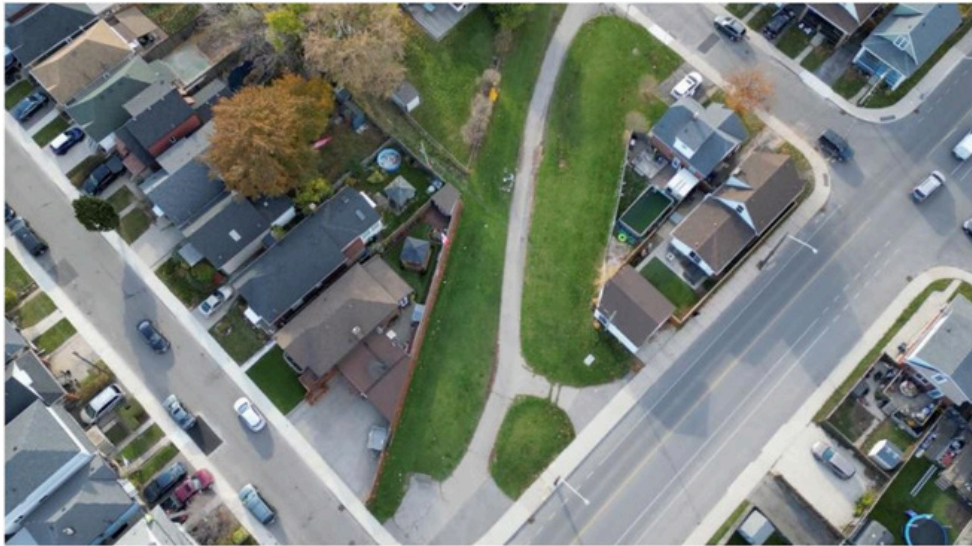


PIPELINE TRAIL PUBLIC ART PROJECT



Public Consultation Results

Members of the public provided the following feedback via the City of Hamilton's ENGAGE website between June 21 – July 7th, 2024. Thank you to the 81 people who have provided their comments. Public feedback is not binding on the citizen jury and will be considered along with an evaluation of proposal elements, such as artistic excellence and response to the competition goal and themes. Stage 2 adjudication by the citizen jury is the final step in the selection of the winning proposal. As per ENGAGE general terms and moderation rules, 1 comment has been removed in its entirety due to foul language and/or comments of a defamatory nature. The following comments are shared in their original format, City staff have not edited or altered public comments.

B Cubed, Artist: Jill Anholt Studio

- Like that it can be seen from afar. Bright and clear.
- Not enough shade or seating. Largely ornamental
- An interesting compelling concept, poorly executed.
- Nice idea, and I like the way the figures resolve themselves into recognizable imagery but appear as abstract swirls from different angles. I think it's naive to think that the community will be involved with the maintenance of the wildflower garden beneath. I have a feeling it will become weedy and out of control, or conversely, die as a result of not being maintained and watered properly. This would be my second choice.

- Love this.....colourful.....beautiful design
- Cute but not entirely relevant to the concept of waterways
- Won't be very engaging for people in the space as the sculptural elements are all way above eye level.
- Love the playful colour and lines and bringing in native vegetation. Could use seating in similar style and lots more vegetation and trees for shade.
- Doesn't provide any shade
- Loving this but wish it was more spread out and added bench to reach of them
- Is this not a trip hazard? Especially in fall/winter when leaves/snow may obstruct the view of the ground for kids playing, dogs running, etc.? Better to have those components buried, but then the 'pipe' aspect of the art is lost... same with putting plants around: you lose the 'pipes.' The concept just doesn't work.
- This piece isn't functional at all and feels out of place within the surrounding community.
- Lack of thought and consideration from the artist.
- It is a visually pleasing installation but does not provide any utility for residents or pedestrians (shade, seating, etc.). My opinion is that at this time if the City is going to spend tax dollars on initiatives outside of housing or homeless support, the initiatives should at least result in something useful. Orange is a bit harsh.
- This proposal is both artistic and has a functional ecological component.
- Very beautiful and I love that it has an associated pollinator garden. I wish that it included seating which could encourage people of different abilities to visit the area.
- This is cute and less abrasive to the eye. LOVE the pop of color.
- Serves no function
- I love pollinator gardens and think this would be really impactful!
- Absolutely stunning! Very inspiring and the colour is perfect!
- Love the friendly design but would like to see seating/rest area and shade Creatively incorporated.
- Boring and sterile. Does nothing for me.
- Love this concept. It is colourful, dynamic and striking and will wreally draw people to the trail
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- Although it's a nice idea, there is very little chance community members will maintain the pollinator garden. I can't visualize how the structure will be secured to the ground, and I'm wondering if the people in neighbouring homes will be annoyed by the bright statue. I also wish this had a purpose beyond looking nice, like the other proposals.
- I like the concept but worried the garden under it would be an afterthought. I wish the landscape design beneath would be included with the proposal-and have a plan as to who is maintaining it.
- At first, I didn't understand the concept and just thought that it was an ok design. But once the artist explained the concept, it really made sense to me. I really like that there would be a pollinator garden beneath it to really drive home the point.
- Beautiful design which incorporates the importance of pollinators in our community -- there are other neighbourhood initiatives that support this theme, so this fits right in. And I like the idea of installing a pollinator garden beneath the sculpture. It's bold and whimsical and presents something fresh and unexpected along the trail. While it's visually appealing, it lacks shade or seating which are welcome additions to an exposed trail.
- I really like how eye catching the b cubed proposal is. I think the sculptures are really fun and like how the artist describes how they come in and out of view as you pass by. I like the idea of integrating a pollinator garden at the base as well.
- I really like Jill's proposal of incorporating pipes into pollinator art and having a pollinator garden below the sculptures. The City can work with local naturalists (ex. Hamilton Naturalist Club) to help with designing and choosing native plants for the garden, as well as upkeep. Could be a good partnership between the City and HNC (or other community group). Only thing missing is seating, so that should be added.
- nice but a bit simple
- Wow, this was very thoughtfully constructed and get my family's top vote. We live just down the street on Garside and hope to see B cubed.
- Looks neat, I worry about the horizontal sections connecting the three forms, I know the plan is for plants at the bottom, but I wonder what would happen if some kids try to play on it, etc.
- I think it would be great if each section of the trail included a pollinator garden/re-wild section, creating a pipeline for animals and insects through the city. Artwork could be used for wayfinding in each section, having similar installations made in a different style for each section (ex: indigenous artwork). And extending the trail north of Barton all the way to the waterfront.

