

**Bristol Evening Post coverage of quietrevolution planning application
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Art may give city power and pictures



Hi-tech welcome: An artist's impression of the wind turbine sculpture to be installed on the Temple Circus roundabout

A HI-TECH art installation planned for Bristol could be the first of its kind in the country.

The 18-metre-high beacon will stand on the Temple Circus roundabout welcoming people to the city.

It consists of a wind turbine that will create images as it turns.

Lights are attached to the propellers, which will form both still and moving pictures that will appear to hang in the air.

Artists will be encouraged to submit their own works to be displayed.

Engineer firm XCO2, which is responsible for the installation, believes it will not cost taxpayers a penny to put up.

They believe costs will be covered by the sale of advertising space.

If the beacon is a success the company hope to put up more in

Installation on roundabout would generate electricity

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other major cities. Ian Billings, an engineer for the firm, said: "We wanted to create the most attractive design possible, and I think it looks fantastic. It's also a great piece of design."

"It is a vertical turbine so it's suited to the roundabout, where winds will come from different directions."

The turbine will be virtually silent and will create a small amount of electricity - six kilowatts, the amount used by 100 60-watt lightbulbs.

City council officers believe that even this small scale project

will demonstrate their commitment to finding renewable energy sources.

Bristol City Council, head of building practice, Geoffrey Robinson, said: "If approved this beautiful, innovative installation will be part of the wider picture of Bristol City Council's policy."

"We want to investigate and implement ways of benefiting the people of Bristol by providing free energy while also reducing carbon emissions with no loss of service."

Representatives from Friends of the Earth believe the installation will encourage discussion about the use of renewable energy.

Bristol branch spokesman,

Mike Birkin, said: "There is a lot more scope than people think for renewable energy in urban areas."

"Introducing it in this way, even though it will not generate a great deal of power, will certainly encourage people to think about the potential."

Liberal Democrat councillor for Lawrence Hill, Sue O'Donnell, said: "I think it's brilliant. We have a lot of development in this area, so I think it will help bring some balance."

"It is something positive that will act as a beacon for the city, while bringing to the fore of people's minds the fact we need to look at energy."

Council officers have recommended that the plan is accepted subject to conditions.

The application will be discussed at the meeting of the Development Control (Central) committee on Monday.