Design Proposal:
Palmerston Square Reserve

Title: *Friends Rock!*

Lead Artist: **Amy Perejuan-Capone**

in collaboration with **Penny Ferguson** (Min Pin)

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1. Concept Statement

Friends Rock! is a unique sculptural installation capturing a moment of joyous camaraderie between two well-known local characters: the wise yet goofy **Tawny Frogmouth** and the raucous but shy **Motorbike Frog.** Each species was specially chosen to represents us as friends and our contrasting personalities.

Drawing on our own upbringing in the area, the artwork is deeply **responsive to the natural environment of Bassendean**. Our research focused on native biodiversity—specifically the backyard heroes that define the local soundscape and childhood wonder. Local geology, flora, and species markings have also directly informed our aesthetic and material choices.

Our sculpture celebrates life in Bassendean by highlighting the everlasting friendships fostered in the area. Situated in Palmerston Square, a site of personal significance to us and a hub for local families, the work acts as a mirror to the community. It depicts the universal joy of simply hanging out with a friend, transforming a local ecological reality into a social monument.

The project's innovation lies in its contrasts. Our hybrid digital-physical design process creates a sophisticated blend of Penny's abstracted aesthetic and Amy's realistic approach. We achieved this through live video-link sessions, sculpting in clay simultaneously to close the divide between Fremantle and Melbourne—reflecting the contemporary ways friends stay connected across the globe.

Our material choices are unexpected, sensitive, and fun, mixing natural rock, traditional metals, bright glossy colours, and painterly finishes. The craftsmanship is elevated by merging traditional hand-sculpting with modern fabrication, utilising high-fidelity casting to preserve hand-sculpted textures in the final permanent forms. Amy's traditional bronze frog contrasts quizzically with the contemporary style of Penny's owl: distinct critters that prove you can be different and still be best friends.

Every element is designed to make the viewer grin as much as we did creating it! Standing approximately 1.2m tall, the sculpture serves as a joyful landmark. The contrast between the rugged, ancient permanence of the natural boulder, the vibrant colours, and the multi-textured animals reflects the enduring nature of friendship.

2. Concept Drawings

Motorbike Frog

Tawny Frogmouth

3. Site Plan

4. Materials & Fabrication

Viability:

To achieve the best possible outcome we will be engaging the services of **Big Spoon Art Studio** for structural design oversight, fabrication, logistics, and installation.

Big Spoon brings 30 years of experience delivering public art of all scales and budgets from conception through to installation and documentation. Please see the company folio attached in the Appendix of this document.

Through Amy's extensive experience in fabrication liaison and project administration, our proven collaborative workflow, and engagement of complete service public art specialists **Big Spoon**, we are fully equipped to meet all milestones within the specified budget. **We have also reviewed the Artist Contract and have no revisions to request.**

Longevity and Maintenance:

To ensure the work remains a permanent fixture of Bassendean's public art environment, we have selected materials for their durability and resistance to the elements:

- **Materials:** The animals will be fabricated from cast bronze (frog) and high-grade enamelled elements cast aluminium (bird)- materials proven to withstand Western Australia's UV intensity and weathering.
- **Security:** The figures will be internally reinforced and chemically anchored to the natural rock base and buried concrete foundation to prevent theft or vandalism.
- **Maintenance:** The choice of a natural boulder and robust casting finishes minimises the need for specialised cleaning, ensuring the artwork remains structurally sound and visually vibrant for decades with minimal intervention. The hand-sculpted textures have been deliberately designed to wear down attractively as a feature rather than degradation.

Safety and Risk Management:

Safety is integrated into the design from the foundation up. The sculpture will be securely mounted to a large natural boulder, providing a stable, heavy base that prevents tipping.

- **Site Integration:** The work will be positioned in Palmerston Square with careful consideration of existing pathways and sightlines to ensure it does not obstruct pedestrian flow or create blind spots.
- **Form Safety:** The wacky contemporary forms will be refined during the design finalisation phase to ensure there are no sharp edges or entrapment points, making it safe for a high-traffic public park environment and interaction.
- **Professional Management:** Amy in consultation with public art specialists Big Spoon will lead the administration, utilising extensive experience in managing sculpture projects of similar or larger scope to ensure all installation protocols meet local government safety standards.