Waterways, Artist: Germaine Koh

- It's neat. I do wish it was more colourful and closer to the entry point to help guide people in.
- Not the most visually appealing of the proposals, but is the only one providing real shade. I really value the functionality of this one. It works with and supports natural ecosystem services
- Intellectually stimulating with little aesthetic substance. Lacks celebratory elements, an essential part of any public work.
This is bland and visually uninteresting. I might walk right past it. The inclusion of the water infiltration element and also the oak tree transpiration are symbolic gestures that I believe will be irrelevant to the public in spite of the artist's earnest rationale.
- Again, as in the first concept, not relevant to the water ways concept
- The concept doesn't clearly/easily translate to its form. The semi-circular seating isn't inviting as it's too enclosed: if some one else sat there you would be disinclined to "join them".
- Love that this features a real tree, it also provides double shade and offers potential for a rain garden! Love this option!!
Lovely concept but not aesthetic at all. Looks like something that belongs in a science centre and not a park. Also why have they displayed the elements over top of the sidewalk? That wouldn't be accessible at all.
- Interesting concept and the functional aspect is appealing however the proposed location encroaches onto the housing along the trail and feels odd within the layout of the space. The blank outer walls of the seating area would also be immediately graffitied which would be costly to the city to upkeep.
I appreciate the concept but find the concept a bit visually unpleasant / disjointed. I do like incorporating trees and greenery. Shaded seating would be appreciated in the hotter months when this will experience higher utilization.
- This proposal includes an ecologically functional component, an aesthetic component, and is functional for greenspace users by providing both seating and shade.
Circular seating will invite people of different sizes and abilities to visit knowing they have a place to rest. Also encourages conversation amongst those sitting here.
- Unfortunately, we know how this will work out with our homelessness problem. And overall a tad modern and would look out of place with the surrounding community.
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- Looks nice, maybe a little too small I love the inclusion of seating! I live on Province St North
- and can assure you from experience in this neighbourhood, that this will be vandalized in no time.
- Love the green infrastructure, seating and shade. Would like to see some education plaques or boards to explain what the structures are doing and maybe make it interactive for kids.

Interesting function, but the circular structure is too enclosed and concealing. I can see sex, and drug use happening in it. Though it would make a good place of rest for unhoused people. I question the safety of the place after dark.

I love this idea, and think it's so important to think about how water and our cities interact!

- This project is a bit boring and not very beautiful.

- This is a neat idea. I'm wondering if there is enough room between the installation and the trees on the residential property for another tree, though. It seems like this would be better suited for the more open space at the other end of this part of the trail. Also not sure about collecting and dumping water, since that part of the path usually floods when it rains.

I like it but I think it lacks colour and interest. I like the rain catching idea very much.

- Looks very cool and love the seating idea, however I'm concerned it may be "claimed" by our unhoused population
- The concept really caught my eye. But after listening to the artists' concept, it made me feel a bit less engaged.

