Adopted Report

for the

Economic Development and Tourism Committee Meeting

to be held

Tuesday, 21 June 2011

at

02:00 pm

Gold Coast City Council Chambers
135 Bundall Road Surfers Paradise

Our positioning statement
Working for our future - today

Our city vision
Defined by our spectacular beaches, hinterland ranges, forests and waterways, the Gold Coast is an outstanding city which celebrates nature and connects distinct communities with the common goal of sustainability, choice and wellbeing for all.

Our mission
Leading the way towards a bold future that can sustain growth and economic development while retaining a lifestyle that is uniquely 'Gold Coast'.
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### Adopted Report

**Economic Development and Tourism Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, 21 June 2011**

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### General Business

**KEY:**

- CEO - Chief Executive Officer
- BI - Business Improvement
- CG - City Governance
- CMS - Community Services
- EDMP - Economic Development & Major Projects
- ES - Engineering Services
- OS - Organisational Services
- PET - Planning Environment & Transport
- WR - Water Reform
ATTENDANCE

Cr S Douglas (Chairperson)
Cr M Grummitt
Cr D Crichlow
Cr R La Castra
Cr J Grew
Cr J Wayne Visitor
Cr E Sarroff Visitor
Cr C Robbins Visitor
Mr G Perry Manager Economic Development
Mr D Stewart Manager Major Projects
Ms D Dixon Executive Coordinator Economic Development
Ms T Jones Executive Coordinator Program & Project Development
Mr R Giudice Export Advisor - TradeStart
Ms C Ramsay Industry Development Officer
Ms S Wilkinson Principal Project Officer
Ms M Arcilla Cultural Development Project Officer

APOLOGIES

Cr P Young
Mr D Scott Director Economic Development and Major Projects

PRESENTATIONS

ADOPTED AT COUNCIL 24 JUNE 2011

RESOLUTION G11.0624.008 Moved Cr Douglas Seconded Cr La Castra

That the Report of the Economic Development & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 21 June 2011 covered by Recommendations numbered ED11.0621.001 to ED11.0621.006 be received.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION G11.0624.010 Moved Cr Douglas Seconded Cr La Castra

That the Report of the Economic Development & Tourism Committee’s Recommendations of Tuesday 21 June 2011, numbered ED11.0621.001 to ED11.0621.006, be adopted with the exception of:

Recommendation Number ED11.0621.005 which was specifically resolved.

CARRIED
ITEM 6  MAJOR PROJECTS
GOLD COAST CULTURAL PRECINCT – COMMUNITY CONSULTATION OUTCOMES
LG235/46/03/03/01
Refer 115 page attachment

1  BASIS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY
Not Applicable.

2  EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Not Applicable.

3  PURPOSE OF REPORT
To provide an update to Council on the outcomes of the recently completed community consultation process for the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct (GCCP). The process has generated substantial community interest in the cultural precinct. This report details the consultative activities undertaken and provides a summary and synthesis of the feedback.

It also outlines proposed next steps in moving this project forward with investigative action and liaison in progress to develop a formal business case, advance the project brief and build partnerships with the Queensland and Australian Governments and private sector through which capital and recurrent funding and in-kind support can be secured for the development and on-going operation of this significant cultural precinct.

4  PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS
Council at its meeting of 28 March 2011 resolved G11.0328.033:

“That the public consultation period for the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Masterplan be extended until 30 April 2011 and that the Masterplan be displayed for viewing by the public at Evandale Administration, Nerang Administration, all GCCC Branch Offices and Libraries.”

Council at its meeting of 17 September 2010 resolved G10.0917.009:

“1  That Council notes the potential city transformation and economic benefits that a redeveloped cultural and civic precinct can bring to the city.
2  That Council notes the high level cost plan.
3  That Council proceed with community consultation and the procurement of consultants to progress schematic design for the cultural and civic precinct and that a report be provided to Council presenting the outcomes.
4  That Council notes the potential funding model which is based on securing funding from State, Federal and private funding partners.
5  That Council acknowledges the outcomes of the Evandale Taskforce and the Mayor write to the external Taskforce members thanking them for their participation and time in assisting Council.
6  That Council note that the Evandale Taskforce has endorsed the project scope and seeks Councils support for this endeavour.
7  That the Evandale Taskforce recommend that Council recognise the significance of the green bridge connections as a component of the project and further recommends their inclusion in the project scope and the necessity for detailed investigations.
8  That the Director Economic Development & Major Projects bring forward Terms of Reference for the ongoing Taskforce to move the project forward.”
ITEM 6 (CONTINUED)
GOLD COAST CULTURAL PRECINCT – COMMUNITY CONSULTATION OUTCOMES
LG235/46/03/03/01

Refer to Attachment 6.1 for additional previous resolutions.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 Consultation Program

A comprehensive program of consultation has been undertaken to help Council understand the perceptions and opinions of the community on the proposition to establish the Evandale site as the city’s primary cultural precinct.

The draft masterplan drawings prepared by architects, Donovan Hill, for the Evandale Taskforce, present a framework for this endeavour. These were developed through a site planning study exploring a spectrum of nine options for site layout, scale, size and form of buildings. This study served two purposes:

- to demonstrate a feasible and achievable scope and mix of spaces within the site corresponding with designated use and facility needs
- to enable determination of realistic project cost estimates.

A copy of the GCCP site plan is provided as Attachment 6.2. The broad cost estimate for the scope of works entailed in this drawing is $284m.

The consultation program was implemented by Council’s Corporate Communications Team and consultation specialists SKM, over a nine-week period from 28 February to 30 April 2011.

The consultative approach was tailored to:

- reach residents and visitors across the whole city and gain feedback representative of all community interests
- target the engagement of key stakeholder groups

Initiatives included:

- on-line information with a feedback survey and four Discussion Forums
- displays with feedback surveys in public libraries, Council’s Administration and Customer Service Centres and The Arts Centre
- direct mail to 5000+ residential properties in the Evandale vicinity
- enquiry lines
- presentations and workshops with a range of stakeholder groups

An extensive media and marketing campaign supported these activities to raise awareness and promote participation.

The Communication Report, May 2011, with details and outcomes of the media and marketing campaign is provided as Attachment 6.3.

The Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Consultation Report 19 May 2011, is provided as Attachment 6.4
5.2 Consultation Outcomes

5.2.1 Levels of Engagement and Feedback

Overall the consultation program was successful in reaching a large audience and gathering robust quantitative and qualitative feedback. From survey data it can be confirmed that the data represents a broad cross-section of the Gold Coast community with regard to residential locality; and a reasonably even gender split with a slightly higher response level from females. The response rate from young people (under 20 years old) is low with 16-19 year olds 2.3 per cent and under 16s 0.5 per cent. The response rate of non-residents is also negligible pointing to a need to employ alternative methods to gain a better understanding of the perceptions and opinions of these cohorts as part of on-going consultative activities.

Survey: 1340 responses were received to the 13 question survey that was available in hard copy and on-line. These are tabulated in the GCCP Consultation Report Attachment 6.4.

Discussion Forums: the website posed four questions to encourage on-line discussion. 55 comments were contributed from 34 individuals. These are provided verbatim in the GCCP Consultation Report Attachment 6.4.

Presentations and workshops: Substantial and valuable feedback and ideas have been gained through presentations and workshops with stakeholders, special interest groups including Arts Centre Benefactors and Save Evandale Lake, and Council’s Urban Design Advisory Board (UDAB). A copy of the UDAB’s presentation 10 May 2011 is provided as Attachment 6.5.

Enquiries: 49 enquiries by phone (11), email (27) and written submissions (11) in the form of letter and/or email, were received. Many of the phone and email enquiries were of a general nature seeking information and clarification. A summary of key issues raised is provided in the GCCP Consultation Report Attachment 6.4 pp42-43.

Media and marketing campaign: This campaign helped to draw attention to the project and generate community interest and discussion. This included media management and public relations, print and radio advertising and distribution of marketing materials through a range of channels. Media Monitors have estimated that 350,000 people were exposed to the messages about the Cultural Precinct and the opportunity to have their say on how it should develop. A diverse range of opinions has been aired through media outlets particularly, Gold Coast Bulletin and the Hot Tomato and ABC radio networks, with general support for the concept. A compilation of media coverage and print and web advertising during the consultation period is provided in the appendices of the Communication Report Attachment 6.3.

5.2.2 Analysis of Feedback

Feedback gathered through the consultation process is substantial. It can be concluded with certainty that there is significant community support for proceeding with the proposal to develop the Evandale site as centralised cultural precinct for the city.

From evaluation of survey responses it can be concluded that the general community sentiment is overwhelmingly supportive of development of the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct. 79.7 per cent of respondents support the development of the Evandale site into a centralised cultural precinct and 70.7 per cent of respondents expressed support for the masterplan.
Response rates for facilities that people are most likely to use are highest for a large theatre, cinemas, an expanded art gallery and restaurants, although there is also strong support for other facilities indicated in the survey.

