

Forrestfield-Airport Link

METRONET

Public Art

Fact Sheet | September 2022

ABOUT THE PROJECT



The \$1.86 billion Forrestfield-Airport Link is jointly funded by the Australian and Western Australian governments and will deliver a new rail service to the eastern suburbs of Perth – with three new stations at Redcliffe, Airport Central and High Wycombe.

The rail link supports part of the METRONET vision for a well-connected Perth with more transport, housing and employment choices. The Airport Line will spur off the existing Midland Line near Bayswater Station and run to High Wycombe through twin-bored tunnels.

In April 2016 the Public Transport Authority awarded the design, construct and maintenance contract to Salini Impregilo – NRW Joint Venture.

First trains will operate on the new Airport Line in October 2022.



Public art plays an important role in urban planning and design. Not only does it enrich our physical environments, bringing streetscapes, plazas, and buildings to life, but it also contributes to a location's identity, fostering community pride and a sense of belonging.

Various forms of public art were created as part of the Forrestfield-Airport Link project – some with input from the local community, some tying the stations in with their local environment, others telling stories of cultural heritage, and all contributing to the long-lasting legacy of this unique piece of transport infrastructure.

Bayswater Junction Guildford Road

Swan River



REDCLIFFE STATION



Dunreath Drive

AIRPORT CENTRAL STATION



High Wycombe Station



Abernethy Road Dundas Road



Bayswater Junction



Bayswater Urban Art Mural

While Bayswater Junction is not a station, it does have claim to the project's first completed piece of public art in the form of a 500m-long urban art mural. Located on the rail reserve's retaining wall facing Railway Parade, the mural was developed as a collaboration between Perth artist Drew Straker and the Public Transport Authority's (PTA) Right Track program.

The nature-based mural takes its inspiration from the six Noongar seasons and is designed to be seen by vehicles driving past, coming to life as it is viewed in full.

As part of the collaboration with Right Track, a number of schools and youth organisations were involved in the mural's development, with young people working alongside Straker to paint the mural, learning urban art skills in the process.

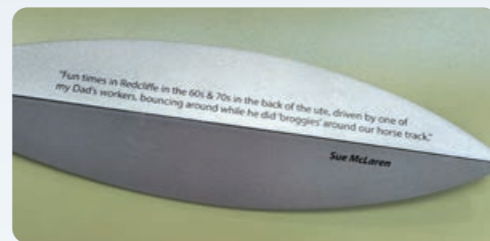
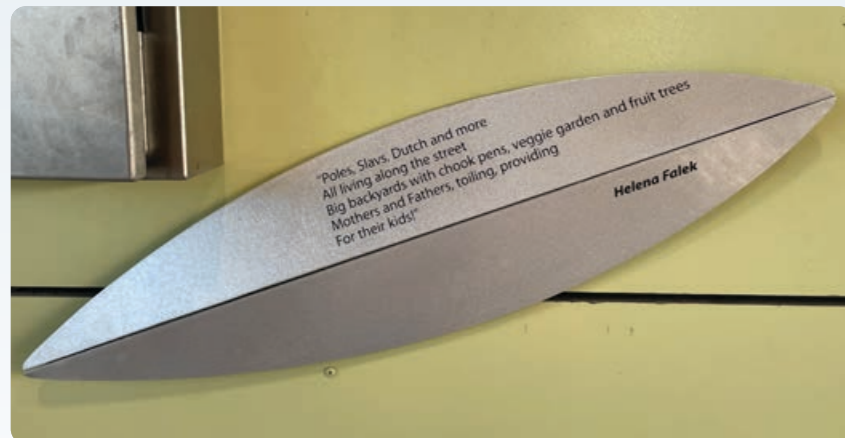


Redcliffe Station

Leaf Stories

Bolstering its position as a residential hub, the public art at Redcliffe Station showcases stories by the local community. *Leaf Stories* is a two-part installation comprising of a suspended frame over the eastern void between the platform and concourse levels, and 12 wall-mounted leaves engraved with stories provided by residents in the area.

Aluminium branches and leaves create colourful focal points within the building, so that passengers can view the art from different angles and levels. The wall-mounted leaves are scattered throughout the station, with etched stories and memories of living in the area on display as you walk past.



