Public Consultation Results

The following is a list of the shortlisted proposals and comments provided by members of the public during consultation online at the City of Hamilton website from Tuesday August 4th to Sunday August 16th, 2020.

Thank you to the 264 people who have provided their comments. Public consultation ended Sunday August 16th, 2020.

PROPOSALS
Owen Johnson – BLUE VERVAIN
Petra Matar & Dave Hind – UNTITLED
Lilly Otašević – LIGHTHOUSE / BEAM / SPOTLIGHT
Team Make – WOODGATE
David Trautrimas – THE HAMMER-PILLAR
Xiaojing Yan – FLYING HIGH
COMMENTS

BLUE VERVAIN, Artist: Owen Johnson

- Blue Vervain is the best one as that one is very unique.
- Blue Vervain by Owen Johnson - natural looking and blends better with the city environment.
- Blue Vervain is a captivating piece of art that is well suited to represent this site. It is a beautiful submission by the artist and I hope to see it constructed there.
- Owen Johnson! That piece is so beautiful and unique!
- The design of Owen Johnson, Blue Vervain, is in my opinion the most complete design. It is not frivolous or trendy but simply solid and timeless, embedded in historical styles yet undeniably contemporary. All aspects of a public project are well considered; harmony, aesthetics but also material choice and technicality. Definitely a winner.
- Blue Vervain suits the area best. The artist seems more in touch with his art and it’s just amazing to look at.
- Blue Vervain has a similar aesthetic to a traditional streetlamp which goes in line with the cobblestone streets King William is known for. The light reflecting through blue glass brings a modern feel. Together it links the past and the future without leaning too heavily into either.
- Owen Johnston. Fits with the character of the neighbourhood, seems to evoke both water and green which is appropriate for Hamilton. Interesting use of space to complement the planters on King William. Second choice Team Make. Innovative use of wood and love how it raises and lowers within the sculpture design to evolve into something dynamic.
- I like the Blue Vervain proposal as the terminology around a beacon makes sense for King William. We are beckoning for patrons to visit King William and with its steel and blue facade it connects with our history of steel while also connecting with water for the lake. It's a striking pedestal that immediately draws my eye to look down the street to see what else is beyond it.
- I like the Owen Johnson Blue Vervain proposal. It looks most in keeping with the architecture and historical character on the street. It both pops and fits in. The lattice of the folding gates evokes the decorative features in the Lister Block behind it. The lighted bulb looks like a cross between a vintage traffic light and a gas lantern. I also think that the folding gate designs will be most functional given Canada's wet winters. They seem less likely to structurally fail and would be easier to repair if broken.
- Owen Johnson's proposal Blue Vervain. The gateway and pole complement the classic elegance of the surrounding architecture in buildings such as the Lister
Block and Annex and others along King William and James North. It is an inviting gateway that beckons the public to enter and sample the evolving culture beyond it.

- I love the Blue Vervain. It feels like a beautifully reinterpreted street lamp. It mixes old and new so well, it feels like it belongs on King William. It suits the neighborhood.
- Blue Vervain by Owen Johnson! Beacons of Light have always been made to mark important places. I think Owen proposed idea with the glass elements to represent used within the beacon would make for a completely unique and eye-catching guard to the entrance of any space.
- Blue Vervain simple but elegant and fits in with the surroundings.
- I think Owen Johnson's Blue Vervain is a nice design with a nod to the older building with its filigree work on the gate panels and the beacon reminiscent of an old street lamp. I also like the functionality of the gate folding away into boxes on either side of the road when not in use.
- I love Blue Vervain by Owen Johnson for the King William public art installation and gate. It's beautiful and sophisticated which is a perfect choice for the front of the Lister building and the opposite end of a street where theatre and fine dining meet culturally rich James Street North. I really appreciate the intricacy of the design and the continuation of the motif onto the gate itself, as opposed to just a simple bar barrier. This design would be the perfect compliment to nearby architecture and to the wonderful baskets of flowers that can be found in this art district and downtown. It would be lovely to have something in public life that is so ornamental and eludes to the artistry of past times... we don't make as many beautiful things in modern life it seems. I would be honoured to have this public art piece designed by Owen Johnson in Hamilton!
- Blue Vervain by Owen Johnson is sleek and well designed. I believe this proposal suits the mood and architecture of Hamilton.
- While I recognize King William in unique, I think art in Hamilton should do more to represent the industrial history of this city. Of the 6 options, I prefer the functional aesthetics of Flying High and Blue Vervain. Prefer they be constructed with Hamilton steel.
- #1–because it’s substantial, inoffensive and site-appropriate.
- The first one, every other one is honestly so ugly please don’t waste any more money on ugly monuments in the city it’s getting bad.
- Blue Vervain is my choice. The style seems to suit the surrounding architecture the closest. Clean and simple.
- Owen Johnson. It’s stunning.
- Blue Vervain #1. Flying High #2.
- Blue Vervain is stunning and unique!
• Owen Johnson’s project. I found the proposal the strongest. The piece itself to me seamlessly integrates into its surroundings... Like it absolutely belongs there. I find that beautiful.
• Owen Johnson’s ‘Blue Vervain’ is closest to spirit and context of built form on King William St. Modern, clean and the right combination of design elements.
• Owen Johnson’s design. Harmonious with the rest of the street. However modern, clean, bright and functionally designed.
• My vote would go to Blue Vervain - it appears to complement the architecture more than others and also makes it clear to road users that the road is closed.
• I like the Johnson work as it poses the lowest risk of damage but they are all great.
• I think Owen Johnson's Blue Vervain beautifully reflects the goals of the project. I love the idea of celebrating nature and art in this streetscape as it develops and changes with new buildings, businesses, and human activity. Owen's piece also draws upon historical decorative elements and I like that he is bringing some playfulness and brightness into a public space, particularly when contemporary architectural styles tend toward more minimal elements. The vibrant blue glass jutting up into the sky is not only a reminder to passersby of the vitality of nature and life and our connection to it, but also signals the theatre of day-to-day life that unfolds on city streets. I would take great pleasure in passing this piece on my travels!
• Blue Vervain by Owen Johnson is our choice. The design pays homage to the history of the area while still standing out, especially with light shining through blue glass. The intricate latticework of the gate, combined with its material -- stainless steel -- somehow encapsulates Hamilton: the natural beauty found within it, as well as its ‘Steel City’ strength. This would be a beautiful monument to mark this vibrant, artistic area of Hamilton.
• Blue Vervain, I like the fact it lights up at night and reflects light during the day.
• Owen Johnson’s proposal is the most aesthetically pleasing for that corner. The glass work is beautiful and shows the amazing talent of the artist.
• I prefer the Blue Vervain proposal as the flower idea was perfectly linked to the beacon's meaning, which is attracting insects, animals and humans with their colour, nectar and beauty. The light, curves and shapes the artist created a sense of entering a fantasy world, which engages all ages of people to hang out around this area. I love the idea of the Blue Vervain of southern Ontario.
• The proposal by Owen Johnson is the most outstanding for its simplicity of message -- depicting Hamilton both culturally [the future] and for the industry that brought Hamilton thus far [steel]. Also, it doesn't try to monopolize the scene or detract from the attraction of the street scene.
• I absolutely love Owen Johnson’s ‘Blue Vervain!’ I love how its clean modern lines are interwoven with beautifully delicate details that speak to the future and
past of Hamilton as a city. I feel this artist has truly answered the project call by creating a piece of art that is both functional, as well as aesthetically beautiful during day and night. He has developed a structure that remains unique, while easily fitting within the existing charm of Hamilton. I also really appreciate the clever connection to the Blue Vervain flower that blooms in Ontario -- this piece just has so many connections to its (hopefully) future home!