61 per cent of respondents indicated they would be likely to use the proposed green pedestrian bridge and many additional suggestions for facilities were contributed, with a notable emphasis on outdoor uses of the landscape.

Detailed conclusions drawn from each survey question are provided in the GCCP Consultation Report Attachment 6.4.

An overall analysis of the feedback gathered through various methods reveals key issues and areas for improvement, plus additional ideas and opportunities that warrant consideration for inclusion.

Key issues can be synthesised as follows:

- **DISTINCTIVE, INNOVATIVE & GREEN**: ensuring design of the precinct is forward-thinking, distinctively Gold Coast in style and sympathetic to the natural environment
- **ACCESSIBLE**: improving public and active transport connections and providing adequate on-site car parking
- **DIVERSE & ACTIVE**: ensuring a greater mix of cultural activities and facilities for all types and ages of people
- **PARKLAND RETENTION & ENHANCEMENT**: maximising access and enhancing the parkland, especially the lake and riverfront edges, for community recreation
  - **VALUE**: demonstrating and delivering return on financial investment required for the development

While these issues are significant and entail many considerations, nothing raised in the feedback is considered insurmountable to address as the project design brief and business case development proceed in the next stage.

**5.3 Ongoing Community Engagement**

To maintain the strong community awareness raised and engagement attained through the media, marketing and consultation activities, it will be important to progressively provide project updates through the media and other news distribution channels.

For immediate community information about the outcomes of the consultation program:
- a draft media release has been prepared. Refer Attachment 6.6; and

Community engagement will be integral to every step of progressing the project and an important part of the future Queensland and Australian Government funding processes.
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In the short term, it is intended to invite a range of cultural sector specialists and technical and design professionals, including UDAB, to contribute to refinement of the project brief.

Cognisant of the low level of participation of young people and visitors, alternative techniques will be employed to gain an understanding of the perceptions and opinions of people in these demographic cohorts.

As demonstrated through the Communication Program, on-line techniques are increasingly utilised and expected for civic information and engagement. Enhancements to the project website at http://www.ourcityoursay.com.au/ are being investigated to optimise digital community engagement methods.

A strategy for community engagement through the life of the project will be developed in collaboration with Corporate Communications.

5.4 Moving the Project Forward

Attachment 6.7 is a diagram representing the next steps envisaged for progressing the GCCP project.

The next focus of activity will be development of the ‘Business Case’ and refinement of the project brief. These will necessarily embody strong interdependencies and develop iteratively. The expected outcomes will be documentation of an initial stage of development that is defined and demonstrably aligned with the strategic directions of Council, the Queensland and Australian Governments to enable formal negotiation of partnerships for capital and recurrent investment. The necessary precursor to this activity is to formalise the structure and terms for governance and decision-making to steer and manage this immediate and subsequent stages of the GCCP project.

5.4.1 Project Governance & Decision-Making Framework

Terms of Reference (ToR) are being prepared for a Project Governance and Decision-Making Framework with groups as outlined in the following table, to steer and manage the GCCP project. The ToR and identified candidates will be presented for consideration of the EDT committee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decision Making Layer</td>
<td>Economic Development and Tourism Committee</td>
<td>• Provide approvals for the project</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>• Input into development of strategic framework and approval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directive Layer</td>
<td>Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Project Steering Committee</td>
<td>• Bi-monthly project performance report</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• High level program</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Strategic direction and conduits to other strategies</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Escalated Issues</td>
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</table>
## 5.4.2 Building the Business Case

Arts Queensland (AQ) is the key agency for State Government liaison and coordination for the GCCP for both capital and non-capital funding support. AQ officers have advised that to initiate formal consideration of Queensland Government financial support for the capital project, Council should follow the Project Assurance Framework (PAF).

The PAF is a project management methodology for assessing projects at critical stages in their lifecycle. This methodology distinguishes the infrastructure component of significant projects as distinct projects to enable flexibility and optimise efficiency of project delivery arrangements, while also demanding integration and alignment with core service elements of the overall project.

The first step, regarded as the pre-project stage is a “Strategic Assessment of Service Requirement”. AQ have indicated that to satisfy the information requirements for this assessment, some further work towards development of the ‘business case’ needs to be undertaken.

GCCP initiation and definition are well advanced and the following reports related to business planning and analysis are available.

- Evandale Cultural Precinct: Delivery and Management Options, Positive Solutions (March 2008); and
- GCCP Economic and Cultural Benefit Assessment Report, AEC Group (September 2010)

With the certainty of strong community support for establishment of the GCCP and encouragement from AQ, it is now timely to bring a focus to building the formal business case for the project. This will necessitate detailed investigation and evaluation of the following:

- GCCP operational needs and opportunities;
- GCCP operational governance and management models;

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<th>Role</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>- Escalated Issues</td>
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- GCCP economic modelling and forecasting of cost and revenue generation;
- Capital project delivery models;
- Capital project and operational funding options (public sector capital grants and
  subsidies, public and private sector operational partnerships, sponsorships, philanthropy,
  integration with Commonwealth Games bid etc);
- Strategic alignment with government priorities (Local, State and Federal);
- Citywide audit of cultural networks, including capital facilities, programs (training,
  mentoring, internships, grants or other support for emerging artists/technicians) and
  events (performance, festivals, markets etc.), and on-line resources;
- Citywide audit of collections and programs, public and private, aligned to the galleries,
  libraries, archives and museums (GLAM) sector; and
  - Citywide audit of creative industries, institutional and private, existing and emergent.

With a complex project like the GCCP, there is necessary iteration and intense focus on
business case and project brief development to underpin the financial and economic
sustainability of the project and its on-going operation. These aspects will be critical to
demonstrating eligibility and merit in securing substantial commitment of funding through
Queensland and Australian Government funding programs which are fundamental to
achievement of the proposed GCCP.

5.4.3 Refining the Project Brief

The next step in refining the project brief entails:
- addressing issues arising through the community consultation;
- including, where feasible, additional opportunities identified;
- incorporating outcomes of technical investigations.

The expected outcome will be a project brief that elaborates on the publicised masterplan
drawings and ensures that:
- design of the precinct is forward-thinking, distinctively Gold Coast in style and
  sympathetic to the natural environment
- public and active transport connections are optimised and adequate and appropriately
  and located on-site car parking is designed
- allowance is made for a diverse mix of cultural activities and facilities for all types and
  ages of people
- enhancement and access to the parkland are optimised, especially the lake and riverfront
  edges, for a range of active and passive community recreation and entertainment uses
  and nature conservation
- the capital assets developed and future operation of the precinct deliver optimal return on
  financial investment

Additional planning investigations will feed into this project brief refinement, including:
- Principles and initiatives for achieving ESD best practice;
- Articulation of what we mean by forward-thinking and distinctively Gold Coast;
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- A landscape strategy that set ambitions for the uses, modification and enhancement (including public art) of outdoor spaces and circulation
- Opportunities presented by emerging information and communication technologies; and
- Technical studies: existing conditions assessment, capital asset valuations, transport and traffic, hydraulics, geotechnical

It is intended that this work will be led by the Project Control Group (PCG) in consultation with the Project Internal Reference Group (PIRG), as well as UDAB and other participants selected for their strategic connections and/or expertise, with a view to presenting the outcomes to the EDT committee.

6 ALIGNMENT TO BOLD FUTURE VISION, CORPORATE PLAN, OPERATIONAL PLAN

3.4 Vibrant community and cultural hubs meet local needs and enliven activity

3.4.1 Establish a major cultural precinct at Evandale supported by localised cultural hubs and specialised cultural infrastructure spread across the city

3.4.2 Continue to implement a cultural infrastructure network that keeps pace with community growth and expectations

7 FUNDING AND RESOURCING REQUIREMENTS

Budget and Funding Considerations

As at 13 May 2011 the GCCP project has incurred expenditure and commitments totalling $293,000 from the Major Projects capital budget (cost centre 555) for 2010/11. An overview of the costs incurred this year is indicated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community consultation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Including original $80k budget, expenses incurred associated with DVD production and extension of consultation initiatives and duration</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Masterplan consultancy work</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Including architectural, economic planning, quantity surveying, ESD review, topographical survey</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other</th>
<th>$13,000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Including Ideas Competition costs, previous consultation and taskforce expenses</td>
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</table>

The current budget submission for 2011-12 budget process is for $500,000 to enable progression of the project as represented diagrammatically in Attachment 6.7. The forecast scope of expenditure includes costs related to business case and project brief development, technical investigations and implementation of the community engagement strategy.
Human Resources

Activities in relation to the GCCP project will continue to be led by officers within Council’s Major Projects Branch, Office of City Architect and Heritage, and Corporate Communications. Project advancement will necessitate increasing involvement of officers from other Council work areas, particularly as the Project Control Group and Project Internal Reference Group membership is determined.

