

Sustainable Sydney 2030—2050 Continuing the Vision



The City acknowledges the Gadigal of the Eora Nation as the Traditional Custodians of this place we now call Sydney, and we acknowledge their continued connection to Country. We pay respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and emerging.

Images on front cover (top left to bottom right):

George Street transformation, city centre

Photo: Florian Groehn

Bourke Street cycleway, Surry Hills

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

***bara*, Judy Watson, Tarpeian Lawn, 2022**

Monument for the Eora above Dubbagullee (Bennelong Point)

Pirrama Park minimal intervention vision

Concept by Andrew Burges Architects

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Mayor Clover Moore
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Open air community room,
Joynton Avenue Creative Centre
Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney



Message from Lord Mayor Clover Moore



When the Independent Team was first elected in 2004 we wanted a plan for Sydney for the long term, and we knew global warming was a reality, that would only worsen as governments and people continued the pretence that it wasn't a threat.

We embarked on the most comprehensive consultation the City of Sydney had ever undertaken. **Sustainable Sydney 2030** was the result. It is a blueprint for a city that is environmentally, economically, socially and culturally sustainable and it is the cornerstone of everything we do and has been updated as circumstances changed. Our vision for a Green, Global and Connected city was adopted and roundly supported by residents and business.

This transformation was built on a foundation of ambitious targets and I will outline key priorities.

Reducing emissions

We made the commitment to reduce emissions in our own operations by 70 per cent by 2030. We did the master plans, set the targets and took action, and have met our goal nine years early in 2021.

Climate action underpins all that we do. We became carbon neutral in 2007 – the first government in Australia to receive this certification. We have converted over 6,000 streetlights to LED – and fast-tracked plans to do the remaining 9,500. We installed 7,081 solar panels across 45 city-owned buildings. We procured one of Australia's largest hybrid and electric vehicle fleets and are trialling electric garbage trucks and street sweepers.

We switched to 100 per cent renewable electricity in July 2020, reducing emissions and saving our ratepayers half a million dollars each year for 10 years. And creating jobs in regional NSW in wind and solar farms at Glen Innes, Wagga and in the Shoalhaven.

Working with partners

Our leading partners include the Better Buildings Partnership, CitySwitch Green Office, the Sustainable Destination Partnership and the Smart Green Apartments program.

The Better Buildings Partnership demonstrates how action on climate change is good for business – and the economy. The Partnership represents 59% commercial office space in the city centre, with members including major building owners like Dexus, Lendlease, Mirvac, GPT as well as the UTS. They committed to our Sustainable Sydney 2030 goal and have already reduced their emissions by 66% and are tracking toward an 83 per cent reduction by 2030. They have reduced water use by 39 per cent since financial year 2006 and are saving \$30 million a year. While partners who own 88 buildings have committed to becoming carbon neutral on or before 2030.

Since 2006, our city workforce has expanded by more than 50% and our population has increased by nearly 60% – in that time emissions have declined by 26% across the city. If it had been business as usual emissions would have increased by 57%.

But urgent action is still required. Our new target is net zero by 2035.

We've installed metropolitan Sydney's largest urban water recycling centre in Green Square, which treats up to 900 thousand litres of stormwater every day to provide recycled water for residents and community facilities in the town centre. We have **20 water harvesting systems in our parks**, which produce 80 thousand litres of non-potable water every day to keep our parks and streets green, and we completed **our largest storm water harvesting system** in Sydney Park wetlands.

Greening Sydney

Greening our city has been a top priority since 2004.

One of our first actions was to purchase land for \$11 million from the State Government to create Pirrama Park in Pyrmont, and in 2011 we negotiated substantial new public parkland in Harold Park as part of the redevelopment of the paceway and we created over 24 hectares of new parkland and have invested \$23 million to transform Sydney Park into a 40-hectare oasis.

We have renewed open spaces from Glebe to Rosebery, Darlinghurst to Beaconsfield. And when the **Drying Green** at Green Square is open, it will be the biggest of more than 40 parks we're delivering together with developers in that urban renewal area.

The quality of our open spaces was internationally recognized with the prestigious Jury Award at the Architizer A+ Awards in New York, one of a number we have won over the past year.

We are already experiencing the impacts of climate change. By 2050, urban heating is predicted to increase temperatures between 1.5 and 3 degrees, so it's vital we plan, invest and adapt. We see trees and green spaces as essential infrastructure, as effective and extensive canopy cover can help reduce temperatures on the ground by up to 10 degrees.

We now plan to use **innovation and design to create more planting opportunities** – practical ways to green roofs and walls and 383-kilometre network of laneways and narrow streets – and introduce planning tools to ensure we're greening equitably across the city.

We plan to increase canopy cover by 50 per cent by 2030, and 75 per cent by 2050.

