

# BROOME CHINATOWN REVITALISATION

THE HEART AND SOUL OF BROOME

Thurs 13 April 2017

## Lead designers make a start on Chinatown Revitalisation

- **First round of strategic planning events conducted**
- **Appointments include place planning, public realm architect, civil engineer and environmental specialist**
- **Roebuck Bay reconnection and Gray Street extension feasibilities to commence**
- [www.chinatownbroome.com.au](http://www.chinatownbroome.com.au) now live

The revitalisation of Chinatown has officially commenced following the appointment of lead designers who have recently completed the first round of strategic planning events with key stakeholders in Broome.

The final piece to proceed with all aspects of major planning and development, the revitalisation team includes a place making expert (Andrew Howe), public realm architect (Scott Lang), civil engineer (Brian Farrell) and environmental specialist (Darren Walsh). They join the already appointed team of project manager (Lyle Robertson), Chinatown investment and development coordinator (Jeremy Macmath) and communications and engagement manager (Andre Veder).

The newly appointed team will be responsible for detailed design, interdisciplinary coordination, ensuring compliance with technical and design standards, and seeking design approval from authorities.

Shire of Broome President Ron Johnston said, "These specialists have been appointed from a considerable procurement process to ensure they are demonstrated leaders in their field.

"They will play a lead role in the delivery of each component of the revitalisation including technical investigation and design.

"We're now ready to proceed to the next major stage which involves the feasibility study of extending Gray Street to Old Broome Road, and the possibility of a boardwalk to connect Dampier Terrace to Roebuck Bay."

Two rounds of strategic planning events have just been completed to kick off the process of honing in on ideas and options for the project within the \$12.7million budget in consultation with local community members. Chinatown landowner Peter Taylor attended one of the workshops which offered ideas on stimulating the economic performance of Chinatown, unlocking investment, and articulating key barriers and opportunities.

"The session was very positive as it highlighted the opportunities of structure and design with case study examples and ideas of what might work in Chinatown," Said Mr Taylor.

"We look forward to seeing the outcome of this three-month process."

Cont...

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From here the project will enter an exciting phase where ideas and inspirations will be presented to the community to articulate the options and determine the best possible design outcomes.

The project's website ([chinatownbroome.com.au](http://chinatownbroome.com.au)) has just been launched, dedicated to offering information as well as receiving enquiries and ideas from the broader public. The site will include regular updates and news with all members of the public welcome to register their interest to receive newsletters and offer input.

Ends.

## About the Chinatown Revitalisation Project

On Wednesday 8 June 2016, the state government announced the Royalties for Regions investment of \$10M to undertake detailed feasibility studies and to deliver transformational projects, reinforcing Chinatown as the cultural, historical and commercial centre of Broome.

The Shire of Broome has committed \$2M to the project with Tourism WA committing a further \$700K which brings the total project budget to \$12.7M.

The projects identified to be key drivers in the revitalisation of Chinatown were mostly drawn from the Shire's 2013 Chinatown Development Strategy, developed following extensive community consultation.

The majority of funds will be spent over the next 18 months on projects that improve the aesthetics, comfort and functionality of Chinatown as a place to socialise and do business. Some funds have also been set aside to investigate the feasibility of more significant projects that will strengthen Chinatown over the longer term.

Implementation of the projects and oversight of the feasibility studies will be undertaken jointly by the Shire of Broome, Kimberley Development Commission and LandCorp. A Community and Stakeholder Reference Group has been established by the Shire and consultation with the wider community and key stakeholders will continue throughout the process.

This project is made possible by the State Government's Royalties for Regions program.

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