- I would most like to see Blue Vervain in the King William Street District. Likely the most practical and easy to maintain, it stands beautifully on its own and compliments the area so well. Driving into Hamilton, the waterfront and foundries are the first thing to welcome both visitors and residents. The combination of coloured glass and cut sheet metal, remind me of that call to Hamilton.

- Blue Vervain. Love the gate and its details in this one the most. Finding that warm blue light comforting and it looks like a jewel with the diversity of blue. Also, I think it fits the context better.

- Blue Vervain by Owen Johnson. The blue-hued glass flower (lamps) are reminiscent of Hamilton’s past and link to the heritage street lamps on James / King William. I love that this public art brings nature to the urban downtown while the sculpture has beautiful architectural elements that allow it to ‘join’ the heritage buildings in its sight lines (Lister, Templar Flats, Empire Times) as opposed to some of the other submissions that overpower the King William landscape. Tall abstract ornamental beacon reminiscent of a ‘traffic light’ and gate closure with clear Road Closed sign. This public art is smartly married to the intersection and road closure visuals that motorists and cyclists would expect, therefore keeping King William pedestrians safe during events and when dining at on-street patios. Design and materials strong enough to withstand being bumped by a car or bicycle if driver makes a wrong turn. Some of the other submissions look too fragile to be within a roadway. Blue Vervain decorative pattern gate closure will deter tagging (which is a problem in downtown).

- Owen Johnson, Blue Vervain gets my vote as it fills the brief as a Beacon that attracts the eye and the night vision will be as the brief says a beacon of light to ‘attract the public’ and ‘light the way’. The barrier in this design is an extremely practical solution with minimal impact when opened and when closed the cut-out design adds interest. The designer has considered the overall brief and designed a Beacon that will ‘light the way’ to the theatre and arts district in Hamilton.

- Johnson's work is stunning and speaks of light both in daylight and at night. It is a 24-hour public artwork that holds the space and gives new meaning to the location.
UNTITLED, Artist: Petra Matar & Dave Hind

- Petra Matar and Dave Hind’s proposal symbolically represents the changing landscape and mixed use of the King William and James North area.
- Petra and Dave’s submission gets my vote for its use of recycled metals and the passion for the area expressed in their artist statement.
- Petra Matar and Dave Hind, Untitled. It’s a celebration of artists seeing the beauty in buildings that were falling apart, which is the best part about Hamilton.
- The work of Petra Matar and David Hind best reflects the goal of the Beacon and Gate Public Art project because it best represents the versatility of the King William promenade as well as its rich history of being an arts hub, now leading to an upscale place for Hamiltonians to live and thrive. The 2-phase system creates a more demure yet interesting sculpture when there aren’t special events on, and transforms into a glowing beacon, showing would-be revelers that there is something to behold ‘just this way.’
- Petra Matar & Dave Hind accurately know how to unite and bring people to the downtown core and interact with the city.
- I love the Petra Matar & Dave Hind proposal. I love that it’s a functioning piece of engaging art and the fact it will repurpose used materials and be illuminated is wonderful.
- I think Petra Matar and Dave Hind’s proposal best suits the space and the project. It’s visually interesting and adds to the environment. I really appreciate the bright but organic shape. It reads more as a gate than a barrier, unlike some of the others. It’s fun without being too flashy and I think is more artistic and interesting than the other proposals. I really think it should be the one that’s chosen.
- Petra Matar and Dave Hind’s artwork encapsulates the vibrancy and artistic ingenuity of Hamilton— like an homage to all the amazing creators who have been on King William. As soon as I saw it, I thought, yes, this feels like a piece of home.
- Untitled - Petra Matar - it’s in the language of traffic signals - reflective material and lights. Its form is appealing and contemporary and brings to mind pieces like Brancusi’s Bird in Space. Its colours are fresh and contemporary. It would be just as interesting in the day, as it is at night.
- I am in love with Petra Matar and Dave Hind’s work. The form is organic, yet structured and has a different look at each perspective. The reclaimed materials are a thoughtful approach to fabrication.
- I believe Petra Matar & Dave Hinds sculpture not only looks the best but achieves practicality while promoting the downtown core.
• Petra Matar and David Hind's Proposal is the perfect combination of utility and whimsy with beautiful form and a spark of colour that will be a beacon for the area. Beautiful work.
• Petra Mater and Dave Hind, because it brings the most joy. I love the colors. Especially in the downtown this will be a recognizable landmark.
• Petra Matar and Dave Hind's untitled proposal is far and away the best - it pays homage to the transformation of King William, a process largely started by artists, with a piece that transforms to reflect the street's newfound vibrancy. The metal fins feel appropriate in a city that finds its roots in steel production and the LED lighting will certainly draw eyes to the street. Both Matar and Hind are staples of the Hamilton art scene, and it only feels appropriate that two Hamiltonians intimately familiar with King William street take on such a project.
• The Petra Matar and David Hind proposal has my vote! I love the contrast from mute and intriguing entry marker sculpture which then reveals a vibrant state when performing 'active' duty - while participating with pedestrian street events
• I like the submission by Petra Matar and Dave Hind. This is an elegant proposal with a sense of maturity and dignity to it. I like the fact that the vertical monochrome sculptural element is unassuming during the time it is not in use and transforms radically with colour and light when called upon to support festive activities or special events on KW street. When in this gate position, the recognizable shape still exists but in a horizontal position as a gate. In my opinion, this gives the proposal an aura of permanence and identity. Subtle and profound at the same time. Dave Hind's exceptional craftsmanship will also be recognizable to Hamiltonians and further reinforce the dignity of the piece.
• Untitled by Petra Matar and David Hind, I appreciate the use of recycled materials and I would say it's the most unique out of the other 6.
• Petra Matar and Dave Hind's submission tells an interesting story of the local’s experience of the vibrancy of downtown beneath the surface. The colour and whimsical form is fun, energetic, and would make for a really elegant / unique landmark. I love the idea of using recycled materials especially using metals in the context of Hamilton (steel city). I could picture this submission being extremely durable. Team Make is a close second favorite of mine. The wood looks very warm and inviting in the render. However, I'm a bit concerned with the environmental impact of using a new material with a heavier carbon footprint since it would be coming from out west.
• Petra Matar & Dave Hind. This awesome proposal reflects the artistic flair and creativity that Hamilton is known for. Selecting this proposal would help promote Hamilton as a hub for artists.
• I believe Petra Matar and Dave Hind's 'Untitled' is the most exciting and appropriate entry for this project - it draws you in with its mysterious form, and upon activation, reveals a delightful surprise. It is the only entry with a true
element of transformation, a quality that is deeply embedded in downtown Hamilton's history.