8 RISK MANAGEMENT

At this stage the GCCP project presents multiple moderate and major beneficial outcomes and no deleterious effects.

There are variables that critically impact on the GCCP project, most notably Council’s ESD Workplace project, the 2018 Commonwealth Games bid. It is important to continue with business case development and project brief refinement, watchful on the timing and outcomes of decisions on these variables, to build a solid foundation and support funding partnerships.

The major current risk is that if the project does not proceed, the cultural sector and cultural activity within the Gold Coast region will be unable to realise its full potential.

There is also risk that the strong community awareness and support for the project that has grown through the consultation process will diminish over time. A strategy for community engagement through the life of the project will be developed in collaboration with Corporate Communications.

As the project progresses a Risk Assessment and Management Plan will be developed in accordance with Council’s Enterprise Risk Management Framework.

9 STATUTORY MATTERS

Not Applicable at this stage.

10 COUNCIL POLICIES

Not Applicable.

11 DELEGATIONS

Not Applicable.

12 COORDINATION & CONSULTATION

In the table below, identify how internal and external stakeholders have been involved / participated in the proposal to date and the outcome of that participation.
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GOLD COAST CULTURAL PRECINCT – COMMUNITY CONSULTATION OUTCOMES
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and/or Title of the Stakeholder Consulted</th>
<th>Directorate or Organisation</th>
<th>Is the Stakeholder Satisfied With Content of Report and Recommendations (Yes/No) (comment as appropriate)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Architect</td>
<td>PET</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marketing Strategist Corporate Communications</td>
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<td>Coordinator Community Consultation</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manager Facilities Management</td>
<td>CS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manager Community Venues and Services</td>
<td>CS</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manager Library Services and Cultural Development</td>
<td>CS</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordinator Cultural Planning and Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chairman, The Arts Centre Board</td>
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<td>General Manager, The Arts Centre</td>
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<td>Friends of the Arts Centre</td>
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13 STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS

See section 5.1 above for staff who have been consulted on potential positive and negative impacts prior to this report going forward.

14 TIMING

Not Applicable.

15 CONCLUSION

Feedback gained through the consultation program provides certainty of community support for development of the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct at Council’s Evandale site.

Without a pinnacle cultural hub and destination, cultural networks, activity and enterprise within the Gold Coast region will be unable to realise their full potential.

The ESD Workplace project and 2018 Commonwealth Games bid impact critically on the GCCP project, however, it is important to continue with business case development and project brief refinement to build a solid foundation and support for substantial and long term funding partnerships.

Consultation feedback provides clear direction and some additional ideas for inclusion as the project design brief and business case development proceed in the next stage. Matters raised in objection to the draft masterplan drawings can be examined and addressed through this process.

To maintain and foster the strong community awareness and support for the GCCP project that has grown through the consultation process, it will be important to develop and implement a Community Engagement Strategy for the life of the project.
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To move forward in a way that most suitably positions the project to secure investment from the Australian and Queensland Governments, the next focus of activity needs to develop the ‘Business Case’ and refine the project brief in ways that will satisfy the information needs of the Queensland Government’s Project Assurance Framework.

The necessary precursor to this activity is to formalise the structure and terms for governance and decision-making to steer and manage this immediate and subsequent stages of the GCCP project. Work is underway on preparing ToR and identified candidates for the series of decision-making and working groups for consideration of the EDT committee.

The iterative process developing the business case and project brief in tandem will be complex and intensive. Some of the necessary planning investigations and technical studies are underway such as a review of principles and initiatives for achieving ESD best practice and investigation of capital works delivery options (from traditional to Public-Private Partnership models). A project plan and program will be prepared to map out the many elements and tasks and timeframes associated with this next stage of progressing the GCCP project.

16 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council resolves as follows:

1. That Council note the overall outcome of the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct consultation program which substantiates that there is significant community support for proceeding with the proposal to develop the Evandale site as the primary cultural precinct for the City (79.9 per cent) and 70.7 per cent supporting the site masterplan presented.

2. That Council note the synthesis of key issues arising through the consultation program as:
   a. **DISTINCTIVE, INNOVATIVE & GREEN**: ensuring design of the precinct is forward-thinking, distinctively Gold Coast in style and sympathetic to the natural environment;
   b. **ACCESSIBLE**: improving public and active transport connections and providing adequate on-site car parking;
   c. **DIVERSE & ACTIVE**: ensuring a greater mix of cultural activities and facilities for all types and ages of people;
   d. **PARKLAND RETENTION & ENHANCEMENT**: maximising access and enhancing the parkland, especially the lake and riverfront edges, for community recreation;
   e. **VALUE**: demonstrating and delivering return on financial investment required for the development;

   and that all community feedback be considered and addressed as the project design brief and business case development proceed in the next stage.

3. That the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Consultation Report and the Communication Report to be made publicly available on the project website.

4. That a Community Engagement Strategy for on-going community information and participation through the life of the project be developed, including particular attention to engagement of visitors and people under 20 years of age.
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5 That a further report be brought back to Council with:
   a the proposed Project Governance and Decision-Making Framework; and
   b detail of the project plan for moving the project forward as outlined in the diagram
      - Attachment 6.7

6 That the Director Economic Development and Major Projects progress discussions
   with Queensland and Australian Government agencies with prospective partnership
   interests in the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct.

Author: Tory Jones
   Executive Coordinator Major Projects
Authorised by: Darren Scott
   Director Economic Development & Major Projects

14 June 2011

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ED11.0621.006
moved Cr Grew seconded Cr La Castra

1 That Council note the overall outcome of the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct
   consultation program which substantiates that there is significant community
   support for proceeding with the proposal to develop the Evandale site as the
   primary cultural precinct for the City (79.9 per cent) and 70.7 per cent supporting
   the site masterplan presented.

2 That Council note the synthesis of key issues arising through the consultation
   program as:
   a DISTINCTIVE, INNOVATIVE & GREEN: ensuring design of the precinct is
      forward-thinking, distinctively Gold Coast in style and sympathetic to the
      natural environment;
   b ACCESSIBLE: improving public and active transport connections and
      providing adequate on-site car parking;
   c DIVERSE & ACTIVE: ensuring a greater mix of cultural activities and
      facilities for all types and ages of people;
   d PARKLAND RETENTION & ENHANCEMENT: maximising access and
      enhancing the parkland, especially the lake and riverfront edges, for
      community recreation;
   e VALUE: demonstrating and delivering return on financial investment
      required for the development;

   and that all community feedback be considered and addressed as the project
   design brief and business case development proceed in the next stage.

1 That the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Consultation Report and the
   Communication Report to be made publicly available on the project website.

2 That a Community Engagement Strategy for on-going community information
   and participation through the life of the project be developed, including particular
   attention to engagement of visitors and people under 20 years of age.
ITEM 6 (CONTINUED)
GOLD COAST CULTURAL PRECINCT – COMMUNITY CONSULTATION OUTCOMES
LG235/46/03/03/01

3 That a further report be brought back to Council with:
   a the proposed Project Governance and Decision-Making Framework; and
   b detail of the project plan for moving the project forward as outlined in the
diagram - Attachment 6.7

4 That the Director Economic Development and Major Projects progress
discussions with Queensland and Australian Government agencies with
prospective partnership interests in the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct.

CARRIED

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.30pm.
PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

Council at its meeting of 26 July 2010 resolved G10.0726.012

“1 That the following Evandale Taskforce recommendation in regards to the master plan be adopted.
   a Position the new precinct on the sites that are currently the Council administration and Arts centre buildings.
   b The main elements of the precinct will be the performance theatre, art gallery, drama theatre, discovery centre and events terrace and civic building.
   c That the master plan allow for staged development with stage one consisting of at least the performance theatre, drama theatre and art gallery.

2 That a refined master plan be brought before Council by the end of September 2010 as it will be used to conduct community consultation and form the basis for external funding applications.

3 That a further report be brought back to Council with the economic impact model and detailed funding plan for the cultural and civic precinct.

4 That a detailed design be developed based upon the above master plan recommendations.

5 That the Evandale Taskforce will terminate at the end of September 2010.

6 That Council commit to a Robina or Southport development of office space to allow for the redevelopment of the Evandale administration centre.”

Council at its meeting of 9 March 2010 resolved ED10.0309.003:

“1 That Council note the reports on the Evandale Taskforce meetings and its recommendations.

2 That Council notes that the detailed design brief:
   a should not allow for modification of the Nerang River, the construction of an island or removal of the lake.
   b will focus the identified stage one components to the current built profile with no development east of the current buildings.