The public domain

(i) Walking and cycling are integral to a sustainable city

Walking and cycling lead to calm, quiet and liveable cities. Public, shared and active transport reduce emissions, congestion, and competition for scarce parking spaces and improve people's health and the city's economy.

Since 2007, 40 per cent of the **bike network** has been built - that's more than 25 kilometres of safe separated cycleways, 60 kilometres of shared paths and 40 kilometres of other infrastructure.

The quality of our **walking environment** is important for maintaining global competitiveness and reputation. Walking is how people experience our city. Our streets and public spaces are the face we show the world.

By 2036 it is predicted that 1.7 million people will visit the city daily and 2 million by 2050. Our current footpaths cannot accommodate that growth in the number of people walking. Our new target is that by 2050, 9 out of 10 people travelling to the city centre, and 2 out of 3 in the rest of our area will travel to work by public transport, walk or cycle.

(ii) Transforming George Street

The central public domain concern outlined in Sustainable Sydney 2030 was that our global city status and competitiveness was severely compromised by the poor quality of our main street - George street which was a noisy, smelly, traffic sewer. Sustainable Sydney 2030 proposed that a light rail running down George street would be the catalyst for CBD transformation and investment.

The State Government signed up to the project. Thank you, Gladys Berejiklian, and thank you Jan Gehl for the inspiration, and the City contributed \$265 million to make George Street the beautiful tree-lined, pedestrian friendly boulevard we see today. This project was supported by a program

of laneway upgrades, millions in grants for arts and activation and a campaign to allow small bars. The CBD of Sydney has truly been transformed and has attracted investment of over \$8 billion along George street alone.

Embedding design excellence

Design excellence has been an integral part of the City's vision for private development, as well as our own projects. The City has won more than 113 national and international awards for our projects over the past 16 years.

In 2007 we established a Design Advisory Panel of architects, landscape architects, and arts and sustainability experts to give advice on major City projects and significant private developments. They have played a major role in raising design standards across the City, while our Public Art Advisory Panel has contributed to a legacy of contemporary public art to enrich the City.

The City of Sydney has embedded design excellence in our practice, our planning controls, and our projects. Since 2004, we have hosted 146 design competitions.

Providing housing for all

Delivering Affordable Housing has been one of our greatest challenges. Even though this is a State responsibility, we have achieved 1,328 homes with almost 400 more in the pipeline. We have invested in projects that support homeless, youth and aged.

Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 maintains 7.5% target for affordable housing. Our commitment to do everything we can to increase the supply of affordable housing continues. We lobby State and Federal Governments to increase the amount of social, affordable and supported housing. We have offered city owned land and property to not-for-profit housing providers and we are currently fighting to maximise social housing at Waterloo in the face of the NSW Government's planned redevelopment which proposes majority housing to be for sale. We don't believe public housing tenants should be pushed to the fringes of Sydney and left without the support of their community and without access to the

services they need. Nor is it good for the efficient running of our cities to have essential workers, the nurses, firemen, police, transport workers and others who keep our city healthy, safe and functioning to be pushed into locations remote from their jobs.

Recognising First Nations

No city vision would be complete without continuing **dedication to the First Nations people of Australia**. Following consultation, Sustainable Sydney 2030 established the Eora Journey as the unifying narrative bringing the elements of Indigenous representation, inclusion and social justice together. Our Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan outlines our commitments. **The Eora Journey** in the public domain identifies sites or histories of significance and reveals them so that in time our city's Indigenous story will be fully expressed. Bara in the gardens above the Opera House is complete, modelled on the hooks made from shells by aboriginal woman fishing in the shallows of the harbour.

Supporting cultural life of City of Sydney

The 2030–2050 vision extends future directions and initiatives for Sydney's cultural life which was a key commitment of 2030. We want to build on our successes such as the creation of the Eternity Playhouse in Darlinghurst, the Hayes Theatre in Potts Point and the soon to be opened City of Sydney Creative Studios in Bathurst Street. We are currently proposing planning bonuses to revitalize the iconic Oxford Street precinct and facilitating the development of new cultural precincts in Alexandria. The co-location of a number of creatives also helps stimulate the establishment of further similar cultural uses.

Providing for families and children

For city families and their children we have build or facilitated new childcare; playgrounds, pools, including the award winning Gunyama Aquatic Centre; libraries; youth centres; East Sydney Community & Arts Centre and the Joynton Avenue Creative Centre; three new pool complexes; basketball and tennis courts.

Water Falls by Jennifer Turpin and
Michaelie Crawford
Photo: Paul Patterson / City of Sydney



Outcomes

It's worth noting that since 2004, the residential population has increased by 67%, families are now choosing to live in the city. Local jobs had increased by 54.3% and, pre-Covid we had 1.3 million people in our city per day. Our city economy is worth \$132 billion – pre-Covid it was \$138 billion, or 22% of the State's economic activity and 7% of the national GDP.