- Petra Matar & Dave Hind! I appreciate their creativity and how it lights up the entrance. An organic form paying homage to what used to be great about King William.

LIGHHOUSE / BEAM / SPOTLIGHT, Artist: Lilly Otašević

- Lighthouse by Lilly Otasevic stands out in my opinion. The simplicity and modern look symbolize new beginnings. It possesses all elements of the landmark for a growing city and its business area.
- Lighthouse by Lilly Otasevic is simply elegant and represents smooth, clean and pure living. Lighthouse is ready to be launched into the future!
- Lighthouse / Beam / Spotlight by Lilly Otasevic is, in my very personal and emotional opinion, the best. It reminds me of Moon beams, nevertheless it symbolises water, as artist said. It is simple and pure, and yet full of meaning.
- Lighthouse/Beam/Spotlight by Lilly Otasevic is the best proposal and the strongest idea for this project. Lighthouse is a symbol for the safe return to the street we are familiar with and also for the place that we visit first time. Written words on the sculpture adds another dimension and visual curiosity and one's attention. The sculpture looks light in construction and elegant compare to some other proposals that feels so 'heavy' and overbearing. The artworks should be exciting and 'fun' to reflect and resonate with street life itself.
- Lighthouse by Lilly Otasevic would be the best and most elegant landmark.
- The Lighthouse / Beam / Spotlight is my first pick. The WoodGate is my second. The Lighthouse would best suit the surrounding King William existing decor. The emphasis of Hamilton as both a port city, and King William as a hub in the downtown core is fitting. The wood one is my second choice as the additional natural elements would be nice downtown.
- The Lighthouse proposal best reflects the goals of the project. It is sleek and sophisticated, while incorporating an artistic flare. The project includes and recognizes the vast diversity and multiculturalism of Hamilton. It is both practical and creative. This proposal mixes both classic and modern elements that will best suit the city of Hamilton; a place with both older and newer architecture.
- All of the proposals reflect a lot of work and effort by the artists. In my opinion, the Lighthouse represents most of the goals of this project as I understand it. I very much like the idea of rays of light going up as well as reflecting down through the wording. Spotlight as something that emphasize importance and as a reference to theater and performance art. Also, the gate seems very interesting with its wavy look. The Lighthouse / Beam / Spotlight is very contemporary yet reflects Hamilton's past too. A suggestion: the light can change color to add more
visual interest. Another notable piece would be the WoodGate, however I have major safety concerns about it. When the gate is in down mode it is a perfect spot for skateboarders and their stunts and overall it is inviting climbing. It looks like gymnastics balance beam. This can pose a major safety risk. Also, the weight of this gate when coming down can be a safety issue, what if the mechanism malfunctions? Wood, as a material, regardless of lamination and treatment cannot match durability of metal.

- Lilly Otašević and the Lighthouse piece is the best for this project as it truly encompasses the areas upcoming and ever-changing environment.
- The Lighthouse one really captures the spirit of Hamilton as a port city and steel town. The light aspect projects hope and positivity and is a beacon to draw people to the area. Well done! I hope we see this option installed!
- The shortlist is a magnificent tribute to the artists who created innovative designs. My top three finalists are:
  3. Flying High - the height and ornate design is superb
  2. The Hammer-Pillar - I like the backstory from a transplant’s POV
  1. Lighthouse / Beam / Spotlight

This is my favorite for theme the symbolism of light and the way, the stainless steel material as a legacy to city. This would be both visible by car and interesting to be up close as pedestrian, easily selfie friendly to post on social media. Also, the artist is the only woman to be shortlisted so that counts for me more.

- Lighthouse, Blue Vervain and WoodGate in that order of preference. The other designs do not seem robust enough to weather the abuse they are sure to take.
- Lilly Otašević's submission is the strongest contender - the gate is robust, and the beacon/light feature matches the weight of the gate while remaining aesthetically pleasing. Xiaojing Yan's submission is the next best through use of subtly-coloured lighting. A more substantial gate seems more practical and less likely to be overseen by drivers.
- Lilly Otasevic, Lighthouse is the best design for its poignant symbolism and landmark representation that will be visible day and night.
- Lighthouse/beam. Inspiring, absolutely accomplished their goal.

WOODGATE, Artist: Team Make

- I like them all but Team Make's WoodGate is my favourite due to the fact that people can kind of interact with it.
- The WoodGate to me would be the best addition. The wood gives a feel of nature which is so important to Hamilton. The integrated bench is also a lovely feature to encourage pedestrians to sit and enjoy the scenery.
Team Make. Often, our public art is constructed from steel and various metals and painted. The use of wood in this submission next to the cobble stone road will be quite striking.

WoodGate due to its incorporation of lighting in the structure. The natural look of wood will be an interesting contrast to the concrete of the surrounding built environment.

Team Make, WoodGate, because in the current era, physical barriers are not useful and better a symbolic barrier because barriers are only mental!

I am very much drawn towards the elegant yet natural and sustainable appearance of the WoodGate.

I love Team Make's proposal! Sleek, sophisticated and a perfect addition to help modernize the area.

WoodGate - Team Make. It blends best with the warmth of the Lister Block colours and architecture. It is the most attractive of the proposals.

The wood construction looks amazing- and fits the surroundings perfect. A truly unique structure.

It think Team Make's proposal is the best for the project. I like that the work is the functional object as well as the work of art - not art with a gate attached. I enjoy the idea of an internal light that opened up when in the closed position - shedding greater light on the night time attractions of the street. I think they all look horrible with the road closed sign tacked to the front - we need to find a more pleasing way to meet this requirement.

