

East Reading Mass Rapid Transit Route

Potential Design Amendments

Current Design

The scheme design was subject to an independent review from Design South East, before the original submission on 4th July 2017 to provide “an appearance of slenderness with a thin lightweight structure, free of obstructions or complex engineering, which is a visual landmark”. This included:

- a slender concrete deck, which would blend with the sky
- parapets with minimum horizontal elements to appear the most transparent against the sky; and
- continuous weathering steel beam to provide a natural brown to blend with the brown bricked Brunel bridge and mirror the flowing riverside.

Possible Design Amendments

We are seeking your views on a range of potential amendments to the scheme to enhance the appearance of the structure in relation to the WBC’s concern related to the harm of the scheme on the character and appearance of the area.

The setting comprises a landscape/backdrop of grass, shrubs, railway embankments, bridges, overhead electricity lines and electricity pylons, with the River Thames and Kennet in the foreground.

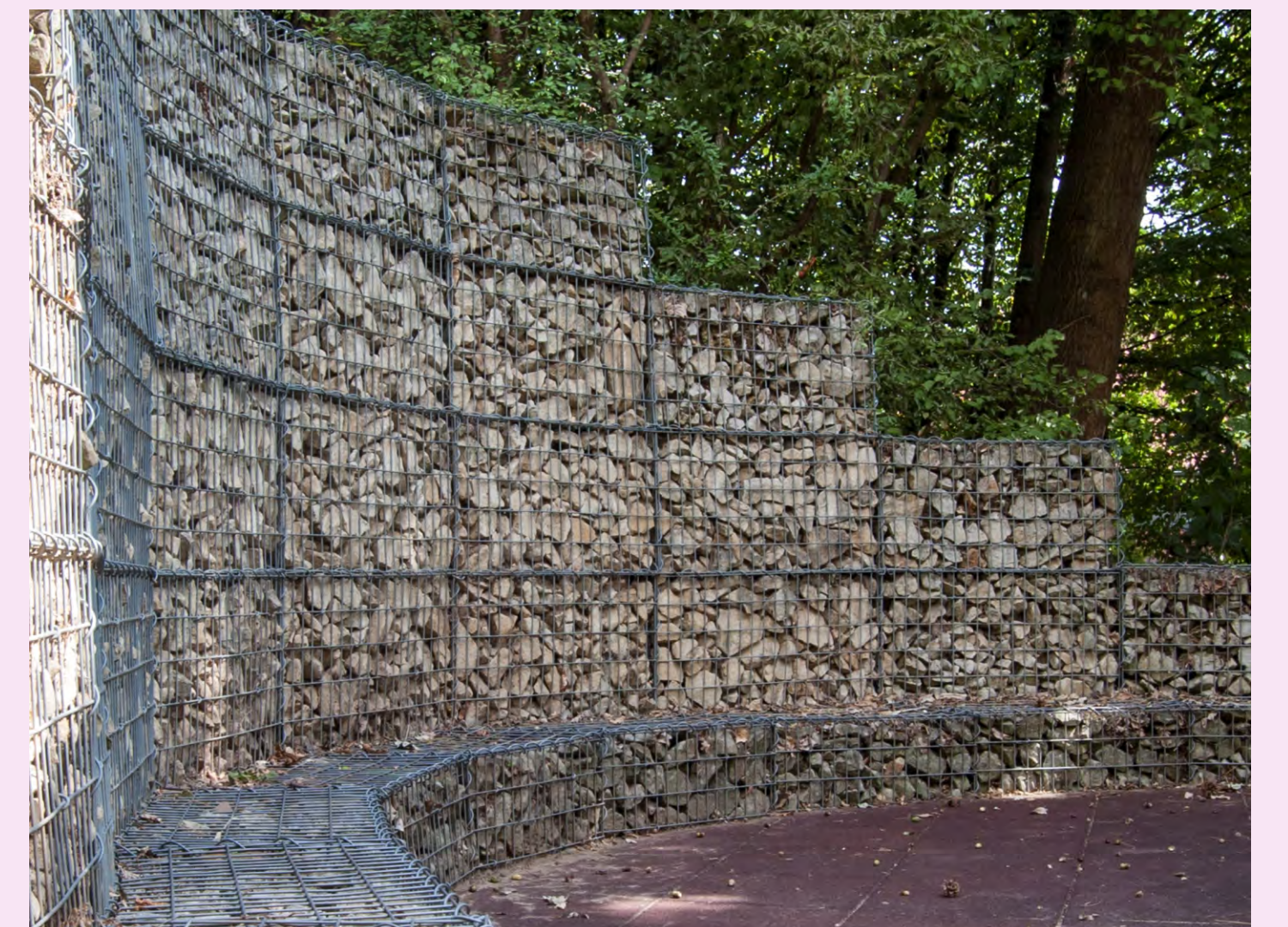
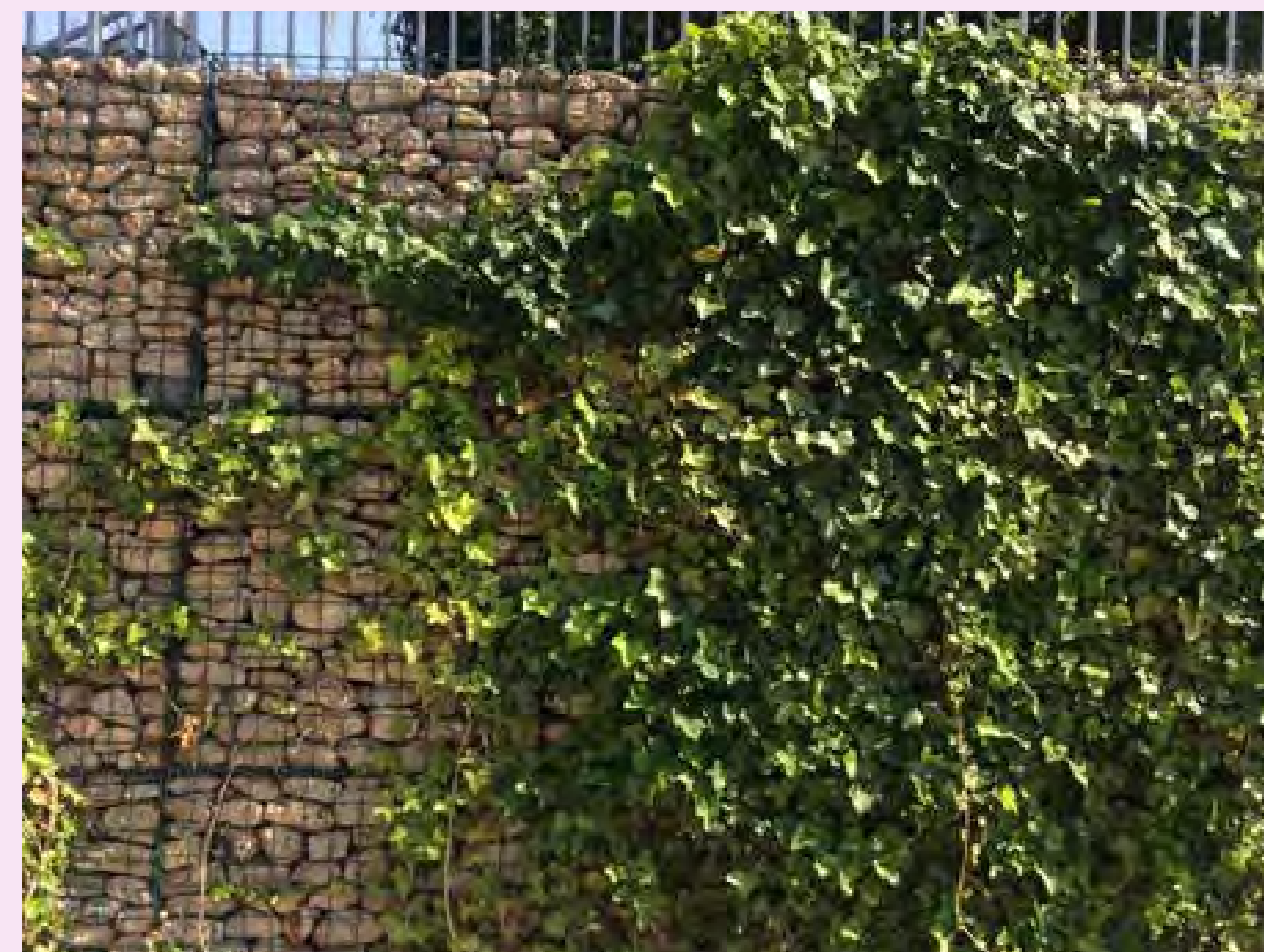
Example 1: Planters at high level