3 That Council notes that the on going community engagement, along with a community event will take place at Evandale prior to the master plan being completed to gather community input.

4 That Council notes there has been no specific recommendation from the taskforce in regard to green bridge connections.”

Council at its meeting of 2 November 2009 resolved in part G09.1102.011:

“1 That Council note the results of the Gold Coast Civic and Cultural Precinct Master Plan Ideas Competition judging panel.

2 That Council notes that selected Gold Coast Civic and Cultural Precinct Master Plan Ideas Competition submissions will be displayed in Council’s libraries and administration centres for a period of time.
3 That Council notes that the Evandale Precinct Taskforce will utilise ideas from the Gold Coast Civic and Cultural Precinct Master Plan Ideas Competition to develop a detailed design brief for the potential redevelopment of the Evandale site.

4 That Council agree to extend the current terms of reference for the Evandale Precinct Taskforce to end of July 2010 in order for them to oversee the development of the detailed design brief.

5 That Council notes detailed economic and funding models will be developed.

6 That Council notes a budget request for ongoing funding will be presented to 2010-11 the special budget committee.”

Council at its meeting of 26 June 2009 resolved in part G09.0626.017:

“1 That Council notes the progress report of the Evandale Taskforce.

2 That Council endorses the functional uses and space allocations identified in Table 1 of the report for the purpose of the Design Competition, with a variation to the 2nd dot point under the heading ‘Council Administration Offices’ such that it reads: “approximate area between 4,500m2 to 8,000 m2”.”

Council at its meeting of 22 June 2009 resolved in part G09.0622.001:

“That a report be presented to Council at the earliest opportunity to provide a progress report on the discussions and recommendations of the Evandale Taskforce and to allow a review by Council of the workplace and cultural footprint requirements within the civic centre precinct.”

Council at its meeting of 9 March 2009 resolved G09.0309.009:

“1 That Council note the proposed Evandale Master Plan process and endorse, in principal, the appointment of suitably qualified design experts to prepare the Evandale Master Plan.

2 That the appointment of the above consultants and preparation of the master plan be undertaken once Council’s Evandale Precinct Task Force has had the opportunity to assess planning constraints, flooding issues and a needs analysis of specific cultural, civic and workplace uses that will be appropriate for the Evandale site, and present their deliberations to Council for consideration.

3 That Council notes the budget request for 2009/10 will be presented to the special budget committee process.”

Council at its meeting of 2 February 2009 resolved in part G09.0202.031

“5 That the Council proceed as a matter of priority to address all aspects of part 4 (as below) of Council Resolution G08.1124.003 of its meeting of 24 November 2008 so as to inform its future deliberations around staff accommodation.

That, for future consideration and as a component of the long term accommodation solution, the CEO bring forward a process to include a tendered design for a cultural heart and iconic ESD Workplace at Evandale ensuring that all buildings are constructed or renovated so that they meet the NABERS 5 star standard in their environmental performance.
The design and process is to include:

a) Workplace of up to 25,000m² GFA;

b) Integration with a whole of site civic and cultural precinct;

c) Enhanced and/or new pedestrian linkages to Surfers Paradise;

d) Commercial car parking;

e) Adequate opportunities for community feedback and consultation in the design process.”

6 That Council establishes the Evandale Precinct Task Force and that the terms of reference for the task force be as set out in Attachment 1 with an amendment to the membership to include the following additions:

Chair of Gold Coast Arts Centre Board

Representative of the Friends of the Arts Centre.

City Planning Committee Chairperson, Cr Shepherd, in place of Cr La Castra.”
GOLD COAST CULTURAL PRECINCT – SITE PLAN

ATTACHMENT 6.2

Donovan Hill

GCCC EVANDALE MASTER PLAN - 985
Appendix 1

Media Coverage during the consultation.

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1 JANUARY 2011

Style magazine
“5 minutes with John Paul Langbroek”

What art centres do you like to visit on the Gold Coast?
I try to see events at the Gold Coast Arts Centre and the smaller theatres like the Gold Coast Little Theatre... and [Spotlight Theatre].

What does being Shadow Minister for the Arts entail? I get to see performances, from very small productions to the big festival-type productions. Because I’m Shadow Minister I get to formulate our plans for what we’ll do should we become the government.

What changes would you like to see in arts on the Gold Coast? Council should be consulting with the local community about what it is we want for the arts on the Gold Coast. We’ve always had a lot of focus on sports and I think there’s a great number of people who love the arts and would like to see facilities improved. I’m committed to growing the arts at the Gold Coast, not just in Brisbane or the other regions.

WWW.JPLANGBROEK.COM
19 JANUARY 2011

Gold Coast Sun, General News, Page 1
“Council resumes project debates”

Council resumes project debates

UNFINISHED business will be on the agenda when the Gold Coast City Council gets back to business next week.

The future of so-called party houses, Tipplers and a $250 million city administration centre at Robina will be among the contentious issues discussed by the 15 councillors.

Last year ondod on a downer for the city’s elected representatives who spent a record nine-hour meeting discussing the issues some of which have been on the table for more than 15 years.

The next local government election is 14 months away and retiring Mayor Ron Clarke is already focusing on his so-called legacy projects, while his fellow councillors begin their push for re-election.

Among Mr Clarke’s pet projects is securing the 2018 Commonwealth Games, the Evanudi cultural precinct and creating a ferry system.

Gold Coast Sun, General News, Page 4
“Eddy’s War On Spending”

Rally against new council headquarters

**EDDY’S WAR ON SPENDING**

A CAMPAIGN to halt plans for a $200 million council headquarters at Robina is gathering momentum ahead of a public hearing meeting on Monday.

The meeting has been called by city finance boss Eddy Sarroff, who has vowed to try to overturn the development as soon as the council adjourns next week.

Mr Sarroff (actress) said the meeting would focus on shining a spotlight on the development, which is scheduled to start late this year.

“The feedback from residents has been massive and I think we need to outline the cost of the project and how it will impact on future councils,” he said.

The approval for the building, which is expected to cost $200 million to develop, has raised concerns over the council’s commitment to the project.

Mr Sarroff said the development was set to cost $200 million and would be a major boost for the local economy.

Mr Sarroff said the proposed council headquarters would be a major boost for the local economy.

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Mr Sarroff said the proposed council headquarters would be a major boost for the local economy.
ABC Gold and Tweed Coasts (Gold Coast) Mornings - 8:35 AM
Nicole Dyer
Dyer discusses the cost of rebuilding after the Qld floods. Dyer will talk to a Councillor about whether now is the time to invest millions of dollars into a cultural precinct at Evandale. Dyer plays a clip of Kerry Watson, Chairman of the Gold Coast Arts Centre, discussing why he believes this is worthy long-term investment.
Dyer is now joined by Eddy Sarroff, Councillor, Gold Coast City Council, who is opposed to the project going ahead and has organised a protest meeting tonight. She is also joined by Jan Grew, Councillor, Robina Council, who is in favour of the centre.
Sarroff details his concerns. He mentions the amount of money required to build the accommodation project at Robina and the cultural precinct. Sarroff says that the amount that will need to be borrowed is 'unsustainable'. He says that the council needs look after the staff they already have, instead of relocating them. Grew says they won't be borrowing $500m tomorrow, and instead the project will be spanned over 20 years.
She says this plan has been on the cards for 15 years and in December the Council finally made 'the right decision'. Grew says it is vital for the cultural precinct to go ahead but the staff be moved to Robina. Sarroff says suggests the project could go ahead on different land in the future, such as at Southport, but only if funds become available. Grew points out that it is currently a buyers market and 'the worst time ever' to buy a piece of land.
Sarroff points out that they already own the Transit Centre and this office space is not being utilised. Grew says that business people in Robina are very keen to see another building in the precinct. She mentions how much potential the area has, with the biggest shopping centre in South East Qld, expansions to Robina Hospital and great railway stations and parking. Sarroff says he is expecting a good turn out tonight at the Burleigh Waters Community Centre. Dyer wants to hear from listeners' views.
Interviewees: Eddy Sarroff, councillor, Gold Coast City Council; Jan Grew, Councillor, Robina Council; Kerry Watson, Chairman of the Gold Coast Arts Centre.
Duration: 11.07
ABC Gold Coast 13:00 News
Newsreader
“Two Gold Coast City Councillors are at odds over plans to build a cultural centre at Evandale and an administration centre at Robina. Eddy Sarroff, Councillor, Gold Coast City Council, says the combined cost of $484million would mean heavy borrowings.
Jan Grew, Councillor, Robina Council disagrees.
Interviewees: Eddy Sarroff, councillor, Gold Coast City Council; Jan Grew, Councillor, Robina Council
Duration: 1.09

Hot Tomato (Gold Coast)14:00 News - 2:01 PM
Newsreader
Plans to relocate the Gold Coast Council Administration Building to Robina will go before the public tonight at Burleigh Waters Community Centre. The community is being urged to voice their opinion on the controversial $256m project which will turn the Evandale Headquarters into a new cultural precinct.
Councillor Eddy Sarroff says he does not want the chambers built on loan.
Interviewees: Eddy Sarroff, Councillor, Gold Coast Regional Council
Duration: 0.44

ABC Gold and Tweed Coasts (Gold Coast) Mornings - 8:57 AM
Nicole Dyer
Dyer asks listeners whether they think Gold Coast City Council prOcede with their plans to build a cultural precinct at Evandale, or whether, in light of the recent flooding, the project should be put on hold.
Caller Marnia says she agrees with Jan Grew, Councillor, Robina Council. She says, while the timing is unfortunate, this is a long-term project that has been on the cards for some time. Marnia says she loves the Arts Centre and would visit the new precinct often.
Duration: 2.13
La Castra says $256m HQ essential

MATTHEW KILLORAN
killoran@goldcoast.com.au

CONSTRUCTION jobs would be lost, the city would lose millions of dollars and the Gold Coast would remain a “cultural joke” if the planned new council headquarters was scaled back, says councillor Bob La Castra.