I think Team Make is the most appropriate proposal.

I love Team Make, the wood, the lines. Natural beauty!

Team Make's WoodGate is by far the most elegant, most beautiful, and most innovative proposal! Beautiful use of warm natural materials, a distinctive new landmark for the city, and a very clever disguising of the gate as part of the artwork.

I believe the project WoodGate by Team Make best reflects the goal of the project. It is beautiful and inviting.

WoodGate looks really good. The natural wooden look would be a nice addition to the downtown core which is currently dominated by concrete and construction. The functionality of it is also very unique as it looks great when the arm is down and completes it even more when it’s up. The lighting with the wood looks like it will provide a very warm and inviting feature at night. All in all great addition to King Williams and Hamilton if chosen!

WoodGate by Team Make. The design is great and serves multiple purposes combining beauty and functionality.

Team Make WoodGate. I appreciate the use of wood (a natural, inviting material), the integrated seating and lighting.

WoodGate, because wood is an incredibly durable and transformable material.
• Team Make project is elegant! Wood is a nice touch.
• Team Make. It’s creative and natural and beautiful. The other entries look cheap, fabricated and cold in comparison.
• Team Make’s WoodGate is the outstanding proposal as it integrates the gate into a public sculpture that captures pedestrians and drivers’ attention. In addition, it includes a public bench, which increases the utility of the public space. The holistic integration of a public gate, sculpture, and seating makes this proposal the most appropriate for this site.
• Team Make’s. They are the only team to create not only a gorgeous work of art, but a multi-functional piece that doesn’t interfere with the existing vibe of the community; the gate functions as part of a whole piece, and not just a tool to guide traffic. Out of all submissions, it is the most appealing to look at, most useful, and most true to the character of the King William Street District.
• Woodgate!! It is natural, in design and material. The ‘gate’ is much more inviting. Feels more community oriented.
• Team Make, this piece represents hope to me, and looks a lot more captivating to the eye. The other ones are too simplistic.
• WoodGate. Its strong and beautiful and sculptural. Hamilton has great shops, artisans and artists community. The city deserves another beautiful sculpture. The rest are ugly or boring.
• WoodGate bodes something that is both soft and arresting at the same time, which I really like. I think it’s very hip and also conversational.
• Team Make - WoodGate. Unique and beautiful.
• Team Make - WoodGate. I like a few others but love how invisible the gate becomes as well as the shape of sculpture when not in use. I like the idea of adding a beautiful organic material, not steel or plastic, to the street and the trees - the shape is contemporary as well as warm because of the material (wood).
• Team Make. WoodGate. The design is dynamic and visually interesting. Does the gate go up and become part of the sculpture? It’s good design.
• My selection is the WoodGate. I really like the contrast between the contemporary shape and the traditional material of wood. I can see this becoming a long lasting monument in the city of Hamilton.
• I believe that Team Make’s proposal is the best of the shortlisted entries. It is innovative, elegant and a very cohesive design. The use of wood also speaks to a progressive neighborhood with a socially and environmentally friendly attitude.
• The WoodGate! I love the way the gate comes down from the sculpture. It will be nice to have more wood around. It looks cool and simple. Thanks for the doing the project! It is a great idea!
• WoodGate! Reminds me of steel works. The integration with bench makes sense and finishes the piece as a multi-purpose street furniture public art. Absolutely love!
• Team Make's submission best reflects the goal of the project and is appropriate for the site. The sculpture represents the 'new steel' and King William is part of the new steel revolution with restaurant culture and arts. The sculpture also resembles the meeting of various paths or roads. King William is also a meeting place. The structure is striking, has multiple functions and will perform the functional street closure elegantly.

• Team Make and their proposal WoodGate seems to be outstanding in their approach to fulfill the goals of this project. The tree sculpture gives an organic yet modern feel to it and stand in a charming contrast to the surroundings. The additional bench incorporated in the art piece is a nice touch to connect with the crowd that the other approaches are lacking. I would love to see the art project of Team Make come through!

• WoodGate - clean, modern, aesthetic look. Sustainable materials reflecting forward thinking and immersion in nature.

• Team Make - most organic and beautiful of all the proposals.

• WoodGate by Team Make! Definitely an attraction, without appearing like an eyesore. It’s stylish, modern, sleek and inventive using natural materials.

• The Team Make proposal is the most elegant of the 6 proposals. It has a very organic style and I love that the wooden gate is one of the sculpture's arms, the way it lights up, and the bench so people can appreciate it fully rather than just walk by.

• WoodGate by Team Make is very innovative and new concept, I love wood work and this design is very creative with its lowered gate concept for road closure and the lights used. Very creative.

• Team Make’s WoodGate is the most appealing because it is a very good representation of Hamilton in which nature is a part of the city. This will be a beautiful addition to Hamilton downtown.

• I think WoodGate is the most compelling design for the King William Street Beacon and Gate. Wood is a very Canadian material, is tactile, friendly and inviting. The design of the beacon and its integration with the gate and bench is both clever and pleasing.

• I vastly prefer and recommend WoodGate. It has the most seamless transition between beacon and road gate and is overall a unique but functional design for a lamp post.

• Team Make. The WoodGate. I think given our political and social climate today, gates and barriers are contentious. Making them out of wood and a part of public space/art makes it more inviting, inclusive and egalitarian.

• Team Make's plan is thoughtful, sustainable, and beautiful. There is an intersection of art and construction that honours the history and the future of Hamilton.
• Wood Gate, Team Make... Wood comes back to the city! Wood becomes a more and more modern building material, it's diverse, it grows by itself and it's even one of the most sustainable building material! Go for Timber solutions!
• Team Make has my vote. It is both beautiful and elegant. The design is has a very classy look, elevating to whole street appearance. Makes me want hangout and be social in the area.
• Team Makes WoodGate is my favourite. It's interesting looking yet not over the top and love the natural look. Definitely the best option in my opinion.
• The WoodGate by Team Make aligns with the projects goal because its material speaks to the history of development in Hamilton and other Canadian cities. Wood would have been the primary material for construction of homes, businesses and industries before the industrial revolution. The form of this structure also reminds me of Victoria Park’s Crystal Palace, which consisted of curvilinear timbers, glass and light.
• Team Make - let's move Hamilton forward.
• WoodGate is the most elegant and timeless proposal. The way that the arm becomes a seamless part of the sculptural piece when it's in both up and down positions is cleaner than the other proposals where they are separate entities. The design is also very neat and not overly complicated. Laminated wood is very resilient these days, bringing strength, utility and warmth to the outdoor public realm. WoodGate is the most inviting of the options and will add to the heritage character of King William Street. Let's go, Hamilton! More like this!
• I would like to vote for Team Make. I like it because when finished it would offset its surroundings very well. It also resembles a tree struck by lightning which is a really beautiful metaphor.
• WoodGate is my favorite proposal. I was immediately drawn to its wooden and sculptural form. Not only does it invite you into the area but it also gives you seating to sit and spend time. It gives the space a more natural vibe than the other proposals. If this is the introduction to this area then what else is here to see and experience?
• Team make proposal looks amazing!
• My vote goes to WoodGate by Team Make. This design is smart, creative, meaningful, modern, and practical.
• Team Make's WoodGate proposal perfectly encapsulates the essence of what the City of Hamilton is striving for. With its broad frame and sleek design, this proposal makes a statement. With accessible sitting spaces the design also incorporates a degree of needed infrastructure for the place-making environment. Finally, the selection of wood as the primary material provides something novel not traditionally seen within urban landscapes. Another steel framed entrance way would simply be carrying a common tradition. Why not branch out? This innovative design would garner attention and create the type of aesthetic the
King William area will need as a growing hub of economic and commercial activity.