Planters beside the parapets containing ivy could spill over the deck.



Example 2: Gabions on the columns with re-designed columns

Gabion cladding (with ivy), could be considered across the lower areas of the structure. This is proposed already on the western abutment.



Working with:



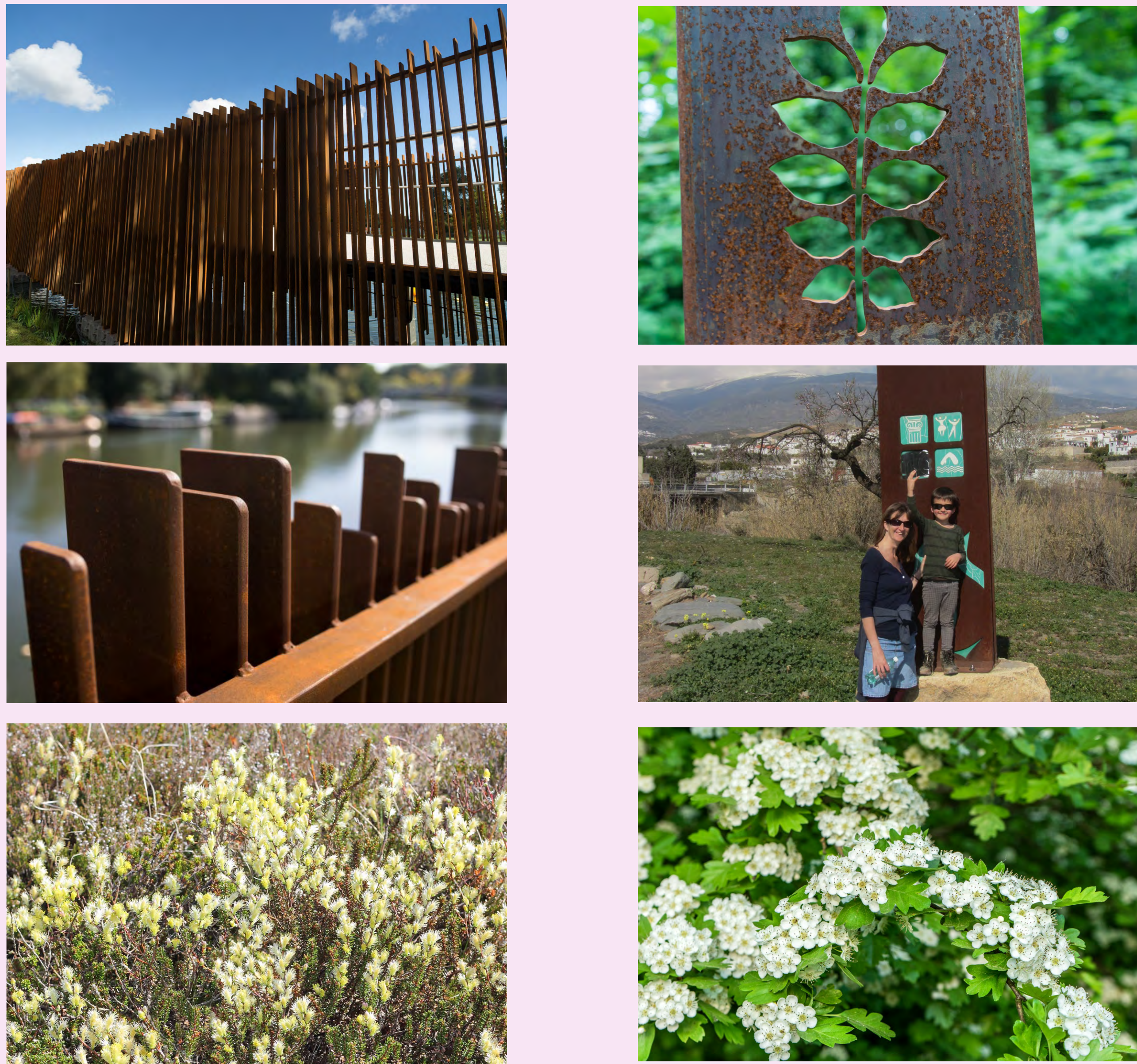
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Example 3: Coloured pigment and/or textured concrete
It is possible to pigment or texture the surface of the concrete.



Example 4: Additional landscaping, such as planting or rusty reed sculptures
There is limited opportunity for substantial planting due to underground electricity cables, but further low level planting and/or public art sculptures could be provided.



A questionnaire is available at www.reading.gov.uk/east-reading-mrt to provide your feedback on the appearance of the scheme.

These boards will be available to view Reading Borough Council's offices on Bridge Street and online following the event.

Appendix H Exhibition Feedback Form

East Reading Mass Rapid Transit Route Feedback Form

Thank you for attending today's public exhibition, please use this form to provide feedback on the proposals

This is a cross-boundary scheme which requires planning permission from both RBC and WBC. WBC resolved to refuse planning permission at the planning committee held on 25th June 2018 due to concern over harm to the character and appearance of the area and that the application would be contrary to Policies CP1,CP3 and CP11 of the Local Plan.

RBC, as applicant, has agreed to undertake public consultation on enhancements to the appearance of the scheme to address this concern. This exhibition forms the basis of that consultation. The feedback received will be used to inform a new planning application for the scheme. Please use this form to provide feedback on the scheme proposals or use the electronic version online at:

www.reading.gov.uk/east-reading-mrt

Peter Brett Associates, on behalf of Reading Borough Council and Wokingham Borough Council, will control and process the contact information in this survey for the purposes of the East MRT planning application only. Please confirm your consent by ticking the box below for the information you supply in this survey to be processed so that it can be used to inform the new planning application, thank you.

☐ I consent

Question 1. Are you responding personally or on behalf of a business?

☐ Personal

☐ Business

Question 2. Please provide your:

Name or business you are responding on behalf of: _____

Postcode of home address or business: _____

Address (optional): _____

Question 3. Please could you provide your views on potential amendments to the scheme to enhance the appearance of the structure in response to WBC's concern related to the harm of the scheme on the character and appearance of the area?:

Working with:



Question 4. Do you have any other comments on the scheme to help inform the new planning application?



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