At a full Gold Coast City Council meeting on Monday night, finance boss Cr Eddy Saroff failed in his attempt to repeal council’s plan to build a $256 million, 30,000sq m staff headquarters at Rehana, in favour of a building half the size.

His proposed headquarters would hold staff from rented buildings at Bundall and Varsity Lakes, as well as the majority of staff at Evandale.

Cr Saroff said he wanted the new administration building to hold just staff from rented premises, which cost the city $4 million a year.

“What we’re dealing with is more than double what we need for the staff in rented premises,” he said.

“We’re spending a significant amount on this project and it doesn’t have the support of ratepayers.”

Bob La Castra
says the Gold Coast’s facilities are a cultural joke

Cr La Castra said the cost of building the administration centre had already skyrocketed in the 15 years it had been debated, but it was still needed as staff were in overcrowded conditions.

“Cr Saroff’s actions haven’t saved us money,” he said. “Far from saving us money it’s cost us tens of millions of dollars.

“If we put it off again it will cost us several hundred million dollars more than if we build it now.

“This is going to create huge unemployment over a couple of years and will have a knock-on effect to our economy.”

Cr La Castra said the staff had to leave Evandale before its planned conversion to a cultural precinct.

“We’re the sixth-largest city in Australia and what we have to offer culturally is an embarrassment to the city,” he said.
SPARKS are set to fly when Gold Coast councillors sit down to resume rates discussions tomorrow.

With anger on water bills boiling over, the setting of general rates and fees for next financial year will be the next contentious issue.

The city budget itself will not be handed down until June but councillors are already preparing to fight for money for projects in their divisions.

Mayor Ron Clarke said there was much to discuss during the first budget session of 2011.

"Rates are always a big part of the process and we try to get the largest amount of value for residents while keeping rates as low as possible," he said.

"It is always a puzzle."

Among the controversial projects set to be funded from city coffers are a proposed $256 million Robina headquarters and a $250 million makeover of the Evandale cultural precinct.

Community groups have protested against the scale and cost of these developments, which will require additional state and federal funding.

Also yet to be funded is the council's contribution to the second stage of the $1.67 billion light rail system from Parkwood to Helensvale and Broadbeach to Surfers Paradise.

The first stage, from Southport to Surfers Paradise, is already under construction.

Cr Clarke wrestled control of the city budget from finance boss Eddy Sarff in controversial circumstances last year and has vowed to aim for a 3 per cent rates rise, despite failing to deliver on two promised freezes in the past.

Last year, when the general rate and other local charges rose 4.9 per cent, the council raised its $75 million, which was up 83 per cent from $389 million five years ago.

Despite the number of notable properties rising by just 20 per cent in five years, council chief executive Dale Dickson justified the rate and fee hikes by claiming the city's population growth had driven the need for better infrastructure.

Tough talks ahead on budget

By ANDREW POTTS
potts@goldcoast.com.au

Cuts could hit local projects

THE Gold Coast Combined Chamber of Commerce has warned the State Government not to push the city's projects to the backburner in the wake of several natural disasters.

The State Budget is expected to take a significant hit from both Cyclone Yasi, which caused more than $7 billion in damage, and recent floods and Cyclone Yasi, which caused more than $7 billion in damage.

However, chamber president Bob Downes said he was concerned the city would again be left behind in the wake of the rebuilding effort. "We have already been left behind in terms of receiving funding for certain projects and we certainly do not want to lose track of things like the second stage of the light rail," he said.

"There is always talk of the Gold Coast being the small business capital of the county but we need more assistance. I understand the floods have affected the economy in a major way but we have asked for assistance for a long time and I would hate to think we are going to be left behind again."

Projects needing state government funding include the second stage of the light rail system and the $200 million Evandale cultural precinct in Bundall which will replace the Arts Centre Gold Coast.

Gold Coast mayor Ron Clarke said he would discuss progressing the upgrade of the Broadwater as well as lobbying for funding for the second stage of the light rail. "They have delayed the Broadwater scheme and do not consider the light rail extensions a high priority."

Extension of the heavy rail from Varsity Lakes to Coolangatta would also be discussed.
2 MARCH 2011

Channel 9 Gold Coast Gold Coast News - 5:57 PM
Rob Readings
“Gold Coast Council has unveiled plans for a redeveloped arts and culture precinct on its current site at Evandale. It is lobbying the Qld and Fed Govts for $250m to make the project happen.
Susie Douglas, Gold Coast Councillor, says the project may be included in the Gold Coast's bid for the 2018 Commonwealth Games. Douglas says she has met with Anna Bligh, Queensland Premier, and she has told her that she would fully support the Gold Coast's bid.”
Interviewees: Kerry Watson, Arts Centre Chairman; Ron Clarke, Mayor, Gold Coast; Susie Douglas, Gold Coast Councillor
Duration: 1.32

Gold Coast Bulletin Website - www.goldcoast.com.au
“Evandale Masterplan unveiled”
A SUCCESSFUL Commonwealth Games bid could be the kick start the Evandale cultural precinct
Evandale Masterplan unveiled

Jessica Elder | March 2nd, 2011

A SUCCESSFUL Commonwealth Games bid could be the kickstart the Evandale cultural precinct needs.

A draft masterplan for the project will be unveiled today, despite funding yet to be secured.

Area councillor Susie Douglas said she had discussed the cultural precinct with Premier Anna Bligh during Community Cabinet at the weekend and was confident the Commonwealth Games bid held the key.

"If we host the Games we will need stage one of the precinct completed to add to the city's attractions and to host events," Cr Doulges said.

Have your say on the feedback form below

"The council has $50 million set aside for stage one, but we are hoping the State and Federal Governments will come to the table with more at the end of this year.

"Without the Commonwealth Games, such financial commitments could take longer."

Stage one of the cultural precinct will include the demolition of the council administration building and a green bridge from Evandale to Chevron Island.

A 5000sqm art gallery, 2000-seat lyric theatre, cinemas, open space and 300-seat multi-purpose concert hall will replace the council building and staff will move to Robina.

Stage one is expected to be completed within six years.

Stage two could take more than a decade to eventuate but is forecast to bring big changes.

Your Say

"Good to see so much support here. I for one believe it is time the GC grew up and offered locals and tourists some diversity in terms of leisure activities. You have my full support to the naysayers who don’t like the location. Just think how something like this might inject some life into the Bundall/Surfers area."

Mrs B

The Gold Coast Arts Centre will be torn down to make way for a "discovery centre", which will be home to restaurants, cafes, cinemas, drama workshops and theatres, large and small.

The total cost of the Evandale Cultural Precinct will top $200 million.

Cr Douglas said it was a worthwhile investment.

"We need to compete with other destinations," she said.

"This new precinct will bring culture, large shows and a different kind of tourist to the Gold Coast."

The draft masterplan can be viewed in the Gold Coast Arts Centre foyer from 11.30am until 1.30pm today, or online at www.ourcityyoursay.com.au.
Gold Coast Sun, General News, Page 10
“Chance for have a say residents to on precinct”

**Chance for residents to have a say on precinct**

It is one of the most controversial and longstanding projects on the council’s agenda but residents will have only two weeks to have their say on the Evandale cultural precinct.

Community consultation has begun on the master plan for the $284 million Bundall development, which is to be built on the site of the existing Arts Centre Gold Coast.

Construction is expected to begin by 2014 and be completed by 2016.

Area councillor and longtime project supporter Susie Douglas (pictured) said it was important for residents to have their say: “It is a second round of consultation and this will let people tell us what they want to have in the complex,” she said. “A survey will be sent to residents in surrounding suburbs that will also be available online.”

