Introduction to the Design Concept

The intention is to create an integrated artwork into the proposed structure of the A.K. Reserve boardwalks located between the two new stadia. It is important that the artwork conceptually reflects the work I produced in 2004 for the WA Ecology Centre in neighbouring Bold Park and also makes reference to the Perry Lakes stadium. It is important that the artwork has an aesthetic appeal to the public but also an embedded conceptual aspect that can be discovered as one negotiates the space.

In their commissioned research on the A. K. Reserve (2007), ATA Environment¹ identified that the flora corridor had been degraded and contained no high priority flora species. However, there was the potential for one endangered fauna species *calyptorhynchus latirostris*, Carnaby’s Black Cockatoo, to inhabit the reserve because of the proximity to Bold Park where its presence has been documented. None of the four tree hollows in the reserve contained all of the characteristics favoured by Black Cockatoos but it was thought the presence of Marri and Tuart trees meant that this endangered species was likely to be an occasional visitor to the reserve.

One of the recommendations in ATA Environment’s report was to install interpretive signage, ‘to inform visitors to the area of the environmental value and significance of the flora corridor’ in the A.K. Reserve². The proposed artwork for the A.K. Reserve boardwalk creates a non-didactic approach to informing the public of the above statement. The intention is to enlighten the potentially numerous visitors to the stadia about the significance of the flora and fauna corridor in the A. K. Reserve. In addition, it makes reference to the existence of the old Perry Lakes stadium by recycling its timber seating and engraving information into its surface to create new seating at strategic points along the boardwalk.

The conceptual underpinning for both Bold Park and the A.K. Reserve artworks takes its impetus from significant flora and fauna species that exist in the respective locations. The existing artwork in Bold Park focused on the high priority species and the tree canopy species in Bold Park. The artwork for the boardwalk builds upon this idea. The presence of some significant native trees currently provides an important tree canopy for the existing flora, and will also be beneficial for the planned re-vegetation in the re-development. Due to the absence of any high priority species in the A. K. Reserve, the focus for the artwork will be to highlight the significance of the tree canopy species, featuring leaf motifs with the names of the five significant tree canopy species: *Corymbia calophylla*: Marri; *Eucalyptus gomphocephala*: Tuart; *Eucalyptus marginata*: Jarrah; *Banksia menziesii*; and *Banksia grandis*: Bull Banksia.

Through imagery and text inspired by the above research, a series of integrated patterns comprised of the abovementioned leaf and bird motifs, that act as a frame for containing their relevant species and common names, are proposed to be embedded into the surface of the boardwalk planks. It is anticipated that the artwork will not only offer an aesthetic appeal but also adopt a non-didactic approach to highlighting significant flora and fauna to the public and be informative about the site and the revegetation plan to restore the flora corridor. The artist has consulted with environmental scientist Dr Paul van der Moezel, from ATA Environmental, and the Principal signatory to the report mentioned earlier, to ensure that all data used in the artwork is correct.

The proposed artwork plan presents a total of 48 metal boardwalk patterned intervention planks that are positioned in five different locations along the Eastern and Western boardwalks. The artwork sections will be made from perforated steel and sandblasted in the non-text areas to create a rough/smooth surface that highlights the patterned sections. They will be created from the same boardwalk material proposed by the architects, anticipating ‘seamlessness’ in where the artwork starts and finishes on the boardwalk. Strategic integrated lighting is proposed to illuminate the perforated metal sections on the boardwalk at night to create a ‘magical’ appeal and will take advantage of the existing lighting plan for the boardwalk, but also considering environmental concerns for nesting bird life in the overhanging trees etc. The use of perforated metal allows the patterned artwork sections to be illuminated by night and viewed differently to the daytime. It is anticipated that the night view of the artwork along the boardwalk will be popular to users of both stadia as they traverse the pathway to access the car park etc.

