

Public Realm

Master Specification

PR-AC-D1 Aboriginal Cultural Expression in Infrastructure Design

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PR-AC-D1 Aboriginal Cultural Expression in Infrastructure Design

1 General

- 1.1 This Part defines the Requirements for Aboriginal Cultural Expression in the design of transport infrastructure and associated public realm assets.
- 1.2 In meeting the requirements of this Part, the requirements of the following will also need to be considered:
- a) Master Specification PR-LS-D1 “Landscape and Urban Design”.
 - b) Master Specification PC-H1 “Aboriginal Heritage and Native Title”.
 - c) Master Specification PC-EDM1 “Design Management”.
 - d) Master Specification ST-SD-D1 “Design of Structures”.
 - e) PC-CS1 “Community Engagement and Media Management”.

Definitions

- 1.3 The following definitions apply to terms used in this Part:

Table PR-AC-D1 1-1 Definitions

Term	Definition
Aboriginal Cultural Expression	Integration of Aboriginal culture into the architectural, landscape architectural and urban design fabric of transport infrastructure and associated public realm assets.
Aboriginal Country	Land, waters and sky to which Aboriginal people have a holistic cultural connection including to their ancestors, culture, traditions, laws and spirituality.
Aboriginal Cultural Authority	A person or group that has the knowledge and mandate within an Aboriginal community to make decisions about Country. This may include, but not be limited to, Senior Aboriginal Elder(s), an Aboriginal Board of Directors, or an Aboriginal Representative(s)
Sites of Cultural Significance	Landscapes within Country that hold special meaning or significance to Aboriginal people. These sites may include, but not be limited to the following attributes like plains, hills, rocky outcrops, sand dunes, water features and bodies, trees and other natural features that are referred to as containing important links to Aboriginal culture and tradition. Other sites may include, but not be limited to ancient camp sites and burial sites. In coastal and sea areas, sacred sites may include features that lie beneath the surface.

2 References

- 2.1 The Australian Indigenous Design Charter: Communication Design (AIDC: CD) shall be referenced and is available for download at the following internet address:
<http://indigenousexpression.com.au/australian-indigenous-design-charter/>

3 Engagement

- 3.1 The engagement of appropriate Aboriginal people will include coming together for formal meetings or workshops for the entirety of the project so that respectful processes and protocols are followed.
- 3.2 If not undertaken already, the Contractor shall undertake formal engagement with the Aboriginal community and/or (if already known) the Aboriginal Cultural Authority.
- 3.3 Engagement will be for the following purposes:

- a) To determine which Aboriginal Country the project is located on.
 - b) If not already, to determine the Aboriginal Cultural Authority.
 - c) To determine if the project will impact upon sites of cultural significance.
 - d) To determine what Aboriginal cultural expression in the design of the project is culturally appropriate.
 - e) Once cultural expression is determined appropriate, to assist with the development of specific cultural design philosophies, objectives and principles.
- 3.4 When working on projects involving the representation of Aboriginal culture, designers and buyers of design (both non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal) shall adhere to the ten points included in Part 1 of the AIDC: CD.
- 3.5 The Contractor shall demonstrate that the individuals undertaking Aboriginal engagement on its behalf are culturally competent and respectful.
- 3.6 In addition, all Aboriginal engagement will be undertaken in accordance with the following Part:
- a) PC-CS1 “Community Engagement and Media Management”.
- 3.7 Endorsement of the engagement team including the method and manner of the engagement proposed by the Principal shall constitute as a **Hold Point**.

4 Design Philosophy and Principles

- 4.1 The design philosophy and principles will be developed in general accordance with the points documented in the AIDC: CD.
- 4.2 The design philosophy and principles will be developed in accordance with the Office for Design and Architecture South Australia (ODASA) Principles of Good Design – Context, Inclusive, Durable, Value, Performance and Sustainable.
- 4.3 The design philosophy and principles will be developed in light of the presence (if any) of Aboriginal cultural heritage within the project site and the surrounding area. The presence of Aboriginal heritage will be assessed and managed in accordance with the following:
- a) PC-HS1 “Aboriginal Heritage and Native Title”.
- 4.4 Where heritage is present, the design philosophy and principles will be developed to ensure the total inclusion or exclusion of heritage into the design response in order to maintain the integrity of the cultural heritage as a whole.
- 4.5 The design philosophy and principles will aim to integrate the use of local Indigenous plants into the landscape design of the project to:
- a) provide opportunities for Elders and knowledge bearers to share and pass down knowledge; and
 - b) to allow the site to be used as a collection resource for Aboriginal people.
- 4.6 The design philosophy and principles will aim to create a greater sense of cultural, respect, safety and inclusion.
- 4.7 Aboriginal culture shall be expressed in ways that are innovative, meaningful and successful. This may include, but not be limited to, the incorporation of Aboriginal expression into retaining walls, balustrades, steel, concrete, paving, stone, timber, glass, interpretive signage, public art, land art. The use of language and Aboriginal naming of infrastructure should also be considered.
- 4.8 The inclusion of Aboriginal cultural expression (including naming) into infrastructure design shall be approved by the Aboriginal Cultural Authority. The approval shall constitute as a **Hold Point**.

5 Design Basis Report

- 5.1 The designer shall develop a Design Basis Report that explains the project narrative and cultural connection and the specific design philosophy and principles that it proposes to use to develop the overall design response for the project.
- 5.2 The designer shall document the cultural engagement and process undertaken to explain the proposed design response.
- 5.3 A copy of the draft Design Basis Report shall be provided to the Principal for endorsement. Endorsement of the draft Design Basis Report shall constitute as a **Hold Point**.

6 Hold Points

- 6.1 The following is a summary of Hold Points referenced in this Part:

Table PR-AC-D1 6-1 Hold Points

Document Ref.	Hold Point	Response Time
3.7	Endorsement of the engagement team and the method and manner of engagement proposed by the Principal for the Aboriginal community.	5 Working Days
4.8	Approval by the Aboriginal Cultural Authority	15 Working Days
5.3	Endorsement of the Design Basis Report.	15 Working Days