

URBAN AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Urban and landscape design concepts are being developed in collaboration with manawhenua. The Transport Agency's cultural art advisor Reuben Kirkwood and Te Akitai carver Chris Wade are working closely with iwi while also helping the project team understand the Maori cultural heritage of the area.

The project will incorporate themes important to Te Waiohū, through the surface design of the noise walls and retaining walls, trench panels, bridge safety screens and barriers, and through the selection of plant species.

The design concept is for a distinctive arrival experience for travellers, together with an enhanced sense of place for the local communities.

Landscape concept

The landscape concept responds to the local area and local conditions. Native species will be used and, importantly, will be tied in to the design for treatment of stormwater. The design concept picks up on neighbouring landscape themes, through the balancing of 'soft' planting with 'hard' materials like basalt. Planting in front of and up noise walls is included where there is space.

Retaining and noise walls

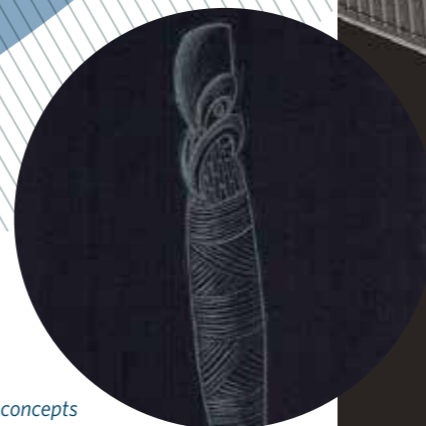
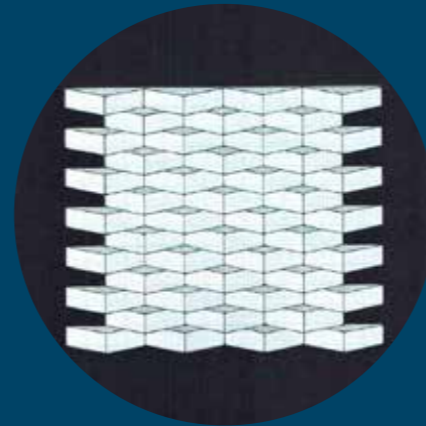
Designs are being developed for the surfaces of these walls. The walls will be concrete and the team is looking at different ways of adding depth to their surfaces, to create an interesting play of light and shadow. These surfaces offer a canvas for artistic interpretation of stories told to our team by manawhenua. The aim is that the walls add interest for the drivers on the motorway, and in a way that reflects the special qualities of the place and the arrival into Auckland and New Zealand.

Trench and lighting

The experience of approaching and moving through the trench will be enhanced by cultural design on the wall panels. There is also an opportunity to celebrate the arrival experience through screening and lighting at each end of the trench. Ideas being considered include green lighting to tie in with the guiding design Pēpeha (green Pounamu/shimmer of light).

*Kia hora te marino,
kia whakapapa pounamu te
moana, kia tere te kārohirohi i
mua i tō huarahi.*

*'May peace be widespread, may
the sea glisten like greenstone,
and may the shimmer of light
guide you on your way.'*



Design concepts