Related seating located at most of the artwork interventions in the boardwalk will present engraved surfaces that further explain the rationale for the artwork.

¹ A.K.Reserve Flora and Fauna Assessment, (March 2007) commissioned by the Department of Housing and Works (on behalf of Department of Sport & Recreation).
² Ibid (pg. 26)
Plan View of A.K. Reserve with Proposed Boardwalks

Plan view of A.K. Reserve site featuring the proposed Eastern and Western Boardwalks.
Plan View of Eastern Boardwalk.

View of Eastern Boardwalk showing proposed location of seating and artwork (depicted in blue).
Cross section of A.K. Reserve Boardwalk

Metal Planks:
SAFE-T-PERF Stiletto 6 (3mm)
by Locker Group

Channel sections 150 x 75
Supported on 60.30 CHS tube each
Set in concrete footing.
Note: Channel sections span 3000
PROPOSED SEATING

Side profile of section of A.K. Reserve boardwalk featuring proposed seating design.

Seat comprises 3 no cantilever supports at NOM 800 mm cts with 90x35 mm timber battens bolted on.

Timber battens recycled from Perry Lakes Stadium.
Aerial detail of A.K. Reserve Boardwalk

Section depicting proposed seating with engraved battens alongside landing with proposed artwork featuring the design motif inspired by Carnaby's black cockatoo.
Aerial view of the design for the perforated metal plank intervention sited in the boardwalk featuring a leaf motif incorporating images of foliage from five tree canopy species.
Design Motif_2

Detail of the design for the perforated metal plank intervention sited in the boardwalk featuring a bird motif incorporating images of endangered species, the short billed black cockatoo.
Detail of proposed text based artwork for the A.K. Reserve boardwalk featuring the leaf motif design to be converted into perforations by Locker Group at 1:1 scale.
Sample of boardwalk section featuring the leaf motif converted to perforations by Locker Group (1 M x 0.6 M) with detail (below).
Plan View of Western Boardwalk.

View of Western Boardwalk showing location of seating and artwork on the landings (depicted in blue).
Part One: Boardwalk Artwork
The boardwalk artwork will be created using a perforated metal technique (Locker - pic perf) that allows text and image patterns to be created through the puncturing of holes into metal. A total of 48 boardwalk planks will be arranged in five artwork sections, in various locations, along the eastern and western boardwalks (please refer to diagrams on pages 4 and 5). The artwork will operate as interventions to the proposed boardwalk structure and the planks will be made from the same boardwalk material and will match the dimensions and installation technique requirements that the architects have planned. The contractors employed by the architects who are responsible for the whole boardwalk installation will install the boardwalk artwork sections. To ensure the correct location of each section, the artwork installation will be supervised by the artist.

The use of integrated nocturnal lighting, to highlight the artwork sections, will tap into the existing lighting plan for the boardwalk, where possible.

Sandblasting will be used in-between the patterned leaf/cockatoo shapes for textural relief, but also to prevent slippage. Please refer to page 12 for a sample image section produced with the proposed leaf motif pattern.

Eastern Boardwalk Patterned Sections
Three patterned perforated metal sections will interrupt the eastern boardwalk structure. This will be comprised of: two 1.2 metre landing sections, and a central 4.5metre section surrounded by two seating arrangements.

Western Boardwalk Patterned Sections
Two patterned perforated metal sections in the elevated parts, comprised of, one 3-metre section with a seating arrangement; and one central 4.5 metre section, will interrupt the western boardwalk structure.

Part Two: Seating Artwork
Two seating sections with engraving into the battens - one on each boardwalk - featuring didactic information about the boardwalk concept - will also be part of the artwork. The seating will be integrated into the boardwalk structure and be located adjacent to the patterned sections. The material proposed for the seat surface is re-cycled seating from Perry Lakes Stadium, or a suitable plastic material such as Varioline. The choice depends on the suitability and condition of the Perry Lakes seating and its engraving potential.