

KINGSTON CITY COUNCIL

Invites Expressions of Interest for the Mentone Community Piazza Public Art Project



Expressions of Interest close
11 January 2019 5:00pm

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Name of Project:
Mentone Community Piazza Public Art Project

Location of project: Triangle Site, Mentone
Municipality: City of Kingston

1. INTRODUCTION

Kingston City Council has commenced construction of a public piazza in the historic Triangle Site in Mentone as part of the Mentone Renaissance Project. The piazza is designed to improve the public amenities and create a gathering space for residents, visitors and local traders in the area. The total cost of the project, which also includes streetscape improvements in Mentone Parade, is estimated at \$3.4 million.

The project is the focal point of the Mentone Renaissance Project following a series of road network improvements to create a safe and more pedestrian-friendly environment that supports a vibrant activity centre and its community.

Urban Initiatives have designed the Mentone Community Piazza. Kingston Council has appointed CDN Contractors to build this exciting new open space with works commencing on Monday 12 November 2018 and scheduled for completion in mid-2019.

Kingston City Council invites suitably qualified artists to submit Expressions of Interest for the development of a permanent public artwork to be located within the new Community Piazza in Mentone. This project aims to create a permanent artwork that is reflective of, and valued by, both residents of Mentone and the community across Kingston.

Kingston City Council values the important role of public art in connecting and inspiring the community and enriching the daily life of its residents and visitors. We welcome artists to respond to this brief by putting forward innovative ideas for original work at the proposed site.

2. BACKGROUND

Mentone is a residential and commercial area in the City of Kingston, located 21 km south-east of Melbourne's CBD. It is known locally for Mentone Beach and is bordered by the neighbouring suburbs of Parkdale, Cheltenham and Beaumaris.

Within the last 200 years the area has undergone significant change:

- Originally coastal heathland, it was occupied by the Boon Wurrung people who connected with the land and waterways in the area. In good weather, they lived along the foreshore, while in poor weather they sought shelter in woodland or near rocks. Further inland lived the Wurundjeri-Baluk clan of the Woiworung tribe. All of these people belonged to a nation of Aboriginal people known as the Kulin who occupied most of Western and Central Victoria.
- Unlike other towns which grew from pioneer settlements, Mentone was founded during the prosperous land boom of the 1880s. Developer Sir Matthew Davies envisaged the town as a stylish new Riviera. Embracing

Mediterranean themes, the concept unfolded with Italian street names and extravagant buildings. The most impressive of these was the luxurious Mentone Coffee Palace which is now Kilbreda College.

- Styled as a 'salubrious' destination, holiday-makers flocked to the town to enjoy its hot sea baths and prestigious racecourse. Although the boom period was short-lived, Mentone was endowed with a lasting architectural legacy, which was complemented by the classic Edwardian styles of later development. The area also became synonymous with the Heidelberg School of Australian artists, who painted scenes of Mentone Beach and the cliffs in Beaumaris during summer trips.

In 2017 the suburb of Mentone is home to more than 13,872 people, with over 27.4% of residents born outside Australia. The largest communities in the area are of English, Irish and Scottish backgrounds, but there are also a significant number of people with Greek, Italian and Chinese background. In Mentone, 20% of people speak a language other than English at home, with Greek being the most dominant language, consisting of 4.0% of the population or 501 people.

For more information about the Post-colonial history of Mentone, please see the Mentone Historical Walking Trail guide:

<https://www.kingston.vic.gov.au/library/Library-Services/Local-History/Kingston-Historical-Walking-Trails/Mentone-Trail>

3. COMMISSION OBJECTIVES

The principal objective of this Commission is to design, fabricate and install an original, site-specific, permanent public artwork at the new Community Piazza, located on the historic Triangle Site between Mentone and Como Parade in Mentone.

The successful design will be selected by the Council's Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee (ACAC).

<https://www.kingstonarts.com.au/SYSTEM-PAGES/FOOTER-CONTENT/Arts-and-Cultural-Advisory-Committee>

The artwork should be aesthetically and intellectually engaging within a functional public space. The artwork might include, but is not limited to, sculpture, landscaping, paving detail, furniture or objects. The artwork should enhance the local environment and create an opportunity for public users to encounter and engage with art in an ordinary, daily context.

The artwork should offer an exciting, intelligent and expressive response to the site's surrounds and social context, and reflect the values and aspirations of the community. In order to achieve this, it is expected that the artist's design will be created in consultation with the community and traditional landowners to assist in meeting the Commission Objectives.