Airport Central Station

Giving tourists and locals alike a sight to see on arrival to Perth, Airport Central Station brings the wow factor on entry with a two-part public art piece along the station's atrium walls. Passengers travelling down from the elevated entry are greeted by 139 multicoloured sculptural elements along the station's northern wall depicting birds and flight.

Grounding this arrangement is a largescale glass panel installation on the southern wall, which describes the Noongar connection to the river and estuary waters, and the journeys traditionally taken by Aboriginal people as part of their spiritual obligations.

Local artist and designer Anne Neil collaborated with Noongar artist John Walley to create these two pieces that complement the station's colour palette.



High Wycombe Station

The nearby Darling Scarp, Noongar culture, the journey from the city to the hills, and tunnelling all influenced the public art on display at High Wycombe Station and its adjacent multi-deck car park.

Station façade and platform wall

The station's location in the foothills area serves as inspiration for the building's façade, which features iron oxide-based colours representing the landscape and aluminium panels mimicking the rocky outcrops. At platform level, a 100m-long, 5.5m-high section of the retaining wall features a tessellated pattern of earthy red colours, reflecting the tones of the Darling Scarp.

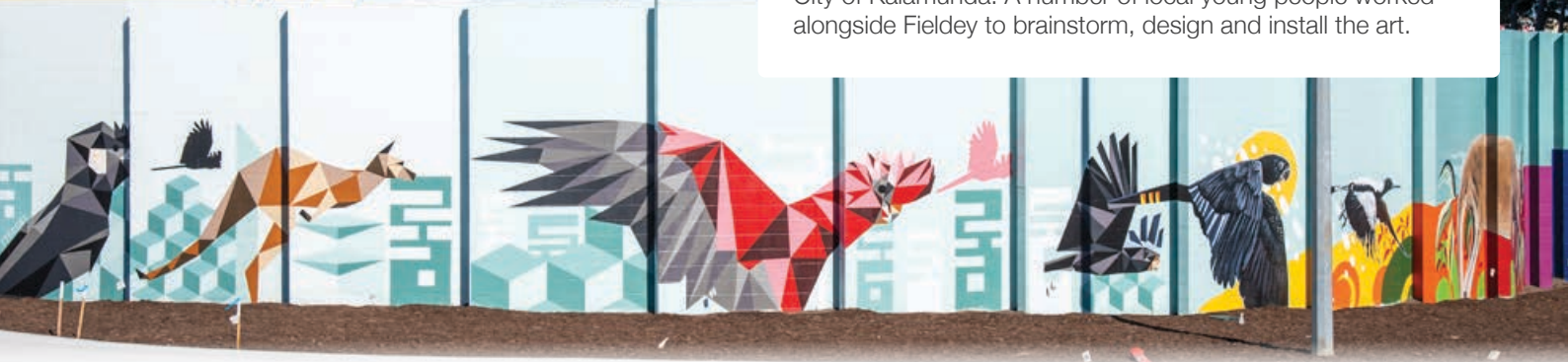




High Wycombe Station continued...

Homecoming

The journey of travelling from the city to the hills is portrayed in the form of a 40m-long mural along Maida Vale Road adorned with native flora and fauna, creating a striking entry statement to the station. Titled *Homecoming*, the mural is a collaboration between local artist Fieldey, PTA's Right Track program and the City of Kalamunda. A number of local young people worked alongside Fieldey to brainstorm, design and install the art.



Cutterhead heritage installation

High Wycombe was the epicentre of the project's tunnelling operations, making it a fitting location to honour the tunnel boring machines (TBMs). Standing tall next to the multi-deck car park is one of the 70-tonne TBM cutterheads, recognising the monumental feat of building WA's longest tunnels. Stories of tunnelling accompany this heritage installation.



Noongar stories and places

Led and guided by the families of the project's Aboriginal Stakeholder Group in collaboration with Indigenous artist Maitland Hill, the Noongar artworks recognise three important local stories and themes.

Located in the station's plaza, the laser-etched steel shapes and storyboards tell the stories of the nearby boodjari yorga boodjar (woman's place of birth), the waadiny maam (watchman) and the moorditj yorga (strong woman). The artworks are tribute to the important roles these Noongar people have held and continue to hold in the area.



More information

t: (08) 9326 2000

e: connect@forrestfieldairportlink.wa.gov.au

w: www.forrestfieldairportlink.wa.gov.au



facebook.com/PerthMETRONET



[@metronet_perth](https://instagram.com/metronet_perth)