- Team Make! The design is both modern and organic. The design captures light and yet is strong and bold. The single piece drop gate effectively creates a barrier but also transforms to an inviting space for pedestrians. Love it!
- Team Make. Innovative design that looks good both down and up. Love the focus on sustainability.
- My pic is for Team Make and the WoodGate. Design and presentation wise, this is a very uplifting security gate. It would seem to function perfectly as a gate (security, control and safety) while also being a positive marker or beacon in the community. It has a great welcoming presence (despite being a gate). In the ‘open’ position it does not look like a gate at all but rather just as sculpture. I enjoy that aspect.
- WoodGate addresses the function and form the best along King William, by creating public seating and a less they have created an inviting and interactive sculpture. The natural materials and shape will stand out along the city’s corridor.
- WoodGate is both inviting and iconic. It looks natural and organic, like a living thing in an urban forest, while also being purposeful, safe and friendly to the public and the environment. I think WoodGate would be the best fit for King William Street and is the competition winner.
- WoodGate. It is a beautiful lantern when the gate is not used and provide a statement to the intersection while it does not look like a gate when one of the arms is lowered but serve the purpose as a gate. The art work is a spectacle yet non invasive.
- WoodGate is by far my favourite proposal. I love the elegant ‘Scandinavian inspired’ look of the wood sculpture and the way the bench is integrated into the piece. It is warm, inviting and made of natural materials. Hope Team Make wins :)
- My preferred submission is WoodGate by Team Make. This piece is elegant and treats the work not just as a gate, but as a sculptural work which functions as a gate without necessarily reading as one. Gates are, by nature, uninviting but this proposal manages to make the gate feel like a celebration and a sculpture first and a barrier only by coincidence.
- The WoodGate would be the preferred solution. It is sculptural and proportionate for the site. It is also elegant and feels warm with true use of sustainable wood. The gate component is seamless with the overall design and is flexible so would be simple to operate and not require separate storage.
- I believe WoodGate by Team Make best reflects the goal of the project. The team’s value on utilizing wood is innovative and draws attention to the need for a more sustainable and earth-conscious future. The smooth lines draw the eye and draw engagement from passersby.
- WoodGate. I think this one really fits in with the vibe of the area. It would be cool if a flashing red light element was incorporated in the folded down mode instead of a sign that comes from nowhere.
- I enjoy WoodGate the most. I think it is skillfully designed and would nicely compliment the area. I enjoy that it is both beautiful and functional (as in a spot to sit as well). I especially think it fulfills the task of being modular, as an art piece which transforms into a gate, where the others all seem to be more of an art piece that also has a gate.
- I like WoodGate. The use of wood as a sustainable and natural resource speaks to a conscious and careful developing city, encouraging not just a new modern era but an improved modern era. The structure is striking but also friendly feeling compared to some of the other more bold designs. It feels very welcoming.
- Team Make’s proposal WoodGate is modern, attractive, appealing and adds a splash of decidedly needed whimsy to an otherwise dry and plain area.
- Team Make’s WoodGate is the best example of the intended goal as it encourages pedestrians to pause and look around taking in the growing downtown Hamilton while also exemplifies an ambitious and somewhat unconventional use of material.
- Team Make’s WoodGate proposal creates not only an attractive gate constructed of a renewable resource, but an interactive element for pedestrians entering the site. It serves as a formally-dynamic gate, a sculptural bench seat, and an icon of development and environmentally forward thinking that reflects the optimism of the evolving area.
- WoodGate, as it will match the local aesthetic and age well.
- Team Make presents a contemporary sculptural element that is effective day and night, utilizing natural elements and discrete lighting. Its balance of organic form while also having a digital allusion make it an element that will remain fresh for many years, representing our current time.
- Team Make. I love the use of wood and it just flows very well.
- WoodGate is the clear winner, it is warm and inviting in aesthetics. Even with the height it doesn't feel oppressive or restricting. I like that it has dual functionality. The gate structure is part of the art piece when the gate is open. It also acts as place to sit when the gate is down. That's clever! I also like how they incorporated an additional bench. It seems they have also figured out how to functionally build it. Some of the others look interesting but I am not sure how they would be built. I think this is a unique signifier that also blends well with the Hamilton community.
- I'm lovin' the organic lines and vibe of the curved wood design. It flows. The others look like barriers. Some are nice designs but static, like end points as opposed to a flow.
• Sirs! My first choice is the Wood Gate proposal. The use of wood is an interesting choice for an urban environment and in this location it appears spectacular in its form with the added bonus of lighting at night. The gate is the most elegant and unobtrusive feature, as well as the added option of seating - always an unexpected pleasure in a city. This proposal appears to be the most 3 dimensional of them all.

• WoodGate is the most artistic submission. It has function as well as an appealing presence. The other submissions look like typical road closures. If this is to be done, I think it should be artistic to represent King William Street as a cultural area where people can relax in and out of the dining establishments. I would encourage more artistic creations along the street.

• My vote goes for Team Make. Their proposal embodies the modern and the classical in a design that will never be considered 'dated'. It closes the street to vehicular traffic but at the same time is welcoming to pedestrian traffic. The barrier doesn't feel like a barrier with the bench that allows pedestrians to sit and enjoy the surroundings or simply rest. 100% for Team Make!

• The WoodGate best reflects the needs of Hamilton' and James Street. It’s unique design, materials and fluid form will enhance the rigid streetscape.

• Team Make’s WoodGate seems to translate best from day to night. Seems more functional and hopefully won't include a hostile design element (glass, excessive lights, etc).