The artist must achieve the **Commission Objectives** set down below:

1. Produce a permanent artwork
2. Artwork needs to be constructed of robust materials suitable for a public area where some degree of vandalism can be expected.
3. Enliven and enhance the public space and facility in which it will be placed
4. Create a strong sense of identity, pride and ownership of the public space
5. Encourage community engagement with the public space
6. Reflect the rich history, cultures, stories and diversity of Mentone

7. Increase the understanding and enjoyment of contemporary art by the community.

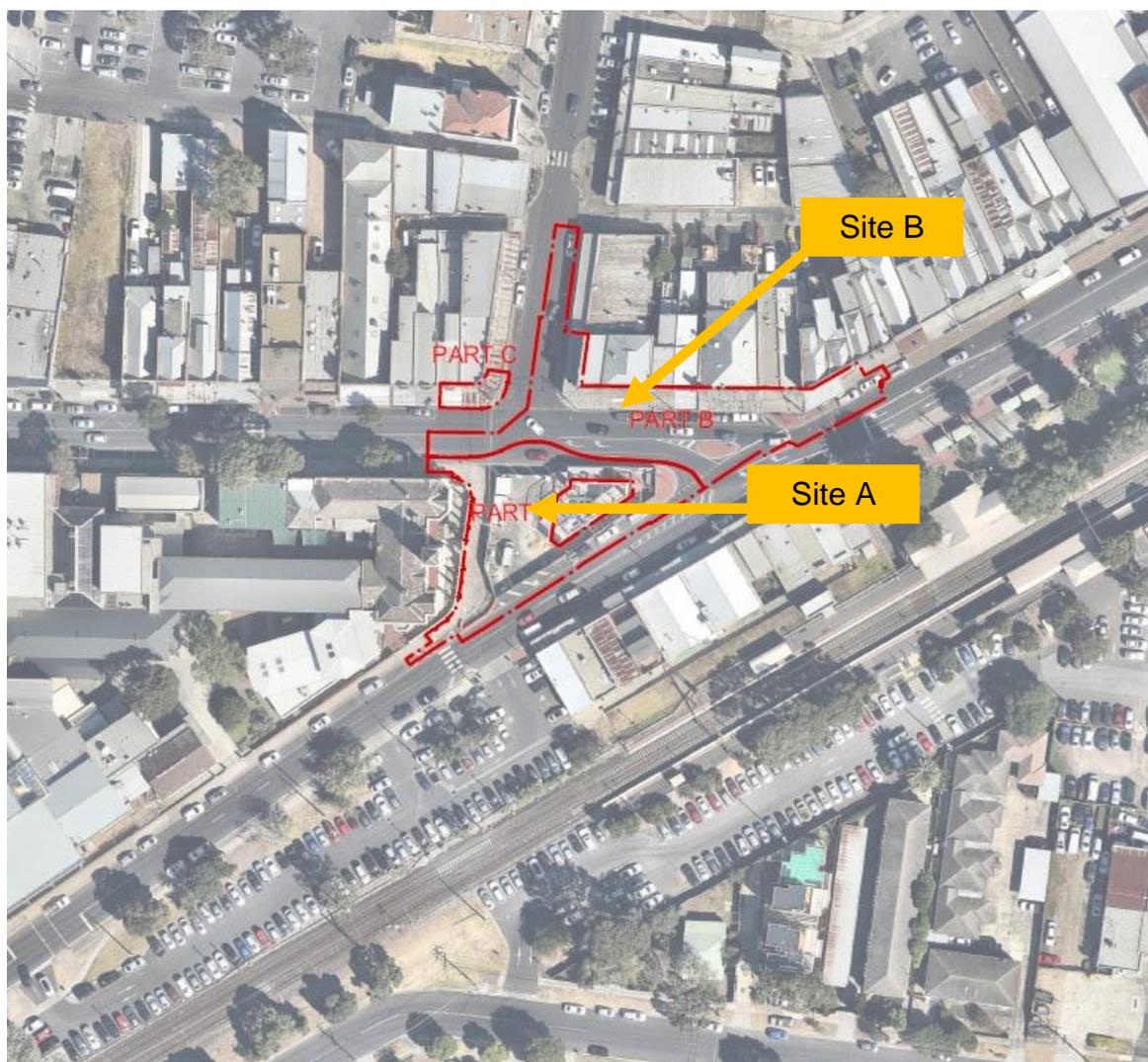
4. THE SITE/PRECINCT

The artwork will be installed at the new Community Piazza, directly outside Kilbreda College. It is bordered by Como and Mentone Parade. The Mentone Community Piazza is intended to become a shared space for community activities, a meeting place, or a spot for people to relax throughout the day.