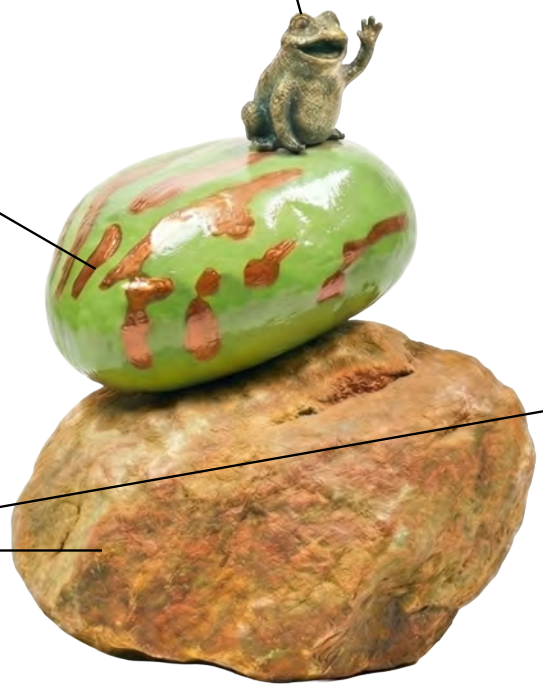
4. Materials & Fabrication - Materials

Hand-painted epoxy paint over primed rock, pattern inspired by **Motorbike frog** markings.

NOTE: Actual coloured rock will be more textured than the model pictured here

Local geology inspired iron-oxide stained rock. No additional coatings.

Cast bronze. High points will wear with weathering and touch to reveal polished metal with low points retaining bronze patina (a feature not a flaw).