• Team Make, WoodGate. A solid and appealing but simplistic design. Some of the others seem to gaudy for the neighbourhood.

• WoodGate. It looks so nice and inviting. It’s very interesting and a unique way to treat the space.

• I would love to see WoodGate as a gateway to my community. The use of wood feels alive and organic, a beautiful contrast to the grit and brick of downtown. Hamilton is quick to nod to the steel roots, but this would be an aesthetically pleasing departure from that. I appreciate the incorporation of a bench as well.

• I like WoodGate by Team Make. It uses more natural materials and fits best with the street. It looks most like it belongs there. I also think its simplicity is important because with few moving parts it will be easy to maintain. The bench on the opposite end is a nice, thoughtful touch. A close second for me is Untitled by Petra Matar & Dave Hind. I love public art that stands out and draws the eye, and I love how this piece transforms into something entirely different when the road is closed.

• WoodGate. It's such a cool design.

• WoodGate is my choice for #1. It compliments the Lister Block, with the incorporation of wood.

• WoodGate reminds me of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic cauldron with the mechanism of the gate being an integral part of the sculpture.
• WoodGate, because it reflects the natural and industrial beauty of Hamilton.
• Team Make, WoodGate. It is the only sculpture that thought about how the moving arm connects with the sculpture as a whole. It looks good with both the arm up & down. It is a timeless piece.
• It is my belief that the wood design would initiate more use of natural elements in the downtown core they also really enjoy the piece called flying high.
• Team Make for sure. Love the look of it. Only concern is that people can carve into the wood, but it's a thing of beauty.
• For all round beauty and openness (to beholder interpretation) the Team Make's WoodGate and Xiaojing Yan’s Flying High have the most to offer. Price and practicality should factor in. Maybe the wood one is cheaper... Repair should be considered in case damage occurs. That’s it. Either of those 2 will be good accents.
• WoodGate by Team Make - love the natural/organic take on the project as well as the design and functionality.
• Team Make’s WoodGate ‘wood’ mark a well designed/organic entrance to King William Street. I'm impressed by the natural characteristics and beautiful design.

THE HAMMER-PILLAR, Artist: David Trautrimas

• The Hammer-Pillar seems the cleanest and most practical looking.
• The Hammer-Pillar seems to reflect the project goal best by creating a very unique and playful artwork, which works just as well day or night.
• Trautrimas is contemporary, unique and practical. He is also based right in Hamilton. The others are problematic in one way or another- material choices less durable, impractical to operate or technically a problem from wind load etc. Or they have just been done before. Trautrimas also speaks to new vision and vitality.
• The Hammer-Pillar is unique, artistic and the artists reflection on Hamilton’s characteristics and quirkiness was spot on. I think this design is interesting in day time but at night it would also act as a beacon to a street with different spaces and potential.

FLYING HIGH, Artist: Xiaojing Yan

• Flying High. Expresses the creative and fluid nature of the street and city and is impactful both day and night.
• Flying High. It suits the area without standing out too much. But when you look closely you can see and appreciate the intricate design.
• Flying High is easily the most aesthetically successful proposal.
• My vote is for Flying High because I think it is the right balance of sleek and modern while still paying homage to the Art Deco buildings around it.
• I feel that Xiaojing Yan's artwork is appropriate, inspiring and elegant amidst the other great designs. The artwork would surely catch the eyes of visitors, and it would encourage them to participate in local events.
• Xiaojing Yan’s Flying High is the best design among these excellent arts. This flying bird design is elegant, and inspiring from any angel and direction, in all kinds of light. It is a perfect highlight for all events or daily life. Beautiful! Perfect! The gate design matches the standing part, providing gentle touch. When it is close, you don’t feel it is a forbidden area, but a safe and delightful place to stay. The Hammers-Pillar definitely looks like a caterpillar on a dry branch when the gate is up. Not feeling comfortable. Light house design is too serious and solemn, it is better for government building or memorial. Petra Matar’s design has such solid part which blocks view, no matter the gate is up or down! The shape is like a foldable knife. The caterpillar is more like a paramecium. Blue Vervain has nice light post design. But the gate keeps not just cars but people away. More royally, not friendly. WoodGate has beautiful curve. The post part is lack of vitality. The colour might be too dull in the daylight and overtime it might fade. Once the gate is been use as a convenient seat like in the picture, how long it will last?
• The ‘Flying High’ by Xiaojing Yan is the best proposal for the project. It looks like a simplified version of a Phoenix, in many cultures Phoenix means good luck, fortune, rebirth or brightness. The design is so smooth and elegant, it will attract people’s attention as an amazing street art. I visited many exhibitions of this artist, her works are very expressive and delightful.
• I struggled with this decision… WoodGate is striking however I’m voting for Flying High. I worry that the wood beam would get wrecked / tagged / sat upon... and may not stand out due to its modular, geometric shape. Flying High is quite captivating. It looks like it has movement and the gate is merely a function. The sculpture stands great on its own. It’s romantic, beautiful and feels like a new beginning, taking flight. This is totally not my aesthetic but it is the strongest sculpture presented. Why not juxtapose Flying High with all these modern/angular buildings?
• Flying high, I think it looks so beautiful.
• Xiaojing Yan’s Flying High - I love how she makes things that are really beautiful and also abstract and interesting. It will look good in different lights. While other proposals are more design based and look like a condo ad, this one is less out of touch with the roots of the city while still looking to its future for more of its citizens.
• King William Street has invested a lot of time and money into a retro-classic vibe and I think the art installation should complement that. Flying High best demonstrates an artistry that is ambitious but also grounded in Hamilton’s roots as a steel city. I think the pattern is artistic while not being jarring to the local buildings.

• Flying High is the most beautiful design. Stainless steel is also a sturdy material, which should hold up well in the busy central city and not need repair as often as the two neon sculptures. The design also fits in well with the style of the adjacent buildings. A seat is also incorporated into the design, which is pedestrian friendly.

• Xiaojing Yan. I love the 3-dimensional quality and the height. It beckons to our Indigenous roots, it says reach for the sky. Our decisions now can make or break a in Downtown Hamilton.

• Flying High is for me the best option, its design is dynamic, it gives a sense of motion, it has an interesting view from any angle, the change of colors with the use of lighting is brilliant, it is like having a new sculpture every time the color and the angle of view changes., its connection with nature and growth gives a sense of positivist, its construction in stainless steel provides easy maintenance and longevity.

• Flying High. It's the most visually appealingly in that space.

• Flying high by Xiaojing Yan, is stunning and beautiful. This gives you an uplifting feeling. There is so much power in it. No explanation is need when you look at it. The medium is steel that represents Hamilton.