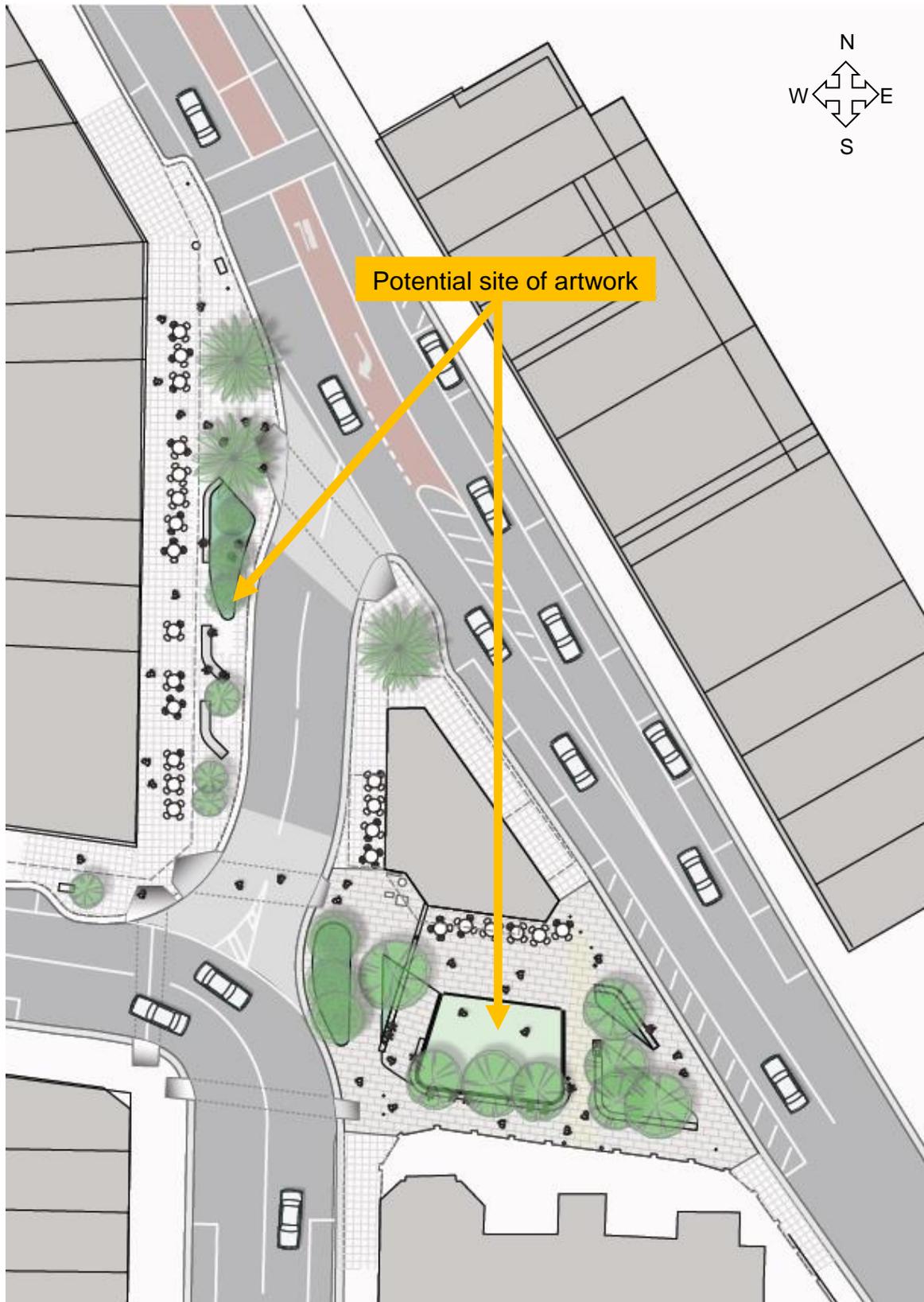
It is anticipated that the Piazza will have a high volume of traffic throughout the weekdays, especially during after school hours and on weekends. The audience for the artwork will be community members of all ages and abilities including parents, children, teens and elderly.

Artworks cannot impede traffic – vehicular or pedestrian. Disability access must be considered and the existing pathways cannot be impeded or negatively impacted on. Artworks must not pose a safety risk to the public through sharp edges, entrapments, dangerous protrusions, climbing risks, etc. Artworks need to be practical for ongoing cleaning and should be low maintenance, with materials having an operational life of at least 10 years before major repairs are required.

