

From: [Official Information](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Official Information](#)
Subject: Final response - LGOIMA 464318 - [REDACTED] - Murals
Date: Thursday, 20 March 2025 9:59:20 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Kia ora,

We refer to your information request below. Hamilton City Council provides the following response.

Your request:

More and more murals have been appearing on buildings, walls and the like throughout the city in recent years. Some are of obscure design, and of limited appeal to many ratepayers, and or not easily visible.

Who makes the decision to have these done; what was expended on materials/labour/equipment hire for these during the 12 months of your 2023/24 financial year, and 2024/25 year to date; and what is the policy for maintaining those that become drab or soiled - eg - on concrete wall opposite the Council building in Anglesea Street.

Our response:

Please note that many murals '*on buildings, walls and the like throughout the city*' are on private property and therefore Council does not have information concerning these murals. For murals on Council-owned assets, we have provided a response to your questions below.

[Council policy](#) defines murals as Street Art. Street Art is *high impact, reflective of contemporary urban context, often of a temporary nature, fresh and relevant.*

A mural is considered by Council to be a form of temporary street art, with a lifespan of 7-10 years due to the medium used (paint). Considering the temporary nature of murals, the development and maintenance of murals is operational, murals do not form part of Council's Public Art portfolio and related maintenance policies.

Murals may be proposed as artistic features in infrastructure projects, usually developed to offset amenity loss caused by the project. These would be decided by the project delivery teams. Through this process, two murals were developed in the 2024/25 year to date. These two murals were developed as part of the Hamilton Transport Centre upgrade. Not all invoices for the murals have been received, however it is anticipated the final cost will be in the region of \$18k. The overall cost of the upgrade is \$6.6m. Regarding the maintenance of the murals, this will be absorbed into the annual operating costs for the Transport Centre. It is not anticipated that either mural will require any significant maintenance in the foreseeable future. The decision to include these murals in the project was made by the project control group. This group is made up of representatives from Hamilton City Council, Waikato Regional Council, and NZTA Waka Kotahi.

No murals were developed in the 2023/24 year.

Murals may also be painted on Council assets but not as part of a Council project; this has occurred twice in the identified timeframe. A mural on the Caro Building was painted in March 2024, and a mural on a retaining wall behind the Arts Post building was painted in March 2025. Council has not contributed directly to the development of these murals. Staff responsible for managing the asset determine if the proposal is appropriate for the asset. The murals are considered temporary and therefore there is no intention to maintain the murals. Cleaning would be captured by annual operating costs for the cleaning of these assets.

You have additionally asked about the mural at Anglesea Street, Te Koopuu Mania o Kirikiriroa. This mural was developed and funded by the Beyond Tomorrow Trust and was painted in 2020. The mural is 5 years old, no decision has yet been made on maintenance interventions for the mural.

Indirect costs: The event 'Boon Street Art Festival' is run by the Hamilton Arts Trust and develops new murals across the city annually. Hamilton Arts Trust were a recipient of the [2024 Community Services Grant funding round](#). The grant intends to support organisation for a number of community services including '*Events that are open to the wider public, are low cost or free to attend, are likely to draw large audiences and activate our public spaces*', the Hamilton Arts trust were successful in their grant application to seek funding for '*operating costs/programme costs and event*'. A portion of this fund may have indirectly funded murals developed as part of the Boon Street Art Festival – that information would be held by Hamilton Arts Trust.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngaa mihi

Keeley Faulkner

Official Information Advisor & Legal Support Officer

Legal services

Governance & Assurance Team | Partnerships, communication & Maaori

Email: officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz



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I support flexibility at work. While it suits me to send this email now, I don't expect a response outside of your own working hours.

From: noreply@hamilton.govt.nz <noreply@hamilton.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 6 March 2025 12:38 pm

To: Official Information <officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz>

Subject: OIA Request - HCC-OIA-250306-OLXX3

[?]

We've received a request for you.

This request was received on 06 March 2025 @ 12:38PM.

Here's your reference number and the request details:

UUID

HCC-OIA-250306-OLXX3

Name

[REDACTED]

Email

[REDACTED]

Phone number

[REDACTED]

Detailed description of request

More and more murals have been appearing on buildings, walls and the like throughout the city in recent years. Some are of obscure design, and of limited appeal to many ratepayers, and or not easily visible.

Who makes the decision to have these done; what was expended on materials/labour/equipment hire for these during the 12 months of your 2023/24 financial year, and 2024/25 year to date; and what is the policy for maintaining those that become drab or soiled - eg - on concrete wall opposite the Council building in Anglesea Street.

Organisation

Attachments

Created

06 March 2025 @ 12:38PM

If you have any questions in the meantime, feel free to call us on [\(07\) 838 6699](tel:(07)8386699) or [email our customer service team](mailto:emailourcustomerserviceteam).

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