Future transformative projects

The project ideas we outlined in Sustainable Sydney 2030 provided a catalyst for the transformation that has occurred – most notably the Light Rail and pedestrianisation of George Street. **Sustainable Sydney 2030–2050 proposes the next set of projects ideas to continue our global city status.**

1. There is a strong desire to recognise Sydney's richness and diversity and we are working on Eora Journey – Yananurala (Harbour Walk), a harbour-front walk that shares **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture.**
2. Sydney is home to major national and local cultural institutions, so **supporting our cultural sector** through precinct revitalisation, making affordable creative spaces and establishing a creative land trust is critical to nurturing our creatives. **The Oxford Street precinct** revitalisation around the National Art School would contribute to transforming the area into a major cultural destination.
3. **The harbour is Sydney's greatest single asset** and we are working with Sydney Water to clean outflows into the harbour, in order to enable swimming – a haven for tourists and residents alike!
4. **The Metro provides the opportunity to connect current and future innovation, knowledge and employment centres** across the city and in metropolitan Sydney – we hope to foster an **innovation precinct** to support the economy of the future. The Metro also offers opportunities to **transform key city gateway roads** such as **Oxford Street, Botany Road, and Broadway,**

currently acting as traffic sewers, into green, pedestrian and cycling friendly avenues – making them welcoming entries to the city centre and further greening our city.

5. **Unlocking Spaces such as Moore Park Golf Course** to create large open green space which is critical to the health and well-being of the tens of thousands of new residents in Green Square. By 2050, we will cater for increasing number of pedestrians.
6. **Pedestrianizing Park Street** – to connect Hyde Park and provide a crucial East-West link for pedestrians, in line with Jan Gehl's vision, while **Loftus Street in Circular Quay** is an opportunity to create another pedestrianised street closed to traffic and open to outdoor dining in this crucial tourist hub.
7. **Realising our three city squares at the Quay, Town Hall and Central** now linked by a transformed George Street.

These aspirational projects outlined in Sustainable Sydney 2030–2050 will help to continue to realise our green, global and connected vision for Sydney. The Sustainable Sydney 2030 Vision inspired and delivered a transformation of Sydney.

With so much already delivered, we are continuing and extending our targets, our ambition and ourselves to continue 2030's vision to 2050.



**Lord Mayor
Clover Moore**

Vision for the future

Our communities support our green, global and connected city. This is what that means.



Naba Gumal (detail) by Shannon Foster
Photos: istock

Green

We support a sustainable future where everyone in the city does their part to respond to the climate emergency and contributes to improving environmental conditions on the planet.

It means citizens responsibly reduce their environmental footprint by cutting what they consume, minimising waste and sharing resources.

Business and institutions take the lead in research, investment and innovation to remove carbon and transform our economy.

A regenerative circular economy is driven by new design and manufacturing techniques with producers taking responsibility for their products' life cycle.

The city is naturally cooled by trees and greenery, helping support wellbeing and improving amenity.

Our collective voices and actions influence others, locally and globally.

The city and communities adapt to be resilient to the impacts of the changing climate.

The city is planned so that housing, transport, facilities, infrastructure and open space allow people to be close to their jobs and what they need for daily life.

Global

We support our city being a leader in our region for just and sustainable growth, creativity and innovation. It has a thriving 24-hour economy and opportunities for all.

It means the real history of our country is acknowledged and truth telling elevated to enable us to go forward together with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in a true spirit of reconciliation.

Everyone in the city has an opportunity to participate in its economic, social and cultural life and reach their full potential.

Our global orientation and connections keep the city at the forefront of sustainable investment, jobs and businesses as an international gateway and leading destination for talent, business and leisure visitors.

We work collaboratively to enhance Sydney's reputation as a welcoming, diverse, inclusive and safe city that works to restore its natural environment and ecosystems.

Investment and support for creativity and innovation leads to strong economic growth.

New business models diversify our economy and business takes the lead in the transformation to a zero-carbon economy.

Sustained investment in infrastructure, icons, amenities and public space supports the city's thriving cultural life. Curiosity and experimentation are encouraged. Leadership, bold ideas and new talent are rewarded.

Smart, resilient infrastructure supports business investment and services our communities.

Business, government and communities are part of global networks and are active participants in global knowledge exchange.

Connected

We have social, business, cultural and physical connections within the city that allow us to reach our full potential and adapt to changes and withstand adversity. It means people look out for one another and feel safe.

Community cohesion is stronger because of our efforts to learn from, understand and connect with one another.

Communities, particularly children and young people are engaged, use their voices and actively participate in governance and decision-making processes.