SITE LOCATION



The primary artwork is to be located within the historical Triangle Site (Site A) between Como and Mentone Parade. It may be possible, budget depending, for the artist to also site an artwork along the footpath, on the opposite side of Mentone Parade (Site B).





Artist impression – From Mentone Parade (looking east)



Artist impression – From Como Parade (looking west)



Artist impression – From Mentone Parade (looking south)

5. ARTIST RESPONSIBILITIES

The successful artist will need to:

1. Develop concept designs that will transfer to an appropriate final artwork
2. Submit a fully realised concept design
3. Have an agreement to use the cultural property of traditional landowners
4. Have an agreement with the local community to ensure the artwork is relevant to the site and meets the Commission Objectives
5. Cooperate with Council, Urban Designers and Builders to ensure that the artwork is suitable for the space and meets tight construction timelines and standards
6. Consider risk management and assessment issues e.g. Public Liability; Job Safety Analysis; insurances
7. Source, arrange delivery and pay for all materials for the artwork, including safety equipment for artworks in a public space
8. Pay for and provide structural engineering computations to ensure work is structurally sound
9. Pay for and manage fabrication
10. Install work in liaison with Council who will coordinate the installation of footings with the landscape architects and architectural team
11. Participate in community and stakeholder liaison to promote the artwork eg. photo shoots, use of concept drawings, provide artist statements, be available for interview and unveiling, etc
12. Liaise with key Council staff throughout the commission process and attend meetings as required
13. Provide Council with cleaning and maintenance instructions
14. Be responsible for maintenance work and costs that arise directly from faults in the production of the works for 12 months after the completion of the commissioned work
15. Undertake project evaluation and report writing at the commission conclusion.
16. Declare any conflict of interest such as relationships with develops, Council, community.

6. COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

Council is responsible for:

- Project management
- Primary artist contact
- Organise community consultation session with relevant stakeholders
- Project marketing and reporting
- Artist Fee

Council will not destroy, damage, alter or intentionally modify or relocate the work without advising the Artist.

7. PROJECT TIMEFRAME * *Dates are indicative and may change*

Expressions of Interest advertised	5 th Dec 2018
Expressions of Interest close	11 th January 2019
Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee (ACAC) shortlists artists	Early February 2019
Community consultation meeting with relevant stakeholders	Mid - February 2019
Shortlisted artists present to ACAC. ACAC select artist for recommendation.	Early March 2019
Successful artist notified of outcome and issued letter of agreement.	Early March 2019
Artist refines design, final engineering computations and drawings. Artist to provide Council artwork specifications prior to installation of site services.	Mid - March 2019
Community awareness campaign and public display of final design	Late March 2019
Artist commences fabrication	April 2019
Artist liaises with Council and Urban Designers for installation and landscaping	May/ June 2019
Artwork signed off and completed.	Early June 2019
Official launch of Artwork	Mid 2019

8. BUDGET

The working budget for the project is \$59,750 inc. GST.

This is a two-stage commission process. From the initial Expressions of Interest, up to three artists will be short-listed. The shortlisted artists will be paid a commission fee of \$1750 plus GST to attend one community consultation meeting and for the development of their final concept design, to be presented to Council's Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee for selection.

The commission fee available for the successful project will be \$59,750. This amount will cover all costs associated with the artwork's implementation, including possible further community workshops, materials, labour, fabrication, installation, artist's fee, transportation, insurance, etc.

9. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST REQUIREMENTS

Artists submitting an Expression of Interest must include the following details:

- a. Initial draft drawings of proposed artwork
- b. Details regarding the proposed scale of work, materials to be used, and positioning in relation to the site (max. 200 words)
- c. Preferred method of installation of work (max. 100 words)
- d. Brief artist statement describing the concept and values underpinning the artwork if relevant (max. 400 words)
- e. Proposed timeline for completion
- f. A rough breakdown of budget
- g. Current curriculum vitae
- h. Two referees
- i. Examples of previous relevant work (CD/DVD, photos, or slides suitable)
- j. Evidence of current insurance cover, including Public Liability insurance

Please note, Expressions of Interest submissions will not be returned.

10. COMMISSIONING PROCESS

A shortlist of artists responding to the Commission Brief will be made by the Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee. Those artists that best meet the Selection Criteria set out in this document will form this shortlist. It is anticipated that a maximum of three proposals will be shortlisted.