Surface Primer:
Dulux Luxepoxy 4 white primer

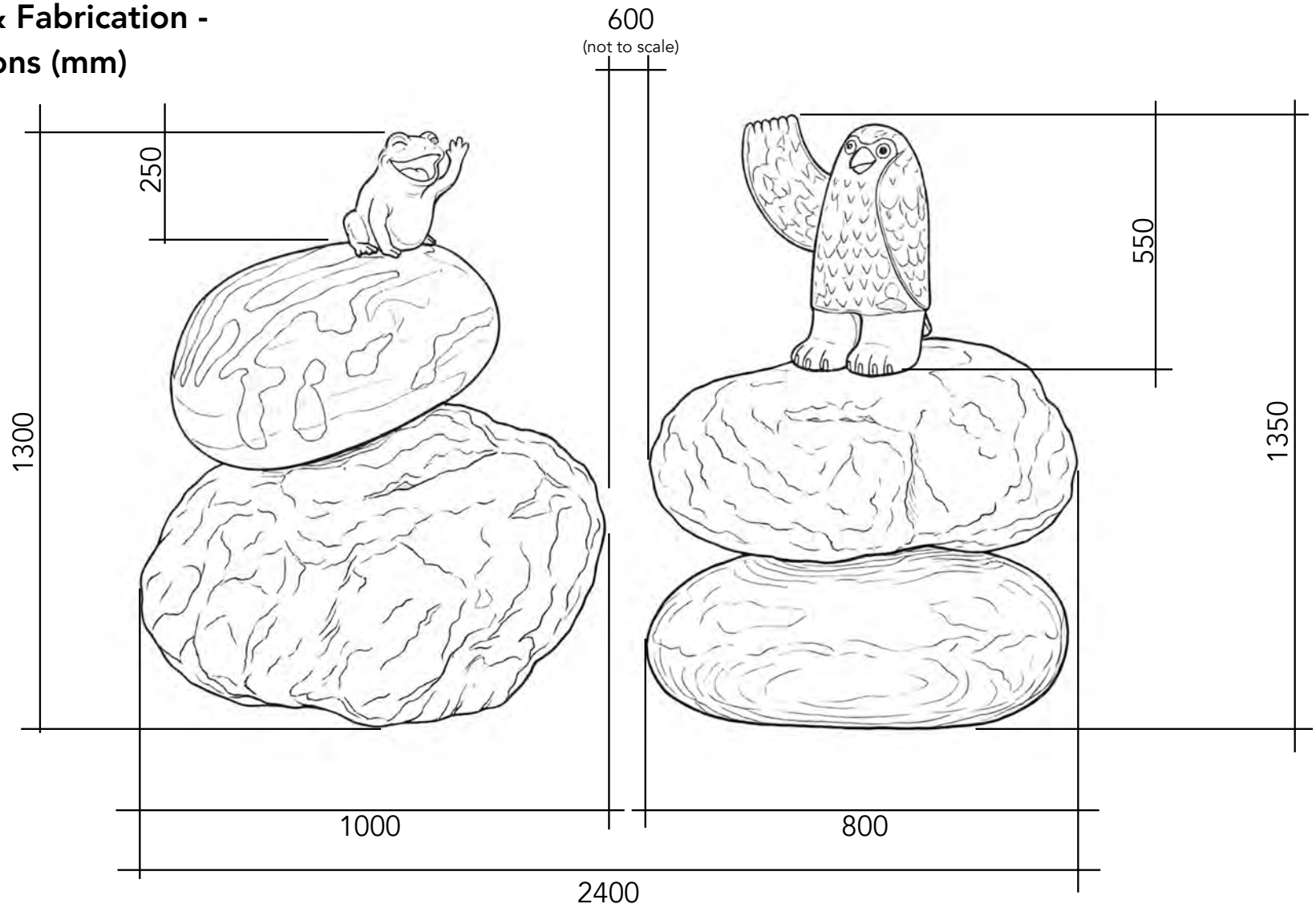
Paint:
Dulux HBR Weathermax top coat

Hand-painted epoxy paint over primed **cast aluminium**, pattern inspired by **Tawny Frogmouth** feathers and features.

Cast aluminium. Feathers and other textures designed to promote paint adhesion. High points will wear with weathering and touch to reveal metal underneath (a feature not a flaw), with low points retaining paint.

NOTE: Actual coloured rock will be more textured than the model pictured here

4. Materials & Fabrication - Specifications (mm)

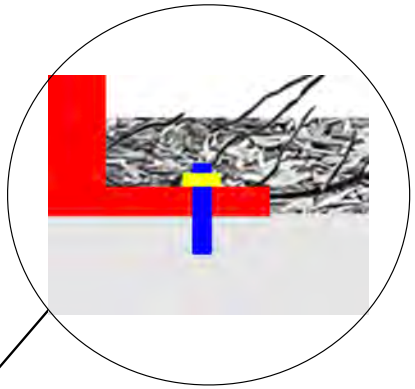


4. Materials & Fabrication - Fixings & Foundation Section View

Cast metal spigots (bronze/aluminium)
Cast in single piece with sculpture.
Chemically anchored into holes drilled into rock ~120mm deep.

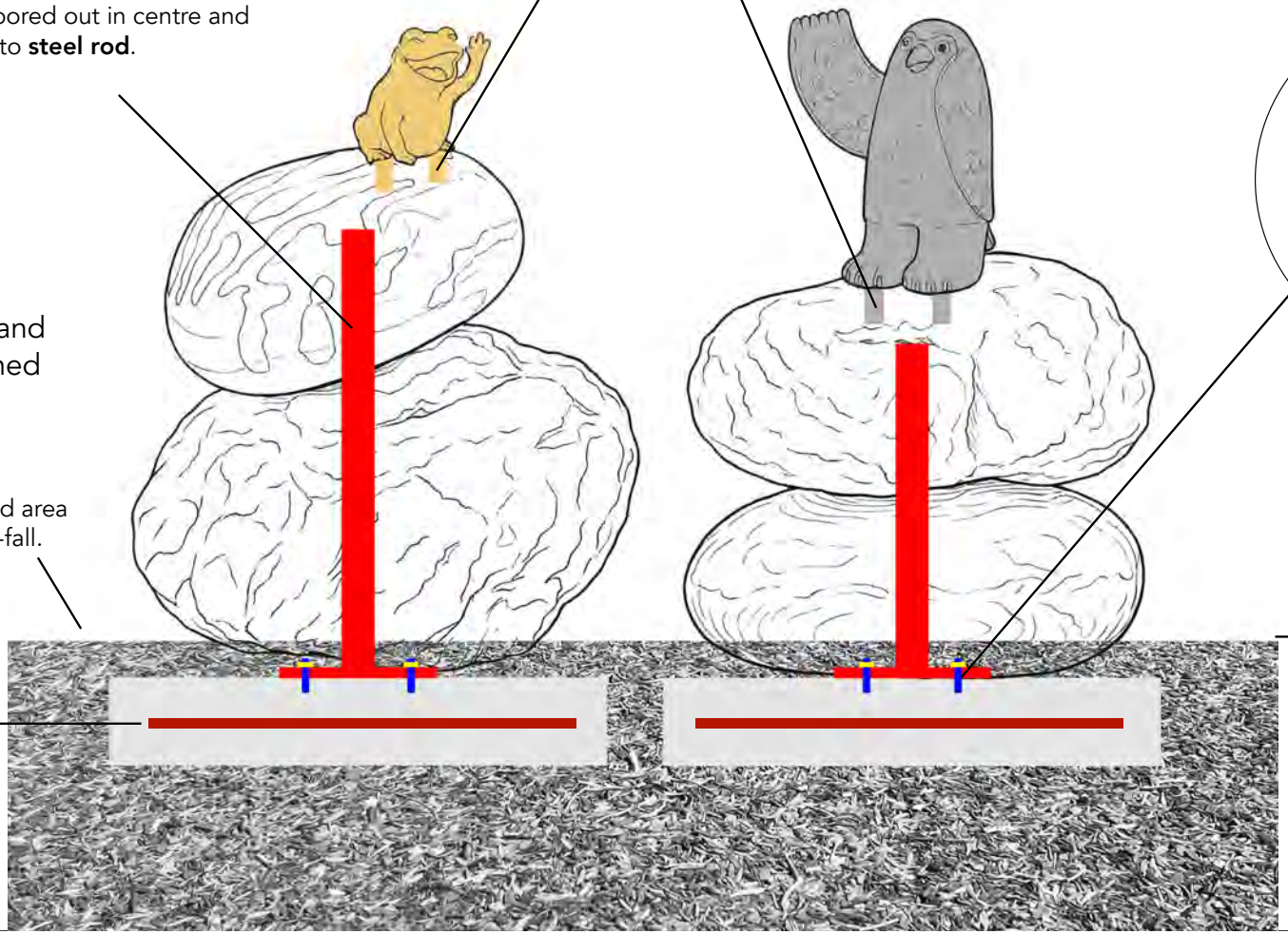
Spigots are completely concealed beneath sculpture for security- preventing trap points, grinder/saw access, and water pooling.