Interesting idea but too abstract for the average person to appreciate at a glance. Just

- looks like seating.
- maybe TOO comfortable, homeless will take it over.
- Looks beautiful but afraid with the issue of homelessness that someone or multiple people will make it their own 'living room'.
- I like the idea of the bench, but worry about how it will get used in practice with the current homelessness crisis. Regardless of that I also feel weird about the energy of the shape, feels like it traps instead of flows along the pipeline path. I also wonder how likely it would be to be used by multiple groups/people simultaneously, if someone was already sitting there. I feel like I would be much less likely to stop and sit. Feel like
- having 2 openings would go a long way.

Cascadia, Artists: Jennifer Marman and Daniel Borins

- Colourful. I wonder if it is the best way for people to meet each other. I also wonder whether it would get damaged.
- Visually appealing, but fails to provide shade. Harkens to water but doesn't really DO anything
- This is my preferred proposal
- Playful, thoughtful project.
- Elegant, eye catching, intelligent and functional. It is a beautiful, symbolic sculpture that is relevant to the history of Hamilton. Nothing extraneous. Very concise and self-contained. The colour is gorgeous and will appear as an illuminated waterfall or fountain even on cloudy days. Love this one!
- This is my favorite. It is attractive, welcoming, functional (seating). It draws you in to think about the trail, the water and the historical infrastructure... Please make something both beautiful and functional.
- Love this. Epitomizes exactly the concept of waterways while being user friendly to sit under and enjoy shaded space from the sun.
- This is the strongest proposal: bold and inviting, strong presence and uniquely recognizable. Use of steel, colour, and water reference is compelling. Offers shade.
- Wow, this is perfect for the city of waterfalls.
- Doesn't really offer shade. I envision spiders creating webs between the pipes
- Good concept but not my favourite.
- This is the strongest proposed work. The piece interacts with historic Hamilton motifs/sites while also providing a place for gathering and meeting. Do wish the overhanging "water stream" was fuller to provide more shading for community members –shade is important to provide to ensure any functional gathering site is actual used by community members.
- This is the most visually pleasing and useful proposal. The intention behind the design is meaningful to the City and calls back to the Pipeline Trail. I appreciate that it is useful (seating and shade) for park / trail users. Blue is a pleasing colour and not too harsh.
- My favourite. It incorporates art and the practical need for seating along an active trail. It is inviting to people of all sizes and abilities who will be encouraged to visit the area knowing they have a place to rest along the way. Circular design will encourage conversation among the people using it.

- Again, similar to Germaine Koh's -seating structures are not ideal for Hamilton due to the homelessness crisis. I don't see the sense in adding seating to trails in suburban neighborhoods such as these.

- Very fitting for Hamilton. Provides some shade.

- Stunning design - very much future and vision

- Exceptional artistry! Lovely choice of colour. This would add a lot to the pipeline.

- This is my favourite, I like the form, higher scale though would love to see some landscaping added for further visual interest.

This is my favourite of the options presented. Shady but open enough.

- This project reminds me of the nearby jail which isn't good. It also seems like it is 3 times the budget of all the other ones

Who will maintain this? There are so many nooks and crannies for garbage, dirt and

- bugs. What happens when the paint chips and the wood is damaged by the elements? It's a beautiful design, but I'm not sure if it's practical.

I love it. I like that it reminds me of a waterfall, too.

- This is the design that caught my eye the most at the beginning. It provided shade for a space where there is none and very explicitly speaks about the water pipeline beneath. It almost reminds me of the water fountain near Van Wagners' Beach Water Treatment Plan. It feels playful, like sitting under a waterfall.

This installation beautifully incorporates all three mandates of the RFP -- shade,

- seating, wayfinding. It easily represents water at a glance and would serve as a nice stop along the pipeline trail. I think it would be great if an actual water fountain could be added to this installation not only to reinforce the artwork's premise but encourage people to just stop. Portland Oregon has Benson Bubblers which are well used by passersby (pedestrians and cyclists).

I really enjoy the Cascadia proposal. It is an eye catching and functional piece of art.

- Contrary to the other proposals I love how it offers shade, since the pipeline trail doesn't have many trees. I love the eye catching blue and the movement it evokes! Great proposal!

This is a beautiful structure that will also provide shade. However it lacks the addition of plants and wildlife that are also intertwined with the Pipeline Trail.

- nice to sit down & be with nature

-

- This is really stunning and beautiful but sadly I worry it will attract homeless people who will take over this scenic spot and therefore not open to all to comfortably enjoy.
- Feels okay, don't really feel like this matches the design language used by other works on the trail. Using a concrete pipe instead of stainless steel could have been interesting. The overall piece feels very inorganic unlike many of the other works along the trail
- I really love how durable this will be - the structures in our neighbourhood tend to get beaten up pretty hard. It's really beautiful, structured but still organic. It marks a sense of arrival and place, and the function of the seating will be wonderful there. I would love to see this in our hood.

