i>
Financial Commitment	10	Ideas which make prudent use of public funds to get the best possible outcome from the funding allocation made. Worth noting is that the level of total investment associated with the proposal will be assessed against the desired outcomes to ensure the community is receiving the best value for money. For this reason, an innovative, lower cost option could in fact deliver the best outcome for the community. <i>Note: Proposals exceeding the budget set in the brief will be deemed non-conforming.</i>

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

The assessor panel will also look for:

1. Understanding of the local climate and lifestyle context.
2. Originality and innovation.
3. Clarity of idea and delivery of vision.
4. Ability to be physically constructed.
5. Efficient and effective use of budget to deliver the best outcome for the community.
6. Alignment with, and consideration of, best practice guidelines and principles in proposals including but not limited to:
 - NZ Urban Design Protocol*
 - Landmarks Development Plan
 - Maori Urban Design Principles
 - Ministry for the Environment's *People + Places + Spaces Guideline*
 - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Principles
 - The Hastings Urban Design Framework
 - The 2009/19 LTCCP
 - Is commensurate with the iWay Model Communities for Cycling and Walking Project
 - Is of a quality no less than the Hastings Central Plaza or CBD street upgrades.

ASSESSORS REPORT

A report will be issued at the end of the competition outlining the reasons for the selection. All entrants will receive a copy. Following publication of competition results, this report will become a public document.

LODGEMENT OF SUBMISSIONS

Submissions must be uploaded through the competition website: www.hastingscivicsquare.co.nz

* www.mfe.govt.nz/issues/urban/design-protocol

“Longer lunch breaks would make this place better! Failing that, shelter from sun and rain would be good.”

Phil Evans



FORMAT OF SUBMISSION

Each submission must strictly follow the rules in the competition brief. Submission shall only be advanced to the assessment round if they comply with the requirements as set out in this brief. Submissions must:

1. Have submitted the competition registration form via the competition website.
 - The competition registration form is the only document on which teams may place identifying information; no names, logos or other identifying information may be placed on any other submission part or material.
2. Two A1 colour boards in landscape orientation (the “Boards”) presented as **digital files in PDF format** at a resolution of 300 dpi. Maximum total combined files size shall be 15mb. These boards should visually summarise the redevelopment each submitter envisions for Civic Square.
3. Boards must include:
 - Your registration number.
 - Renderings, digital or otherwise, from various vantage points; street-level, aerial view, site plan and interior views must be represented.
 - Sufficient visual information to clearly communicate the design intent.
 - Adequate annotations to guide the panel through the idea, including details as to the level of capital investment necessary to fulfill the proposal.
4. One Microsoft Word file containing a text statement describing the idea and how it embodies the vision and 11 elements while reflecting the local context that is Heretaunga – presented on 1x double-sided A3 sheet, Arial 12 pt font.
5. Excel spreadsheet with high-level costing with stages identified, endorsed by a registered quantity surveyor.

ANONYMITY

To ensure blind judging, strict anonymity is to be maintained during the competition and assessment period. All entries shall be made without any name, business name, logo or identification mark, other than the registration number received electronically upon confirming your registration.

All submission material must have the registration number located in the bottom right-hand corner.

The inclusion of identifying information as part of a formal submission may lead to disqualification.

Entrants who disclose, publish or exhibit their submitted entry prior to the announcement of the competition results will be disqualified.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, OWNERSHIP AND COPYRIGHT

Council, as sponsor and project owner, exercises the right to use, photograph and record all submissions for archival and consultation purposes. This may include release to the media of relevant information contained in the archives. Copyright for their own entries is retained by the competitor.

PUBLICITY

Upon request, first, second and third prize winners may be asked to participate in any publicity and promotional activity surrounding the competition and Council's Draft 2012/22 Long Term Plan formal consultation process. Consultation is scheduled to take place in March and April 2012.

By entering, the entrant acknowledges and accepts that the information of any submission narrative and images may be used for consultation purposes.

FUTURE DESIGN WORK

This is the first step of a potentially larger detailed design process, if proceeded with by Council as part of the Long-term Plan 2012/22. As noted earlier the top three design proposals, along with the top student submission, will be used as one of the primary vehicles for consultation with the community as part of the Council's Draft 2012/22 Long Term Plan.

Only if Council adopts the Civic Square Project as part of the LTP 2012/22, will the second stage design process be progressed.

The outcome of the formal LTP consultation, hearing and adoption process will resolve which proposal (or combination of) will be invited to progress to the second stage design process.

Contracts for any second stage detailed design services will be conditional upon meeting specific procurement criteria and, therefore, may be based on any one, or combination of, the first, second or third ranked proposals, or an alternative. Council reserves the right to request consultants associate themselves with other consultants where deemed necessary.

“I'm new to Hastings, I think this place would be great with more flower gardens and a café.”
Eden Mason



TIMETABLE

MILESTONE	DATE	DETAILS
Competition launch	16 November 2011	Website opens for registration.
Online question logging	28 November 2011	An opportunity to log questions relating to the competition brief. All questions must be submitted electronically via the Question + Answer section of the competition website no later than this date.
Online question answer	1 December 2011	Responses to questions posted on the competition website.
Registration closure	14 January 2012	Competition registrations close.
Competition closure	27 January 2012	No submissions shall be accepted after the entry period
Evaluation process and identification of top three designs	February 2012	Top three proposals and top student will be recommended by assessor panel to Council for formal public consultation as part of the LTP 2012/22.
Results notification	March 2012	
Formal public consultation on top three designs and top student design	March and May 2012	The top three design proposals, along with the top student submission, will be used as one of the primary vehicles for consultation with the community as part of the Council's 2012/22 Long Term Plan. The community will be asked as to their views on these proposals, including their preferences.
LTP hearings	Early June 2012	Public feedback on proposals heard by Council as part of the LTP process.
LTP adoption	Late June 2012	Council makes decision as to financially committing to the Civic Square project as part of LTP 2012/22 and the preferred design proposal to proceed with to stage two.

“I used to visit here a lot when I lived nearby and I'd get my veges from the Saturday market. Music concerts would be a great attraction.”

Betty Price



COMMUNICATION

There is to be no communication with the Hastings District Council or Assessor Panel or any other person involved in the competition except through the formal question process as noted in the preceding timetable section.

PRIZES

1st prize	\$8,000.00
2nd prize	\$3,000.00
3rd prize	\$2,000.00
Student prize	\$1,500.00

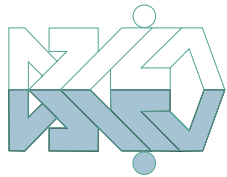
(All amounts are in New Zealand dollars)



This is where I enjoy my lunch each weekend when I work at the library. I'd appreciate more comfortable seating and protection from the rain, plus some improvements to the fountain.

Jeanett Webb





HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL
207 Lyndon Road East
Hastings 4122
Private Bag 9002
Hastings 4156

www.hastingsdc.govt.nz

TE KAUNIHERA O HERETAUNGA