• Flying High showcases the artistic spirit of Hamilton.

• Flying High: this design raises the bar for Hamilton public art. It is simply elegant and inviting. It encompasses both corners of the street entrance in contrast to the other selections. This design goes beyond the concept of the railway crossing that drops the barrier when a train is approaching. I am delighted to see this innovative and spectacular submission.

• I like Flying High the best. It seems to be the most detailed and works well with the surrounding architecture. It gives a sense of uplifting high spirit. Would really love to see it realized. I have concerns about the gate designs that open up and down. Is there mechanical aid system to help lifting up and putting down? It can be very challenging to operate without mechanical aid system. There is a Douglas Fir bench in my yard. It's nice wood. But after a few years, it started aging and has a few dents. Would love to know what the artist's solution is to keep the fresh and clean appearance.

• I like Xiaojing Yan's Flying High project. It is a beautifully articulated piece. The variability as you move around the piece, creates opportunities for different imaginings for each individual, while speaking to the nurturing and growing nature of the community.
• Xiaojing Yan’s proposal strikes me as the most coherent proposal with a visually stunning structure that aligns with the artist's intentions and the aspirations for this location. The abstract pillar form is evocative of several readings - a bird, a seedling, fire - without being too prescriptive or one-dimensional, and the gate itself is lightweight and equally elegant while robust enough to serve as an adequate barrier to traffic. Sleek, professional, and perfect for this particular call. Many great concepts contained in some of these other proposals but the visuals don’t quite match up to their intentions.

• Flying High - it draws attention, has a beautiful shape that reminds me of a blue heron. It makes a statement of nature and elegance.

• Flying High gets my vote. There is a sophistication and strong gracefulness to this sculpture. It’s a welcoming piece even as it denotes the barrier required for the area. In addition to meeting the project criteria, I think it would be an amazing representation of the arts culture in Hamilton. The form and movement of this piece projects the concept of growth, change and forward momentum. I love that the material is practical as well as a lovely nod to the city’s history. I was also happy to note the lighting element built-in to the structure. I believe ‘Flying High’ has the power to make this entranceway memorable.

• Flying High by Xiaojing Yan. Her idea of a dynamic, organic plant shape not only signifies the growth and rebirth of this district but, since he is a Canadian artist of Chinese ancestry, it is an homage to the Chinese community that was once centred on King William.

• Xiaojing Yan’s ‘Flying High’ instalment is a beautiful art piece that is able to depict nature and natural flow through a sturdy metal structure. It perfectly resembles all sides of the steel city from the tall sturdy buildings, to the incredible art and culture, to the numerous nature sights and paths. I think that with out a doubt this should be the chosen instalment.

• Flying High, reflecting the hopes and aspirations of small business that have brought the north end and downtown Hamilton back to life (know it is not a phoenix, but has that feeling). Also love the longevity of the materials used.

• I think that Xiaojing Yan’s proposal is exquisite and reflects the quality and character of the surrounding architecture very nicely. Even the upcoming development on the corner will likely look very good next to her public art work. It is both striking from a distance and finely detailed up close, yet the overall shape won’t compete with activity in the area. Nor will it be lost in the surrounding context. It has much more character and personality than the other proposals I think, it is quite sophisticated.

• The artwork that reflects the goal for the project would be Flying High. It is appropriate in the site because I am imagining King William street is in evolution process. It gives me an interpretation of Phoenix that soar for a change. This embark of new beginning in King William Street a place where day and night will
have a mystical atmosphere through hangouts in terms of dining and theater arts. It's nice to have a futuristic piece of art in historical place to merge the past, present, and to future.

- If the designer could figure out a way to store the gate out of site when not in use, I would choose Flying High as the best representative of the project goal. To me it represents so much Hamilton's has to offer with its nature represented by the large leaf on the gate (parks and escarpment and trails), art and theatre (super crawl, art crawl, music scene) rebirth and growth and freedom for our City to be itself (mixing the old with the new) and not just being a mirror image of Toronto. It's showy but doesn't appear to overpower the entrance to KW St. while Blue Vervain is a really cool design, I find it too bulky IMO.

- Flying High definitely!!
- Flying High by Xiaojing Yan is absolutely stunning. It really caught my eye over all other proposals. It's beautiful and elegant.

- I believe that Xiaojing Yan's proposal best reflects the goals for the project and is the most appropriate. The theme Flying High really embraces the concept the city is going for and further gives a sense of hope and excitement for the future that the city wants to build upon, themes of sprouting new life within the area for businesses taking flight to reach new heights. The sculpture is also quite stunning especially with the twisting element of the wing where you can walk around it to experience different aspects of it. I like that it encourages people to move around the street in the same way to experience the area. It also functions as an iconic landmark because it is something that is easy enough to instantly identify that would make the sculpture and the area memorable. For example, someone could say, 'Let's meet up at the wing' or 'Did you see the wing?' when they drive by. If the sculpture were too abstract people may not know what to identify it as and will eventually not remember it. The artist really thought this aspect through quite thoroughly with a well-developed concept that conveys a sense of hope and flight towards the future.

- While I recognize King William in unique, I think art in Hamilton should do more to represent the industrial history of this city. Of the 6 options, I prefer the functional aesthetics and of Flying High and Blue Vervain. Prefer they be constructed with Hamilton steel.

- First choice = Flying High (far superior design aesthetic for the area.)
- Second choice = Blue Vervain.
- The other designs are not suitable in my humble opinion.

- Xiaojing Yan's Flying High is an elegant, beautiful piece for this space. The curves and particularly the shadow would inspire awe and suit that space. I like the contrast of that shape with the more linear buildings and street - it creates balance. I also believe the City of Hamilton should celebrate and amplify women in the arts, and especially Canadian women of colour! My second choice would
be Owen Johnson’s Blue Vervain. The ornamental gate is very pretty and the blue-lit pillar looks interesting.

- I believe that the Flying High sculpture by Xiaojing Yan will best express the character of the district both day and night to visitors. I think the sculpture really captures the evolving and growing characteristic through its form, which suggests a feeling of development, through its representation of a bird spreading its wings. Its grace and twists reflect motion, inviting tourists to participate in events, and the grace is even furthered by the design of the gate. Lighting of different colors will also add to a feeling of festivity, and will draw viewers in, where they are but a short step away from local businesses. In addition, the other sculptures are lacking in certain aspects, using generic shapes or are just too... simple.

- Hard choice but Flying High strikes me as elegant, functional and inspiring.

