

# Connecting Our Kids, Activating Our Spaces

## Safe Route to School - Reservoir Laneway Link & Activation

### Expression of Interest – Artist/s and/or Artist Collective/s Brief

#### Background

Council is committed to improving safety around schools, encouraging healthy, sustainable travel and strengthening school communities. We support schools in Darebin with several programs and events including Octopus Schools, Ride2School Day and Ready to Roll.

The Octopus Schools program promotes and facilitates safe and active travel to Darebin schools. We work with local schools to make travelling to and from school safer. At the same time, we promote active travel to school. This helps students be healthier, better at school, more environmentally sustainable and be part of a stronger school community. This is done through a combination of behaviour change programs, school activities, and minor infrastructure improvements to create safe paths to school.



*Legs the Octopus, the mascot of the Octopus School Program, with Reservoir Primary Students and Mayor Olaris OAM.*

As part of this year's Octopus School program, Council has partnered with three local schools, including Reservoir Primary School. A survey of Reservoir Primary School students conducted in November 2024 indicated that 53% of students travelled to school by car. However, when asked about their preferred mode of travel, an overwhelming 65% indicated they would prefer active transport (cycling, walking and scooter), with another 11% preferring public transport. Only 14% of students preferred travelling to school by car.

In other words, Reservoir Primary students are requesting safer routes to travel to school. Council have identified a series of connected laneways (already used informally by many students and parents) that can be improved to meet this need.

## **Commission Scope**

Council, in partnership with Reservoir Primary School, are seeking to engage a mural artist or artist collective/s to co-design and co-install a mural in collaboration with a select group of up to twenty students in Year 3 - Year 6. As part of the project deliverables, the selected artist will be required to conduct a design ideation workshop with the students at Reservoir Primary School. Demonstrated experience with working with children to generate design ideas will be part of the selection criteria. Council strongly encourages applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

## **Eligibility**

Artists (individuals, groups or collaborations) who apply must:

- Currently live, work, study or have a connection to Darebin.
- Be able to complete the artwork within the timeframes.
- Be willing to be filmed and photographed at the site once completed.

## **Mentorship**

The lead artist will be required to mentor a young emerging artist throughout this project. The young artist will be selected by Council, in partnership with Northern College of the Arts and Technology (NCAT).

The contact time between lead artist and mentee is to include (but not limited to):

- Initial introduction, briefing and planning
- Workshop/s with Reservoir Primary School students
- Assistance with installation of mural artwork
- Any other key touch points to be confirmed between mentor and mentee.

NOTE: The mentee will be remunerated by Council for their time and involvement in the project. This fee is separate to the overall budget for this project. Refer Budget section.

## **Mural Location**

The mural will be located on a selected wall along the laneway link between Kenilworth Street and Barton Street, Reservoir. Pending authorisation from the property owners, the preferred wall is:

- 3 Barton Street, Reservoir (brick wall of residential property facing the laneway);

Other possible mural sites along the laneway are listed below:

- 919-921 High Street, Reservoir (rear wall of KFC, facing the laneway);
- 3/2 Kenilworth Street, Reservoir (brick wall of residential property facing the laneway);
- 1 Leamington Street, Reservoir (brick wall of residential property facing the laneway).

## **Mural Themes**

Potential themes to explore are Reservoir's Aboriginal cultural heritage and history; its diverse and multicultural community; its local natural landscapes; and its local flora and fauna.

The workshop with Reservoir Primary School students could address questions such as:

- What is your favourite place in Reservoir?
- What is your favourite plant, tree or animal that can be found in Reservoir?
- Where do you ride your bike or walk to in Reservoir?
- What do you like the most about Reservoir?
- What do you like the most about your school?

## NOTES

- Legs the Octopus is to feature in the final artwork design in recognition of the Octopus School program, as well as the informal laneway name “Legs Lane”.
- If you are using Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander stories or cultural material, you must be a traditional owner of the land or have received written permission from traditional owners. Please provide evidence of community consultation and cultural permissions in the Support Material section of your application.

## Additional Site Information

Note that all measurements of mural sites are approximate. Successful artist/s will need to take this into consideration when designing and installing final artwork.

### 3 Barton Street, Reservoir

- Approximately L 12m x H 3m

**Preferred wall, pending property owner authorisation.**





**Rear wall of KFC (919-921 High Street, Reservoir)**

- This wall is approximately L 32m x H 3m at highest point.
- Artist will not be expected to cover the whole wall.
- If this wall is selected, the artist is to design an artwork that is minimum L12m x H 3m.