However, Southport councillor Dawn Cicchini criticized the short consultation period.

The council’s administration building, which has stood on the site since 1976, will also be demolished to make way for the precinct. Its staff will be relocated to the proposed $80 million Robina council administration building, on which construction has yet to begin.

To have your say, visit www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/

ABC Gold and Tweed Coasts (Gold Coast) Mornings - 8:55 AM
Nicole Dyer
Interview with Kerry Watson, Chairman, Gold Coast Arts Centre A museum, art gallery and large performing arts centre are included in a draft plan for the Evandale Cultural Precinct being unveiled today. Watson says the design released today may not be the final design as residents of the Gold Coast need to have their say.

There is a concept for a 5000 square metre Art Gallery. Watson is still concerned over funding but this precinct will be developed over a decade, so he does not believe the funding will be excessive. He thinks the State Govt is very keen to find it, as part of their Commonwealth Games bid. Local and State Govts will need to announce their commitment before a bid document has to be sent in to the Games by the 18th of March.

Interviewees: Kerry Watson, Chairman, Gold Coast Arts Centre

Duration: 4.38
Games could spark culture outbreak

A successful Commonwealth Games bid could be the kick-start the Erandale cultural precinct needs.

A draft masterplan for the project is to be unveiled to the public today, even though funding is not secured.

Area councillor Susie Douglas said she had discussed the cultural precinct with Premier Anna Bligh during the Community Cabinet at the weekend. She was confident the Games bid could hold the key.

“Gold Coast residents will get look at the draft master plan for the city's new cultural precinct.”

Interviewees: Ron Clarke, Mayor, Gold Coast City Council.
Duration: 0.22

ABC Gold and Tweed Coasts (Gold Coast) 17:30 News

Newsreader

The Gold Coast City Council believes a new $300 million cultural precinct will improve its chances of hosting the 2018 Commonwealth Games over Sri Lanka's Hamnantota. The announcement is to be made in November. Gold Coast Councillor Susie Douglas says the project will require state and federal funding and so far has Qld Premier Anna Bligh's support.

Interviewees: Susie Douglas, Councillor, Gold Coast City Council
Duration: 0.41
Gold City Council says it won’t give up lobbying the Fed and State Govts for $250 million needed to fund a proposed cultural precinct. In plans unveiled today, the project would see a state-of-the-art lyric theatre and art gallery built at council’s current chambers. Kerry Watson, Chairman, Arts Centre Gold Coast, says every city needs a cultural base. Ron Clarke, Mayor, Gold Coast City, says it is essential the cultural headquarters is at a standard the Gold Coast deserves.

Interviewees: Kerry Watson, Chairman, Arts Centre Gold Coast; Ron Clarke, Mayor, Gold Coast City
Duration: 1.36

8 MARCH 2011

Gold Coast Bulletin, General News, Page 7
“Cultural centre would earn $1 b a year, say art lovers”

THE stream of Gold Coasters leaving the city for a cultural fix in Brisbane or Sydney would be turned around if the Evandale complex went ahead – pumping as much as $1 billion a year into the economy, say arts lovers.

The Arts Centre Gold Coast chairman Kerry Watson, who will be one of many people heading along today to have his say on the cultural product migration at a series of workshops, said he thought the project was vital for the city’s future.

“It will be a major tourism attraction for a destination that relies on attractions,” he said.

“We would be targeting major Broadway musicals and art shows if this complex is built.”

“People would come from the Gold Coast and all over Australia and internationally to see them."

The council’s administration building would be relocated to Hobie to make way for the complex, which includes a 5000sqm art gallery and 2000-seat theatre, plus a 300-seat drama theatre.

Mr Watson said tens of thousands of people would head to the city annually to see the shows and the value of the cultural precinct could be as high as $1 billion a year.

Sculptor Midge Johansen said the city “desperately needed a major art gallery”.

“People have been saying that the Gold Coast is a cultural desert for a long time,” she said.

“The art centre we have is too small – we can’t even put the Gold Coast collection on display because there is not enough space.”

The existing arts centre is 440sqm and only allows the exhibition of about 10 per cent of the city’s collection, according to Mr Watson.

Karen gallery director Terri Law said the city did not have a reputation as a cultural centre, despite hundreds of artists and five commercial galleries being based here. The new cultural hub would be constructed by 2017.
Opinions

Huff & Puff

WITH GREG HOUGH

Drinking from the Poison Chalice

I really didn’t want to write about the water issue and Alconex again, but it seems that this issue just won’t go away.

I still firmly believe that there is a simple answer ‘NOBODY PAY’. As stated previously, this will cause Alconex to go broke and it will break the agreement between the Council and they will have to re-think the water plan. It’s really simple — ‘DON’T PAY THE WATER BILL’!

What the? 

Now we can move on to the next step, which is to rid ourselves of this Council who once again don’t live in the real world. $250 million plus on a Culture Centre! I can’t understand where all this money is coming from. How, in this time, can our Council be so flippant about spending on building a new super, mega-office space at Robina and changing the current Council Chambers into a Cultural Centre? Millions of dollars will be spent when the rest of the Gold Coast has tightened its belt and are praying and hoping for an upturn so they can pay the rates and other bills.
“Cultural plan more cringe than iconic”

Cultural plan more cringe than iconic

LUCY ARDEEN
ardeen@bigpond.com.au

THERE is nothing controversial or bold about the preliminary designs for the Gold Coast Cultural Centre — and that is exactly why the plans have sparked a backlash.

Cutting-edge cultural buildings like Spert’s Guggenheim Museum and the Sydney Opera House sparked debate when they were first proposed in 1991 and 1995 respectively.

But people in architectural circles say the designs for the new Everton Park centre are not unique enough.

Architect Greg Fargan Smith has "serious concerns about the plans, which were very disappointing".

"There is a very poor relationship between the buildings and the water and the lake has remained completely untouched," he said.

Mr Fargan Smith said it was a mistake to blame Donovan Hill, which had come up with the designs, because the firm appeared to be "hamstrung by the brief provided from council".

Urban Development Institute of Australia Gold Coast president Steve Harrison said an iconic building was needed or the project would be a waste of money.

"If you look at the Guggenheim in Spert, you can see what a massive opportunity this is for the Gold Coast," he said.

“We can’t do this on a token basis. We need something exciting and special."

Several of the people who attended the workshops this week to discuss the Everton Park complex also commented on what was perceived as a lacklustre design.

But Gold Coast City councillor Susan Durham said the artist’s impressions by the Brisbane-based firm were never intended to be the final design for the centre.

“We need something that is a real statement,” she said.

This complex does not need to last for five years, it needs to be around for 50 years."

Public consultation on the plans on the council’s website will end on March 8.

No date is set on the release of a final design for the arts centre.

The first stage of the cultural centre — which is due to be built by 2017 — includes a 5000sqm art gallery, a 2000-seat theatre and a 300-seat drama theatre.

There was also debate at this week’s workshops about how much groundwater had been allowed for around the plan and some participants said that the construction of a boutique hotel on the site.

Concerns were expressed by other participants about parking at the site and a lack of public transport to the centre.

Council HQ pushes on

DISCUSSIONS are set to begin on how Gold Coast City Council can get the best value for money from its $226 million Robina headquarters at Lever Drive. Construction, creating 700 jobs, is expected to begin later this year despite public protests calling for the project to be downsized or scrapped.

The council’s staff will move to the Robina site when the existing administration building at Everton Park is redeveloped into a cultural precinct.
14 MARCH 2011

Gold Coast Bulletin, Business News, Page 22
“UDAB board keeps a lid on plans”

Board keeps a lid on plans

WHAT is going on with Gold Coast City Council’s Urban Design Advisory Board today? Confidentiality agreements have been signed according to tight-lipped members, who only let it slip that the subject would be plans for the new cultural precinct at Evandale.

You can guarantee that design will be on the list of topics to discuss, or the lack thereof. The orientation of the 2000-seat theatre will probably come up as well, with the building facing private residences, it is likely to keep those inside up at night.

16 MARCH 2011

Gold Coast Sun, General News, Page 32
“Two days to have a say”

Two day to have a say

RESIDENTS have just two days to have their say on the proposed $284 million Evandale cultural precinct. Community consultation on the master plan for the Bundall development proposed for the site of the existing Arts Centre Gold Coast will finish on Friday.

Construction is expected to begin by 2014 and be completed by 2018. Council staff will be relocated to the proposed $280 million Robina council administration building, on which construction is yet to begin. It has been the source of complaints from ratepayers because of its perceived excess cost.

Features will include an art gallery, 400-seat theatre, 300-seat concert hall, cinemas, a discovery centre, cultural and history libraries and retail development. Visit www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/haveyoursay
LET’S talk cultural precinct. You know, the one proposed at the Evandale. Regular readers know I’m not one to blow council’s trumpet, but for once I will. It would appear it is finally trying to make this precinct a reality.
ONE year remains until the city’s new mayor is named but favoured candidates are already being singled out for the upcoming election.