Grade 500N **Steel rod**.
Rocks are bored out in centre and stacked onto **steel rod**.



Grade 500N **Steel rod welded to steel plate.**
Affixed to bolts chemically anchored into concrete.

Assembly/Install Process:
All elements including the foundation pre-fabricated and assembles off-site and craned into place whole.



Mulched area for soft-fall.

Concrete Foundations with Grade 500L reinforcement mesh.

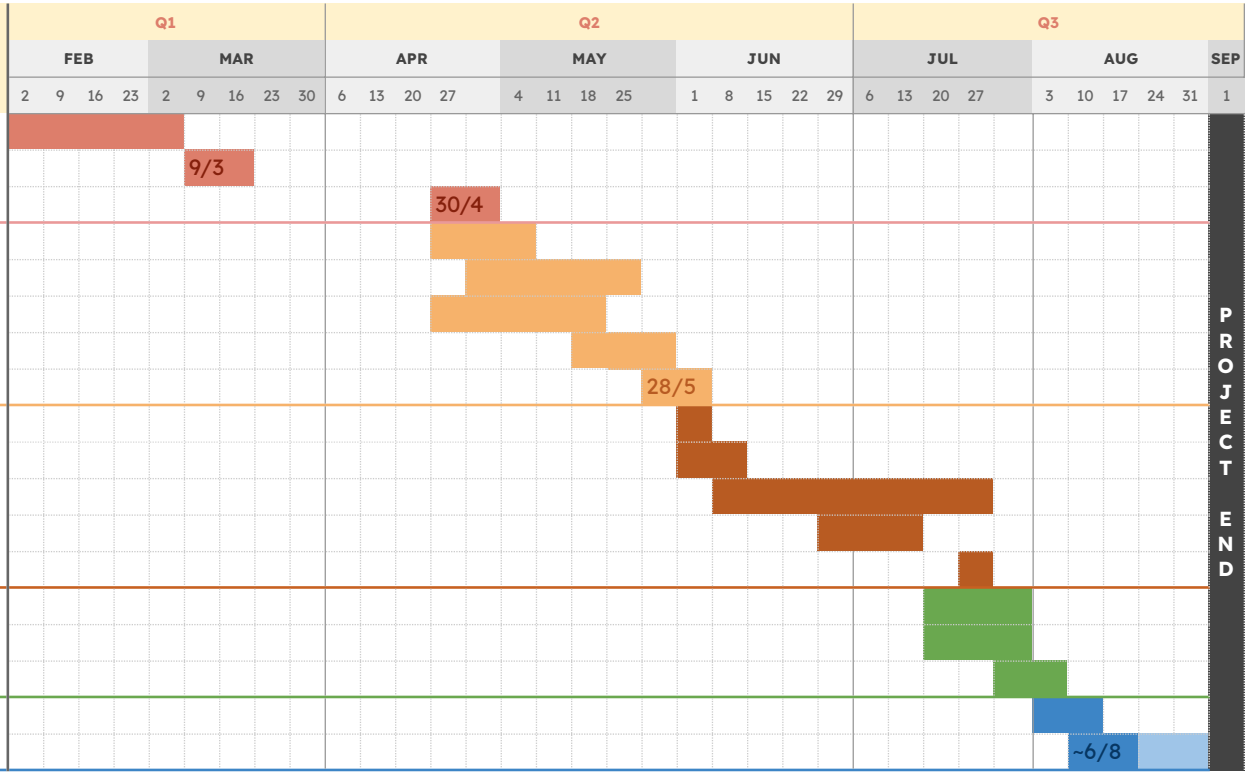
Ground surface level.