**3/2 Kenilworth Street, Reservoir**

- Approximately L 6.8m x H 3m



**1 Leamington Street, Reservoir**

- Approximately L 7m x H 3m



## Deliverables

The artist selected for the Commission will be responsible for the following deliverables:

- Mural design concepts (**for one or more of the above Reservoir site/s, depending on final site choice and associated costs**) which depict what makes Reservoir unique in an artistic, professional and respectful manner; and
- Minimum 1 workshop session with Reservoir Primary School students at Reservoir Primary School, under supervision of the Arts teacher, to co-design mural artwork.
- Installation of mural artwork in collaboration with Reservoir Primary School students, applied to one or more sites (above).

## Budget

The total budget for this commission is **\$12,000**. The budget must cover all costs associated with the Commission, including; artist fees, sub-contractor fees if required, workshop/s with students, **working with children check**, materials, design development, transport, traffic management, installation, and all other associated costs for the delivery of the work. Note: Council will be responsible for high pressure cleaning of the wall before installation and anti-graffiti coating after installation.

## Timeframe

Stages/steps	Date
Expression of Interest (EOI) Open	Monday 7 April 2025
Expression of Interest (EOI) Closed	Monday 21 April 2025, 11.59pm
Evaluation of submissions	22-24 April 2025
<b>Successful artists notified</b>	<b>Wednesday 30 April 2025</b>
Workshop/s with students	TBC Early May 2025
Installation	TBC May 2025

## Expression of Interest (EOI) Application

Interested artists and/or artist collective/s are asked to provide:

1. A brief artist's statement exploring the proposed approach, ideas and inspiration for this project (max 300 words);
2. An outline of the intended theme as outlined above.
3. Mural installation plan that meets the project deadlines (see above);
4. **Copy of relevant current public liability insurance (this is a compulsory requirement);**
5. **Evidence of your current Working with Children check (this is a compulsory requirement);**
6. Resume (maximum 1 page) and maximum of 8 digital images saved as jpegs of previous art projects (please include image list with project dates, materials, dimensions, locations). Please include demonstrated experience with working with children towards a creative outcome. Artist to demonstrate connection to Reservoir and/ or Darebin (live, work or play).
7. Cost breakdown including:
  - Costs under the Commission deliverables (see above);
  - All other costs associated with the Commission, including; artist fees, sub-contractor fees if required, materials, design development, transport, installation, and all other associated costs for the delivery of the work.
  - Traffic management costs (if possible, but not necessary); and
  - Environmentally safe material practices with durable and weather-resistant materials appropriate for the nature of the commission and the site (also need to be factored into your installation). The work must have a minimum intended life span of 3 years.

## Please note

- Copyright of the mural and any designs created under this Agreement are retained by the Artist.
- If Council is to publish reproductions of the work for any non-commercial purpose, including Council brochures, tourist information, promotional posters, and documentary film, Council will acknowledge the Artist as the creator of the work in all instances.
- Murals will be hosted by Council for a minimum term of 2-3 years, although will be void in the occurrence of irreparable damage to the work.
- Council will take responsibility for high pressure cleaning of the walls before installation and anti-graffiti coating after installation.
- Successful artists will enter into a Commissioning Agreement with the City of Darebin for the installation of the proposed artwork. Payment schedule will be negotiated with the successful artist/s prior to entering into the contractual arrangement.
- Installation requirements will be:
  - Install the artwork as per the approved artwork;
  - Communicate regularly with the Project Manager throughout the installation process;
  - Install the work safely ensuring that the work meets all relevant Australian Standards;
  - Provide a safety plan for the installation of the works; and
  - Complete traffic management plan and footpath permit with Council Officer, as required.

## EOI Application Evaluation

A selection panel comprising of Council Officers, an independent expert and a Reservoir Primary School representative, will review each submission.

Proposals will be evaluated on:

1. Demonstrated evidence with ability to artistically and creatively explore and communicate the proposed mural themes;
2. Demonstrated design suitability for the selected site/s;
3. Artist experience and demonstrated capacity to deliver, including experience with working with children;
4. Ability to meet project delivery timeframes;
5. Value for money;
6. Artist's relationship with the Reservoir area. Do you live, work or study in Darebin?

Expression of Interest must be submitted by Monday 21 April, 11.59pm to [marc.chung@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:marc.chung@darebin.vic.gov.au). All submissions received outside of these times will not be accepted.

Enquiries to Marc Chung, Place Leader, City of Darebin on [marc.chung@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:marc.chung@darebin.vic.gov.au) or phone number 8470 8417 or 0438 749 651.

---