Incumbent Mayor Ron Clarke has named former federal MP Margaret May his preferred successor as he prepares for his final year in office.

Former deputy mayor David Powner is expected to announce his candidacy soon, while Mr Mill and Tom Tate are already out on the hustings.

While his successors are starting to line up, Cr Clarke ( pictured) says he will be busier than ever to achieve a balanced budget before he returns to private life.

Cr Clarke has named achieving a rates freeze in June’s budget as his top priority among 15 goals he hopes to achieve before the local government elections in March 2012.

Rates rose 4.5 per cent last year but Cr Clarke said he could realistically achieve a better result.

“The most important thing is to balance the city’s budget while getting a rates freeze,” he said.

“At the moment I have them down to 3.5 per cent, which is what council officers have recommended, but we have to find a large chunk of money so we can get it down to zero.

“The Gold Coast is a wonderful place to live and the best thing I can do is protect it.”

Other issues Cr Clarke hoped to tackle included the controversial water rates issue, the upgrade of Tipples on South Stradbroke Island and the completion of the Gold Coast Oceanway pedestrian path.

Cr Clarke said 2011 had already been a tough year for all residents and he vowed to address controversial Allconnex water charges.

“The most important understanding of being a mayor is that things do not happen quickly, which is quite different from my time in the commercial field,” he said.

“People can criticise all they like but they should have the facts.”

Residents can meet the Mayor on Saturday when he makes an appearance at Burleigh Waters Library on the corner of Christine Ave and Green Drive.

Cr Clarke will visit the library from 9.30am-11.30am and will discuss issues affecting residents.

For more information call 5581 5284.

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Gold Coast Sun, Front Page

“Mayor backs May Clarke charts course to build political legacy.”

By ANDREW POTTS

potts@goldcoast.com.au

MAYOR Ron Clarke’s ‘wish list’:
• A balanced budget for 2011/2012
• Keep Allconnex price increase to a minimum
• Have the State Government re-assess its bulk water price charging
• Completion of Carrara stadium
• Expand the council cabs and community bus network
• Build a cable car to Springbrook
• Initiate a Gold Coast ferry service
• Complete the Oceanway
• Begin construction of council administration building at Robina
• Complete planning for the Evandale cultural precinct and arrange funding for its first stage
• Complete Tipples upgrade
• Complete the South Stradbroke Island revegetation program
• Complete Surfers Paradise rebuilding program
• Advance 2018 Commonwealth Games
• Enter arrangement with the State Government for the dredging and revitalisation of the Broadwater
Tate tips boobs rebound

A NIP and tuck here, a boob job there.
No, it's not an episode of a makeover show but mayoral candidate Tom Tate's answer to the Gold Coast's financial woes.
Mr Tate has sniffed his nose at calls for the Gold Coast to clean up its image, instead lauding the city as the ideal place to get a boobs job.
The Surfers Paradise businessman, who will run for mayor at next year's local government elections, is convinced medical tourism can solve the city's economic woes.

"People could come here to have their procedures done, stay at the Versace, experience all the Gold Coast has to offer - and then just go home with bigger boobs," he said.

Mr Tate's radical proposal adds further heat to a debate sparked last week when a Surfers Paradise nightclub, Sin City, launched posters of well-endowed, tanned and women holding a sign saying: "Win a boob job worth $10,000!"

Business leaders, the State Government and Gold Coast councillors criticised the campaign, saying it undermined a push to purify the Gold Coast's "tarnished" image.

Sin City has since tweaked the posters to read "Win $10,000 cash for a boob job!"
"We are a fun city with attitude," said Mr Tate.
"We shouldn't hide from that."
"The Coast has always been a party destination and it always will be. We should capitalise on it, rather than try to change it".
"The Coast needs a serious shake-up."
"I am not unrealistic - I know it will take time and commitment."
"My vision will take two terms. During those terms I will remove myself from any personal business ventures so I can focus on running this city."

Mr Tate's vision also includes growing the Gold Coast into a city to rival Melbourne or Sydney, lower rates, better use of technology in the council's operations, implementing more public transport - not just light rail - and retaining the city's assets.
"The Gold Coast is struggling, but with the right approach it could become a bustling city," he said.
"Employment is down, confidence is gone and people are doing it tough."
"But if the council focused on cutting the red tape, rolling out the welcome mat to developers, improving public transport and creating a cultural hub, there could be no stopping us."
6 APRIL 2011

Gold Coast Sun General News, Page 11 and 30
“Input call on precinct”
“Councillor Crichlow calls for all residents to be involved”

Have your say
A COUNCILLOR has called for greater community consultation on the proposed $800 million Evandale cultural precinct. Public consultation on the project ran for four weeks and has been extended until Friday. More than 652 submissions have been received but city engineering committee head Dawn Crichlow called for all residents to be involved. “None of the libraries or council offices was given information, and letter-drops only occurred on Chevron Island and Evandale,” she said. To have your say, visit www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au

7 APRIL 2011

4CA AM (Cairns) John Mackenzie - 7/04/2011 9:22 AM
John MacKenzie
MacKenzie reads a story from The Courier Mail about Gold Coast Mayor Ron Clarke saying that residents were hurting due to the slowdown in construction Gold Coast, the drop in tourist numbers following the natural disasters, and the State Government's 'addiction' to revenue increases.

MacKenzie comments that Cairns' construction and tourism industries were already 'wiped out' before the natural disasters in New Zealand, Japan and Queensland. MacKenzie says at least the Gold Coast Council is trying to halve rate rises while the local council is 'spending like a drunken sailor' on the Cultural Precinct. Clarke said people were not spending in the area due to outrageous electricity, water and fuel prices. MacKenzie comments that Cairns has avoided the water rises 'so far' although there has been no long-term planning on water needs in the north. MacKenzie says people are refusing to discuss a dam. MacKenzie says listeners should talk to Campbell Newman today about the LNP view on future water needs.
Duration: 2.12
Final push to halve new council HQ

COUNCILLORS will this week launch a last-ditch push to halve the size of the council’s controversial $280 million Robina headquarters.

Construction of the building, dubbed the “Taj Mahal”, is expected to begin in November despite opposition from several councillors, including Southport’s Dawn Crichlow.

The council will next week discuss the development’s future and funding options.

City finance boss Eddie Sarroff said it was essential for the council to tighten its belt.

“We do not need to build the Taj Mahal and expect rate-payers to foot the bill,” he said.

“This is not a project which has public support and to move council staff out of Evandale into a facility which will be built and fitted out on borrowed money is not responsible.

“I will lobby for support to halve its size because this project must be rejected.”

The complex will be near Robina Railway Station and will be one of three administration centres, with others slated for Southport and Coomera.

The council’s Nerang complex will also remain open for at least 10 years.

A rally opposing the project was held at Burleigh Waters in January, attracting 200 people.
A SPIKE in the council's transport levy for 2011-2012 has been blamed for a 6.7 per cent proposed total rates rise presented by the city's bureaucrats yesterday.

Mayor Ron Clarke has vowed to slash the proposed rates rise despite warnings from council officers it can't be done.

Budget chairman Cr Clarke had flagged a 3.5 per cent general rates increase, but council officers have now added their levy recommendations, among them the city's contribution to the rapid transit system, taking the total rise to almost double the mayor's own figure.

Cr Clarke said he would now fight for the total increase to remain below 5 per cent.

Council officers had recommended the levy rise from $9350 to $124 and say the price hike is essential if the city is to meet its obligations to the rapid transit system.

The council committed $698 million towards the $1.67 billion project back in 2008 – and the time to cough up the money has come.

Finance director Joe McCabe said the levy was unavoidable.

"Council has to pay for its contribution to the light rail - it's non-negotiable," Mr McCabe said.

Cr Clarke admitted the transport levy would be a challenge, but said he would not accept the figure for the overall rate.

"We can do better – through savings and efficiencies the figure can be reduced," he said.

"By cutting things from other areas, we can find the money to meet our commitments without turning to the ratepayers,"

Cr Clarke said he had also intended to further reduce the 3.5 per cent general rates increase, but a projected $11.9 million budget shortfall due to capped water prices had stopped him.

"The 2.7 per cent water price cap will have a big impact on our budget," he said.

"It will make it difficult to shave more of the general rate. It has deleted the council staff accommodation project for now and it will hold up the Evandale cultural precinct."

"I was hoping for both those projects to start in 2011-2012, but now we will have to wait."

But former budget boss Eddy Sarroff said the council was being melodramatic.

"The tone of this report is as if the sky is going to fall in on us, all because water prices have been capped," Cr Sarroff said.