A Shared Trail, Artist: Brandon Vickerd

- I love this one. I think it is playful and can imagine my child and friends engaging with it. I like that it provides multiple resting points and that it seems deeply informed by the local experience.
- Again, no shade, no real interaction with natural systems
- Signature Vickerd proposal. I like the suspended animal component. Suggests looking up and wonder. The bench configuration/design is a little pedestrian.
Terrible presentation, sorry. The animal motif has been used frequently in public art sculptures, but to more effective ends, even by Mr. Vickerd. I like the notion of wildlife still being capable of existing in the urban environment; but it could also be interpreted as trapped animals with nowhere to go, and therefore slightly dystopian. Cornered and up a "tree". It's not that visually compelling.
- This is my favourite. Benches really make the trails much more usable for people with mobility issues and anyone who just wants to sit and enjoy the space.
this is my second choice. I like the idea of providing function i.e. seating. I also like the focus on the native animals and that the artist is local.
Looks silly to me.
- Though the use of indigenous animals is engaging, their height relative to eye level will make the experience of walking by or sitting there unexceptionable.
- No shade provided. I like the animals.
- I do like how this one is spread out worth benches
- The worst thing Vickerd has ever made. So disappointing. He obviously didn't take this competition seriously. Also the corten is going to stain everyone's clothes that brushes
-

up against this piece. You can't be like "sit here" but "don't come close." People will be displeased once they're stained.

- Lacks substantial visual impact compared to other works. Also... this feels like a lightning rod risk??

Honestly this is a pretty random and kind of ugly installation. I appreciate the thought behind it but its kind of terrible.

This proposal has no functional component.

- I love that the pieces are spread along the trail. This will encourage people of different abilities to move further throughout the area knowing there are several places to rest along the way

This is just ugly.

- Benches are nice, animals are symbolic for Canada. Area will need shade.
- Would love to see animal series everywhere
- I love the inclusion of the three animals which are native to the area!
- This would be an accident waiting to happen as I could envision children, as well as some adults, climbing up this structure and perhaps falling to the concrete/grass below. Really interesting design but would like to see more shade incorporated.
- Cute. I like the concept, and it would be nice to do this with several benches along the pipeline. But this looks like a first draft, the animals are resting positions which from a distance makes it hard to defend detail. They look like blobs, especially that first one. Something to keep in mind when selecting the poses. I can also see people stealing the animals like they do with the tortoises in gage park. I'd also like shade around these benches either structurally or with trees.

I like this project but wish the bench part was more interesting. The animals are lovely

- This would be really nice combined with the garden idea from the first proposal, or some trees or a structure for shade, to give people a reason to sit and stay awhile.
- Not a favourite, sorry. No shade, and the animals are awkwardly placed. Looks very unnatural, and, there is no reference to wayfinding. Poor video.
- This is my second favourite design. It almost feels like an exclamation mark of the local wildlife. It reminds us that we share this space with our local wildlife, because we do spot coyotes nearby. The deer and turkeys are usually found a bit further on the edges of the city though. The design shows a concrete pad under the bench, if it could also be

extended to allow people in mobility devices to also sit next to it, that would be more inclusive.

- Simple design but would be more impactful if it actually went throughout the whole trail -- sort of as thing people looked out for. While I like that it recognizes the fauna of the area in a fun, mischievous way, I don't think it's as eye-catching as the other proposed installations. And it's a bit weird having a coyote staring at me while I sit on a bench... This is a great idea! If it could be added with Jill's proposal that would be an amazing thing to see.
- too simple
- This is our second choice.
- I wish this featured animals you actually see along this trail that we actually share this urban environment. Squirrels, racoons, skunks, cats

None of the Above:

- Honestly, these are all just plain awful. Hamilton's art is bad enough as it is. Hire a real professional (not the phonies at STEPS) that actually knows public art. Just terrible.
- This entire project doesn't speak to me of "art". These are mildly creative functioning infrastructures, not art. When I read there was to be an outdoor art proposal I expected a more outdoor walking gallery of sorts. What is the intention of this project? Is it to put in fancy benches or showcase local outdoor art. I thought there would be colour, interpretation and creativity. This is just a fancy bench project. The only proposal that has a modicum of non-sterile, noncorporate, artistry and concept is Brandon Vickard's "A Shared Trail" which is ALMOST playful with the residents but not quite. I think we need to push the concept further rather than just phoning in stylish seating to fill natural spaces—especially for this neighbourhood. These proposals are something you'd expect on Toronto Bay Street, not a natural space like the pipeline. For outdoor art, we can look to past exhibit at the Royal Botanical Gardens for inspiration, or mural corridors in natural settings. So much potential and the best we can do is unfeeling concrete and metal?