

Welcome



Artist Impression: View of upgraded pedestrian realm looking towards Calton Hill/Monkland Street.

Welcome to the first Upper Mary Street Precinct Revitalisation project newsletter.

As a user of upper Mary Street, it's important for us to keep you updated throughout the design and construction of this project, and to listen to your feedback throughout this process. This newsletter follows on from consultation with Upper Mary Street traders and owners in 2017/18.

The Upper Mary Street project aims to improve the streetscape and reinforce a distinct and iconic identity for this section of Mary Street, which celebrates some of Gympie's most historically significant buildings. The project sets out to create a safe and inviting public realm for the community and continue the shaded, green and leafy character of lower Mary Street.

Detailed design commences

This month the preliminary design proposal for the project was finalised. Precinct upgrades include an improved power pole and line strategy which is currently undergoing refinement by Energex.

The proposed pole and line plan currently includes the replacement and relocation of power poles, the consolidation of open mains to an aerial bundling solution (i.e. electrical wires bundled into two cables and no cross arms on poles) and undergrounding of some cross-road building connections at the top of the street.

The project also proposes streetscape works including new footpath treatment (to ensure all footpaths have uniform colouring), new street furniture selected to complement the heritage feel of the precinct, street tree planting for added shade, road pavement resurfacing, improved street lighting and a car park upgrade to allow for more public use parking.

Project schedule

Council has indicatively scheduled works as per below. Sequencing of the works will seek to minimise disruption to businesses as far as possible in terms of duration of construction, pedestrian access, traffic flows and parking availability.

We will keep you updated with refinement to the schedule as the design and consultation with owners and traders, progresses, including a timeframe for completion.

Detail Design | August – November 2018

Construction Start | February - March 2019

Construction finish | July – September 2019

Meet our design consultants, SMEC Australia

Council has engaged SMEC Australia to carry out the preliminary and detailed design of the precinct revitalisation. SMEC are an international urban, infrastructure and design management company who specialise in built environment projects, including 'renewal' of spaces.



Find out more about SMEC: http://www.smec.com/en_au

FAQs about the project

What is the budget for this project and how is it funded?

Gympie Regional Council has been awarded \$1.5 million for the project through the Australian Government's Building Better Regions funding program and have agreed to a co-contribution of \$1.5 million, for a total detail design and construction budget of \$3 million.

I'm concerned about construction and how this will impact on my business. How will Council manage this?

Council has currently scheduled works to commence following the Christmas/New Year period so as not to interrupt trading during this time. In the coming weeks, Council will commence conversations with owners and traders regarding project design, the construction process and how best to manage the project on site. To book an appointment with Council please call 5481 0413 or email planningprojects@gympie.qld.gov.au

I'm concerned these works will damage my heritage building. How will Council mitigate risks to heritage sites during construction?

The protection of heritage buildings (and any property) during construction is a priority for Council. A comprehensive risk identification process is undertaken throughout the design and construction of the project to effectively identify, reduce and eliminate risk to people and property.

Further, prior to the commencement of construction Council will undertake a dilapidation report of the precinct. The report describes the condition of the precinct area in pictures and text to enable any damage to building or property during construction to be identified promptly enabling rectification works to commence.

I'm not happy with the plans – can I still give my feedback?

We are here to listen. If you have any concerns, we are happy to talk you through the proposal, listen to your feedback and consider your suggestions against budget and overall design intent.

Heritage spotlight | Australian Joint Stock Bank



Pictured: Businessmen congregating in front of the building, circa 1920. Image courtesy of State Library of QLD.

The former Gympie Stock Exchange and Australian Joint Stock Bank (now the Neilson, Stanton & Parkinson building) is a living piece of Gympie's rich gold mining history.

Designed by leading Queensland colonial architect Francis Drummond Greville Stanley and built between 1881 and 1882, this stunning neo-classical building was designed with stability, reliability and longevity in mind. Standing proudly as it did over 100 years ago, the building and its' heritage is largely in-tact (with some additional space added in the rear).

The building has had many uses over the years, including as a gold safe, bank and even a gentleman's club! The space has acted as a solicitor's office since 1922, and is now home to Neilson, Stanton and Parkinson Solicitors.

If you have any questions or enquiries, please contact Council on 1300 307 800 or email planningprojects@gympie.qld.gov.au.