"This council recommended a water price cap of 3 per cent earlier this year and now we're complaining."

"The money 'lost' from the budget is from projected Alcanex revenue – let's get back to basics and deliver what we need to."

But council boss Dale Dickson said the cap would have a significant impact on council's revenue streams with a $35 million loss predicted for 2012-2013. "We will have to be prudent," he said.

Councillors will resume budget discussions next month.
Progress at stake for cities

by ANDREW POUTS

Water backflip may stymie ‘Taj Mahal’

by ANDREW POUTS

Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin, 16/04/11, General News, Page 23

IT is the similarity between the two vastly different cities bidding to host the Commonwealth Games in 2018 that make the race so close.

If you look past the small village centre of Humantadu, and indeed think about the district as a whole, both places can boast a population of more than 300,000.

And the sparsely populated communities that make them up are in some ways as cut off and independent as each other. But it is the hunger felt by the residents of both Humantadu and the Gold Coast that links the two places.

They each have a strong will and meet for the Commonwealth Games will because it can transform them.

For Humantadu the drive comes from a desire to prove things have moved on, and nowhere more than here, since the end of the civil war in Sri Lanka two years ago. Major projects have sprung up around the city in that time, yet as far as much of the world is concerned, this is still a country.

In Humantadu people know things have changed and will shift more still - the unity thing is to spread the word. Just holding for the Commonwealth Games has helped. But hosting the Gold Coast would finally put Humantadu on the map.

For the Gold Coast, there is a string of projects at stake and as employment touts, the thousands of associated jobs would be reason enough.

But the possible improvement in transport, if another stage of the light rail project is triggered with the wind, would be another huge bonus.

Then there is the cultural centre which seems intertwined with the success of the sporting bid.

So, in many ways the Commonwealth Games represents, for both cities, the chance to progress.

The success of one can only bring another. In the end, come down to this:

The council chairmen of both places have not been content to sit in opposition, they want the Commonwealth Games.

27 APRIL 2011

Gold Coast Sun – Central Page: 1 General News

Water cost filters on through

ROBBINS’S controversial new "Taj Mahal" will be the first big-ticket project used as an example by the Government to find a way to pay for the State Government’s water filters. Although debate has raged for months about the price of the $280 million council administration centre, rates are still left with a hefty bill from the takeout and subsequent build-up on the water assets authority, Allinco.

ANGUS POYTS reports - Page 1

Water backflip may stymie ‘Taj Mahal’
CULTURAL INPUT: Gold Coasters have until the end of the day to make submissions on the city’s proposed cultural precinct. The Gold Coast City Council has received more than 1100 submissions from the public on the $284 million Evandale cultural precinct. Submissions, which can be made at www.ourcityoursay.com.au will be compiled into a report and submitted to council for review.
Appendix 2

Print and web advertising coverage during the consultation.

Gold Coast Magazine........................................................................................................... 1
City News................................................................................................................................. 2
Gold Coast Bulletin Play Magazine...................................................................................... 2
Gold Coast Sun......................................................................................................................... 3
Gold Coast Jetstar Titans....................................................................................................... 3
Posters.................................................................................................................................... 4
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Council website...................................................................................................................... 8
Interviews................................................................................................................................ 9
Friends of the Arts Centre.................................................................................................... 9
Design Federation................................................................................................................ 10

GOLD COAST MAGAZINE

Do you want to see a new cultural precinct on the Gold Coast?

Cultural Precinct. The part of a culture area in which the most distinctive traits of the area are concentrated.

We want your feedback!
Please follow these 3 simple steps …

We filmed the meeting with a new cultural precinct on the Gold Coast.

Visit www.culturalprecinct.com.au
Write the value
More your say until 30 April 2011

The new cultural precinct is such a significant and exciting development, it demands more attention.

Visit the website
Visit us in the foyer
Visit the walls
Visit the art gallery

We want feedback!

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ATTACHMENT 6.3.22
CITY NEWS

Do You Want To See A New Cultural Precinct On The Gold Coast?

www.ourcityoursay.com.au

GOLD COAST BULLETIN PLAY MAGAZINE

Do You Want To See A New Cultural Precinct On The Gold Coast?

View the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Masterplan on-line at:

ourcityoursay.com.au

You have until 18 March 2011 to view the draft masterplan and have your say.
GOLD COAST SUN

Do You Want To See A New Cultural Precinct On The Gold Coast?

View the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Masterplan on-line at:
ourcityoursay.com.au

You have until 18 March 2011 to view the draft masterplan and have your say.

GOLD COAST JETSTAR TITANS
**Do You Want To See A New Cultural Precinct On The Gold Coast?**

View the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Masterplan on-line at: [ourcityyoursay.com.au](http://ourcityyoursay.com.au)

The new Gold Coast Cultural Precinct will capture the imagination of our community and enrich the lives of all those who visit. It will promote and nurture creativity and diversity for our community helping to reinforce the Gold Coast as a great place to live and visit.

You have until 31 March 2011 to view the draft masterplan and have your say on what is being proposed.

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**We need a centralised focal point for our creative community that not only represents where we have been but where we are heading. A Cultural Precinct would provide a much needed counter-weight to our extensive sporting facilities. It would also demonstrate that we are a vibrant, confident and contemporary city.**

ABBIE McCulloch, Artist
POSTCARDS

Do You Want To See A New Cultural Precinct On The Gold Coast?

View the Gold Coast Cultural Precinct Masterplan online:
ourcityyoursay.com.au

You have until 18 March 2011 to view the draft masterplan and have your say.

COUNCIL INTRANET
ATTACHMENT 6.3.28

GOLD COAST BULLETIN WEBSITE

[Image of a website display showing various sections and features related to the Gold Coast Bulletin.]
INTerviews
(with 18 creative’s about the need for a cultural precinct)
http://winterforelbows.tumblr.com/culturalprecincts

Friends of the Arts Centre

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ATTACHMENT 6.3.30
DESIGN FEDERATION
http://www.designfederation.net/who-we-are/
What are we trying to create

• A centre for artistic expression & cultural development – a picture of what we were, what we are & what we can be.

• It should be a hive of activity from early morning ‘til after midnight, alive with people.

• A hub for design, music, dance, drama & learning filled with the vibrancy of developing talent through to the performances of gifted professionals.
We spoke about what will define us?

We agreed this must be a civic complex with permanence

- It is a place to display our history, our unique biodiversity, our talent and our modern lifestyle - a magnifying glass into who we are.

- It is an opportunity to tell the world that we are a city and not just a tourist destination - we have a heart, we have a soul, a purpose.
We want to be proud of what we have created and will create.

We spoke of making the most of the whole site to provide many opportunities for expression, activity and relaxation.
We spoke of the importance of landscape planning and the quality of public spaces.

We spoke about the importance of connecting to the water. We are a “waters edge” city - the site is almost surrounded by water.
• Lake and river offer potential for a range of waterfront treatments and experiences
• It should provide an urban edge facing north
• Water should be theme that permeates the site
• The use of water on the site should showcase environmental sustainability
We spoke of the importance of landscape

- Provide settings for art
- A variety of hard & soft landscaped treatments can offer precinct richness and distinction.

We spoke of the need to diminish the impact of cars and have pedestrians dominate the Precinct.
We spoke of the need to be connected to the city

- Particularly the light rail – hence a pedestrian bridge to Chevron Island must be a strong legible element

We agreed to have appropriate sub tropical design with well shaded buildings
And we do need to connect with water.
Community gives thumbs up to cultural precinct

The verdict is in on the proposed new Gold Coast cultural precinct – and it is an overwhelming 'yes'.

A community consultation report presented to Council’s Economic Development and Tourism Committee today revealed more than 1300 submissions were received, with almost 80 percent of respondents in favour of the proposal.

Committee Chair Cr Susie Douglas said the strong community support for the project was not a surprise.

"It is great to see so many people providing feedback on the cultural precinct project and it clearly demonstrates the strong desire to see greater emphasis on culture and the arts on the coast," said Cr Douglas.

"79.7 percent of submissions were in favour of redeveloping the Evandale site into a centralised cultural precinct and just over 70 per cent supported the draft masterplan.

"This community feedback says in no uncertain terms that the vast majority of residents want this project. As the country’s sixth largest city, we need a cultural heart that can not only cater for a growing number of residents, but can also attract the large scale theatre and entertainment productions that currently only tour capital cities.

"Although for now, the Evandale site remains encumbered by the existing Council administration centre, the community’s endorsement gives us strong leverage in our future efforts to secure funding for the project from other levels of government."

The Committee recommended Council develop an updated project brief and business case to progress the project. The consultation report is publicly available on Council’s website at www.ourcityoursay.com.au
GOLD COAST CULTURAL PRECINCT
DIAGRAM REPRESENTING HOW TO MOVE THE PROJECT FORWARD