- I believe that the Flying High sculpture by Xiaojing Yan will best reflect the goal for this project. I believe that the character of evolution will be encompassed by this sculpture’s graceful shape, which alludes to a bird taking flight. This expresses growth, leading towards opportunity and new heights. During the night, the color changing lights will surely be a sight to behold, drawing in visitors to events, festivals, and the local businesses, as well as the theater. The gate’s elegant design also caught my eye, and it will surely catch the eyes of others as well. I believe it greatly represents a sense of development with its flowing lines, unpredictable yet graceful, which drew in my eye and left me marveling at it. It stands out, whereas the other sculptures are bland, with basic shapes or unattractive design, such as the tower of octagons or the rigid tower made of lines, so I believe it would be the best choice as well as the most appropriate for this site.

- Flying High because the others are boring, bland, and unattractive (how is that a caterpillar?!?!) (Although the WoodGate is ok, but wood wouldn't last as long). It really captures a feeling of grace, of evolution, through its representation of a bird taking flight or spreading its wings.

- I like Flying High by Xiaojing Yan, her concept is original and elegant! It looks very beautiful and inspiring and also very modern and functional! We need more art like this in our city.

- Flying High by Xiaojing Yan. Most elegant submission, which would look great in day time or night.

- I think Flying High best represents the rebirth of Hamilton. The city has entered a renaissance of rebuilding, improving, and beautifying our public spaces and I think that Yan’s proposal is the most adequate representation. It is also most aesthetically pleasing to the eye out of all the proposals. The wings remind me of a Phoenix rising from the ashes.

- Flying High. It’s beautiful, majestic looking and reminds me of the aquatic birds you would see around the bay area.
• Xiaojing Yan, Flying High is my choice based on it being unique and attractive to the eye. The bird-theme represents a new beginning to me, and an opportunity to soar.
• Flying High is beautiful and works for the closure purpose while being attractive when open.
• I like Flying High best. It’s the most interesting visually and is the sort of display that attracts people from a distance making them want to come and see what it’s about.
• Flying High avoids as much as possible the gatekeeping feel.
• I like Xiaojing Yan’s design entitled Flying High the most. It has some flair and beauty and is not just a fancy light fixture like Blue Vervain, Untitled and Lighthouse. WoodGate looks like someone could injure themselves with it. Hammer-Pillar manages do be both a concussion waiting to happen and a light fixture. Although ultimately, I don't really feel any of them really say ‘Hamilton,’ ‘Downtown,’ ‘King William’ or ‘Arts & Culture.’
• Flying High. Beautiful and striking design that will elevate the streetscape. Concept behind the piece fits perfectly. Well thought out and aesthetically pleasing with dramatic flare but clean, timeless lines.
• I really like the vibrant fluency of the flying high proposal. The bird is fitting with the tall buildings around the area. The folding of the gate and sturdiness of the gate will fit well for the area where the gate will be used.
• I think Xiaojing Yan’s work is the most attractive one. It’s like a flying bird, it is a very impressive landmark for this area.
• I think that Flying High captures both the energy and excitement of the space while being in itself a widely appealing public art fixture.
• Flying High is my favorite! It conveys such sense of movement with so much details. It’s elegant and energetic, I like how the gate is designed to like the shadow of the wing that project on the ground. The video of Flying High is very nicely done! I can certainly imagine how beautiful the work will be in the space! It matches the surrounding the best!
• The Blue Vervain looks like it came 1500s. It looks like a street light lamppost combination. It reminds me of nothing of nature or such as it states in its description. Then the Untitled looks like a five-year-old drew on a sheet of paper and decided to enter for a competition. It relatively looks like a knife from Call of Duty it brings rainbow and all. Lighthouse looks too rigid and simple and it resembles the Washington monument. This is Canada not the U.S. WoodGate being looking good and functional is total bogus because who would want to sit in the middle of the street at night? WoodGate looks like a big vandal attraction. The Hammer-Pillar looks like it came from an alternate universe from the Untitled. It looks like a leech burrowing into the ground. Flying High looks like an
awesome sculpture that should be used for this project its design has no flaws and it looks like an actual sculpture.

- Certainly, Flying High is the best among these designs! It captures the spirit of the district! Not only the base matches the buildings, but also serve as the ground physically and metaphorically for a new and contemporary enchanting sculpture. The reference to the wing, feather and leaf is such a brilliant idea! I can certainly feel the energy, and look forward to the future of King William Street District! My second choice would be WoodGate. However, it's more a simple design than a thoughtful art piece, and lack of significance. The artist statement didn't address enough connection with the district. The bench idea is nice but may become an obstacle for snow removal in the winter. Lighthouse is a nice design, but it too much like a monument than an inviting sculpture for a fun evening out.

- Flying High looks sophisticated and hopeful. It's made of steel which is the material Hamilton is known for, yet it's not the rough, hard, dirty way we think if steel. Instead it's polished and delicate looking which I think is an interesting contrast to the way Hamilton is perceived. It's has an 'out of the ashes' hopefulness about it that is confident and beautiful, which is the way I hope downtown Hamilton can start to feel about itself. There's pride and strength in this art and in Hamilton's people. I think this is a very inspirational piece for people to see downtown and the functionality is quite good.

- I like Flying high. Because it's pretty.

- Flying High by Xiaojing Yan - I love this piece! I think it would display beautifully during the day as well as in the evening. I love the flow and movement and emotion it emits. It is inviting and feels free spirited yet sophisticated. I also really like the gate's design. This piece would be something I would snap a photo of as a tourist in the area. Flying High excites me and speaks to me, unlike the others.

- Flying High is my favourite. Not only is it beautiful but I also love the meaning behind it. It will look nice from all angles and add a lot to the space.

- I like the Flying High by Xiaojing Yan it is a stunning piece of artwork that will be a beautiful entrance way into King William Street.

- Flying High by Xiaojing Yan - looks like freedom and feels welcoming.

- Flying High is my choice. It acknowledges Hamilton's past with the turquoise blue of the gate feather (port city) and the stainless steel in the main body of the sculpture (steel town). The most exciting attribute is the sculpture’s artistic flair that builds on this past but loudly and clearly states that this city is embracing the future. The statue is very elegant and reflects the King William cultural hub. The design expresses rising movement, energy and vigour. The selection of Flying High will set a standard for future art installations to reinforce Hamilton’s identity as dynamic city that emphasizes and appreciates artistic expression.
• I really love flying high! It's absolutely stunning. To me it represents how Hamilton is changing and becoming more vibrant beautiful eclectic city. This represents its fluidity of the neighbourhood.
• Flying High by Xiaojing Yan is the best! Always love her work, thoughtful, poetic and striking!
• Flying High is the best! Absolutely visually stunning and thought provoking!

NONE OF THE ABOVE / GENERAL COMMENTS

• No comments to date.