Foundation buried to depth of **300mm**

5. Project Timeline

PROJECT TITLE	Friends Rock!	**CLIENT**	Town of Bassendean
LEAD ARTIST	Amy Perejuan-Capone	**DATE**	2/2026 - 8/2026
ARTIST	Penny Min Ferguson (Min Pin)		

PHASE		DETAILS
1	**Project Development & Initiation**	- Design Development & Planning - Design Proposal Submission - Contract Awarded & Initiation
2	**Project Refinement and Finalisation**	- Risk Assessment with Big Spoon - Design Refinement with Big Spoon - Frog & Bird Modelling - Design Finalisation - Submit Final Design & Safety Documentation
3	**Project Execution**	- Bird Model Freight to Perth - Materials Procurement - Fabrication & Assembly- Big Spoon - Hand painting - Amy & Penny (in Perth) - Maintenance schedule documentation
4	**Project Installation**	- Site preparation* - Foundation Installation* - Sculpture Installation*
5	**Project Completion**	- Photo Documentation* - Public Launch*



*subject to weather/delays

6. Budget

ITEM	Details	Cost
Artist Fees (x2)	$5500 each (not registered for GST) **Includes:** • Design and administration • Material procurement • Hand painted finishes • Fabrication/Installation oversight	$11 000
Fabrication/Installation	**Complete service provided by Big Spoon, total includes:** • Materials (stone, bronze, aluminium, steel, concrete etc) • Fabrication processes (eg metal casting, stone boring. Not including hand painting) • Consultancy fees as required (eg risk assessment) • Delivery • Installation, including concrete foundation	$20 000
Contingency	Unforeseen expenses or fees	$2000
	TOTAL	$30 000

7. Artist Biographies

Amy Perejuan-Capone

www.amypcapone.com

Amy Perejuan-Capone is a contemporary artist based in Walyalup Fremantle, Western Australia, whose practice spans sculpture, installation, and design. Drawing on her background in **design, ecology, and aviation**, her work often takes a **speculative approach**, transforming phenomena like weather and flight, memory, and family history into immersive sculptural scenarios. She divides her time between Fremantle, the Western Australian wheatbelt, and international residencies, keenly observing human resourcefulness and material innovation across diverse environments, from the high Arctic to modern mega-cities.

Perejuan-Capone's work continually oscillates between **humour and solemnity** to reflect on the complex nature of creating meaning and investigating anxieties over ecological and cultural uncertainty. A significant thread in her practice involves immersive collaborations with her father Greg Perejuan, delving into family history to strengthen intergenerational bonds and explore the intense labour of knowledge preservation.

Amy Perejuan-Capone graduated with a BA (Fine Art) from Curtin University in 2009 and an Advanced Diploma of Industrial Design in 2014. Her residencies include the prestigious **Shigaraki Ceramic Culture Park (2019)** in Japan and the **Asialink Fremantle - Taipei Artist Village exchange (2020)**.

Penny Min Perguson

www.minpindesign.com

Based in the Dandenong Ranges in Melbourne (Narrm), Australia, Penny Min Ferguson is an Illustrator who works under the name **Min Pin**. Since 2014 Penny has been creating **playful and expressive designs** primarily for children's applications - including apparel, bedding, food and product packaging, books, activity spaces, murals and paintings. Although primarily illustration focused, Penny's work with Min Pin also explores many traditional craft mediums including **ceramics, fine jewellery and textiles**.

Min Pin has been exhibited and published both locally and internationally and has also collaborated with various clients including Woolworths, Samsung, Melbourne Museum, The National Gallery of Victoria, Halcyon Nights and Penguin, amongst others.