

Upper Mary Street Revitalisation Project Update

Issue 02 | December

An update from Council

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.

The detailed design phase for the project has now been completed and Council is in the process of reviewing the final design proposal and programming the works. The refined design is based on feedback from traders, owners and other interested community members, and includes:

- Placement of street trees to ensure significant heritage views and buildings are not obstructed.
- Reinstatement of the loading bay outside 247 Mary Street (Gympie Regional Rentals)
- Review of the built in seating detail and material selection
- Minor reconfiguration of Council owned car park at 251 Mary Street to comply with public off street car parking standards.

Project schedule

A reminder that Council has scheduled works as per below. The project is currently **on track** to commence in 3-4 months, pending weather conditions over the summer season. You may see Council officers and consultants undertaking some preliminary site investigations prior to this time. This work will have minimal impact on trading and any businesses directly impacted will be notified prior to this occurring.

Construction Start | February – March 2019

Construction Finish | July – September 2019

Official Project Launch | December 2019

Council will not be carrying out any construction over the Christmas/holiday period. We will keep owners and traders updated on any changes to the construction schedule as the project progresses.

How can we help advertise your business during construction?

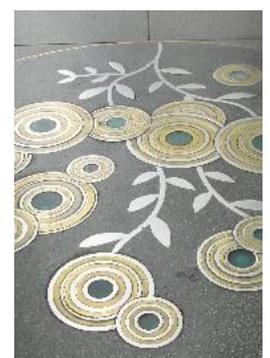
Council is committed to ensuring your business remains visible during construction. Upload your business logo for advertising on the construction barrier and let us know how we can best support you online at: <https://tinyurl.com/y8nxo2zq>

Calling all artists!

Council will soon be seeking design submissions for one of the public art components of the project. Anyone with some creative flair and vision for our main street will be invited to submit a design to be transformed into a brass inlay for integration in the built-in furniture at the three proposed gathering/seating nodes.

Artwork within the upper Mary Street precinct is intended to complement the overall heritage landscape response of the proposed design and draw upon the town's rich gold mining past, historical financial and government buildings, and associated local stories.

Examples of 'inlay' artworks



Prizes will be on offer for the winning designs.

Keep your eyes on Council's Facebook page for more information.

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Energex maintenance works

You may have noticed Energex has commenced maintenance works to rectify safety issues between buildings and the overhead electricity network along Mary Street in the project precinct area. These works include replacing power poles nearing end of life with new poles and aerial bundling of cables down the length of the street.

Please note these works are separate to Council's Upper Mary Street Revitalisation project and are not funded or controlled by Council.

Council has been in contact with Energex throughout its design process to ensure Energex infrastructure outcomes are consistent with the design objectives of the revitalisation project and overall feel of the upgraded precinct.

Energex schedule of works (weather dependent) is:

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Energex's Community Engagement Advisor on 3664 5753.

- Sun 9 Dec – Installation of pole outside 242 Mary Street, work crews with large elevated platforms to run new services across intersection.
- Christmas break
- Sun 13 Jan - Work crews with large elevated platforms to run new services from new poles.
- Sun 20 Jan – Recover old open mains and poles



Heritage spotlight | former Crawford & Co. building

(formerly the Sym & Jackson Building; Caston & Davidson Building and Goldsworthy Building - currently All About Eyes)

This visually interesting and State-heritage listed building is one of upper Mary Street's most intriguing historic additions; with its unusual facade and style.

Having been home to a variety of businesses over the past century,

the building has acted as an optometrist's office for 93 years and is now the premises of All About Eyes optometry.

Designed in a 'classicism' style by Gympie's prominent heritage architect Hugo Du Reitz and constructed around 1896, the structure has a detailed, symmetrically composed facade with smooth-rendered masonry, featuring elements arranged in careful proportion typical of the neo-classical style.

You may notice emu and kangaroo statues bearing shields, picks and shovels; an ornamental central pediment featuring lion's heads, acanthus leaves and egg; and dart moldings upon a balustrade parapet – all very unique features dissimilar to other buildings in the precinct.

Gympie Regional Council and staff would like to wish you and your business a Mary Christmas and happy new year!

Our next newsletter update will be released in early 2019.