Shortlisted artists will be paid a commission of \$1750 plus GST to attend one community consultation meeting and for the development and presentation of their final concept. Each of the shortlisted artists' final concepts will be presented to the Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee. The successful concept will meet the Selection Criteria outlined in this document.

There is no guarantee that Council will seek a concept from those artists who submit at the first stage. Additionally, no fee will be paid to the artist at the initial submission stage.

Respondents must:

- a. Submit all required information;
- b. Not canvas Kingston City Council Administrators or staff; and
- c. Lodge submissions in accordance with this document at the specified place and by the due date and time.

The Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee comprises appointed Kingston community members and one Councillor. Council staff from a range of departments including Arts and Cultural Services, Infrastructure and City Strategy may be co-opted as well as Mentone community representatives.

Interested artists are encouraged to contact Kingston's Arts and Cultural Services department to learn more about the project. Please contact Arts Project Officer, Victoria O'Shea on 9556 4447 or victoria.oshea@kingston.vic.gov.au

11. SELECTION CRITERIA

The successful concept will be evaluated against the following Selection Criteria:

Artistic Merit

- a. Appropriateness of the concept to the site
- b. Innovative and creative design using high quality materials
- c. Consideration of and response to the Commission Objectives (see page 4)

Artist Qualifications and Experience

- a. Experience in delivering similar public art projects with community consultation
- b. Ability to meet required timeline
- c. Ability to work within allocated budget
- d. Consideration of public health and safety issues in design and construction
- e. Ability to create works that are structurally sound with no public risk
- f. Ability to produce work that demonstrates technical skill and has strong aesthetic content.

12. COPYRIGHT AND OWNERSHIP OF MATERIALS

Upon selection of the final concept for development, an agreement will be entered into between Kingston City Council and the artist/s. Following execution of this final agreement ownership of the artwork and materials relating to this project, including use of images will remain with Kingston City Council. The artist will be acknowledged in any public display of this material.

13. MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

The artist must provide cleaning, maintenance instructions and suitable lighting advice for the sculpture.

To be practical for ongoing cleaning and low maintenance, the art work should consider materials having an operational life of at least 10 years before major repairs are required.

Council will be solely responsible for the proper cleaning, maintenance, lighting and protection of the sculpture.

However, Council may request the artist to repair any damage to the sculpture that arises directly as a result of faults in the materials, crafting, fabrication and installation of the sculpture for a period of 12 months after the date of completion of installation. In this instance, the artist must repair any damage to the sculpture at the artist's expense.

In the case that significant maintenance or repairs to the sculpture is required at any time outside the agreed warranty period, Council will make every reasonable effort to contact the artist to facilitate the maintenance or repairs before seeking assistance from elsewhere.

14. DE-ACCESSIONING

The Contract issued to the successful artist will state a minimum period within which the work will not be de-acquisitioned. After this period, Council is at liberty to de-acquisition the work at its own discretion in consultation with the artist.

15. CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS

The artist will be engaged by the City of Kingston. Payment of the fee will be made in the following way:

- a. 40% will be paid upon commissioning of the artist

- b. 30% will be paid upon completion of the artwork
- c. 30% will be paid upon acceptance of work by Council and completion of reporting requirements to Council.

16. CONFIDENTIALITY

All submissions will be treated as strictly confidential between the Council and the respondent.

17. ACCEPTANCE OF SUBMISSIONS

Council reserves the right to cancel this competitive process and/or to again call for further submissions should the response be considered unsatisfactory or insufficient.

18. SUBMITTING AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Expressions of Interest can be mailed to:

'Mentone Community Piazza Project' submissions
Att. Victoria O'Shea
Arts Project Officer
City of Kingston
PO Box 1000
Mentone VIC 3194

Expressions of Interest must be received by 5pm Friday 11th January 2019.

Received applications will be acknowledged. Late submissions will not be considered.

19. CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Enquiries should be directed to:

Victoria O'Shea
Arts and Cultural Development Project Officer
Phone: (03) 9556 4447
Email: victoria.oshea@kingston.vic.gov.au

20. ATTACHMENTS

Council Plan 2017-2021:

<https://www.kingston.vic.gov.au/About-Us/Plans-Policies-and-Publications/Council-Plan-and-Budget>

Kingston Arts and Cultural Strategy 2018–22: *Creative Kingston*:

<https://www.kingstonarts.com.au/SYSTEM-PAGES/FOOTER-CONTENT/Strategies-and-Policies>

Aboriginal culture in Kingston:

<http://www.kingston.vic.gov.au/Community/Aboriginal-Culture>

Mentone 2016 Census:

http://quickstats.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quicksat/SSC21637?opendocument