People and organisations within the city are prepared for and able to recover from most situations.

Our city celebrates and strengthens its diverse, multicultural communities and everyone feels welcome.

Our lives are enhanced as our diverse communities contribute to the richness of the city's culture, where we record and share our stories, our history and our local creative achievements.

The city's distinctive local neighbourhoods provide strong focal points for community life, enriching experiences, recreation and simply coming together – all essential for health and wellbeing.

We can walk and ride bikes around our city and enjoy good public transport connections to the rest of metropolitan Sydney.

People feel connected to their city and to one another. These connections create the capacity to adapt to change and withstand adversity.

The City of Sydney continues its commitment to lead change through partnership and collaboration with government, the private sector and our communities.

Six guiding principles

These guiding principles, based on values expressed by our communities, will be used by the City of Sydney in its decision-making.



Sydney City Farm in Sydney Park, Alexandria
Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

1. We are accountable to the voices and elevate the knowledge and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

The City of Sydney strives to reflect the needs and wants of Sydney's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and recognise their contribution. We will work to authentically strengthen relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and help build self-determining communities.

2. We respond to the climate emergency

The City of Sydney responds to the climate emergency by taking bold steps to reduce the city's environmental footprint and transition to a zero-carbon and regenerative economy.

We plan for the sustainable growth of the city. We step lightly on the planet and support biodiversity and nature in the city.

We promote transformative change in energy generation, resource consumption, water use, transport and climate adaptation. We encourage it be done in a way that is equitable and inclusive, with no one being left behind or bearing an unfair burden because of long-term structural change to jobs and industries.

3. We build the resilience of our society and economy

The City of Sydney is a place where partnerships between government, business and communities strengthen the city.

We build resilience in our economy, communities, systems and infrastructure to respond, recover and adapt to a range of shock events and chronic stresses. These include our energy and transport systems failing to cope with extreme weather or other events, and a lack of affordable housing and poorly constructed buildings that fail to meet current safety, quality or sustainability standards.

Among other stresses are that our health services are under pressure and some vulnerable communities may be isolated or experience increasing inequity.

4. Our communities are engaged in the governance of their city

The City of Sydney is a democratic city where people of all ages can influence decisions. People are encouraged to be connected and effective community builders.

5. We lead through stewardship and collaboration

The City of Sydney will lead by facilitating social harmony and inclusion while also acting as a steward of the environment and the economy.

In our role as steward, we are required to understand what our communities value and the values we have in common, then act in line with those shared values.

As steward of this city, we will ensure that we embrace innovation and are prepared for, respond and adapt to change.

Our communities are also impacted by decisions outside our boundaries and we seek to work collaboratively with partners, our neighbours and all levels of government for the benefit of current and future generations.

6. Our organisation is governed responsibly and sustainably

The City of Sydney has a responsibility to balance the needs and interests of current and future generations as it makes decisions.

We will ensure the organisation has the financial capacity to serve our communities now and in the future.

Fairness and equity, including intergenerational equity, underpin all our choices. High ethical standards, transparency, accountability and the involvement of our communities are integral to the governance of the city.



Ten targets to measure progress

- 1. By 2035 we will achieve net zero emissions** in the City of Sydney local area.
- 2. By 2050 there will be a minimum overall green cover of 40%**, including 27% tree canopy cover.
- 3. By 2030 residential potable water use will be reduced to 170 litres a person a day** in the City of Sydney local area. Non-residential potable water use will be reduced by 10% (measured per square metre) from 2018/19 levels.
- 4. By 2030 there will be a 15% reduction in waste generated by each person** based on 2015 levels. And by 2030 there will be 90% recycling and recovery of residential waste, commercial and industrial waste, and construction and demolition waste, which will be maintained at that level to 2050.
- 5. By 2036 there will be approximately 700,000 jobs** in the City of Sydney local area including 200,000 new jobs compared to 2017. An increased proportion of all jobs will be secure jobs.
- 6. By 2036 there will be at least 156,000 private dwellings** and 17,500 non-private dwellings that include boarding houses and student accommodation. Of the private dwellings, **7.5% will be social housing and 7.5% will be affordable housing** with this proportion maintained into the future.
- 7. By 2036 there will be at least 40,000m² of new cultural production floor space** in the City of Sydney local area compared to 2017.
- 8. By 2050 people will use public transport, walk or cycle to travel to and from work.** This includes 9 out of 10 people working in the city centre and 2 out of 3 people working in the rest of the local area.
- 9. By 2030 every resident will be around a 10-minute walk** to what they need for daily life.
- 10. By 2050 community cohesion and social interaction will have increased.** This is based on at least 75% of the local resident population feeling part of the community, agreeing most people can be trusted and believing that when needed, they can get help from their neighbours.

Ten strategic directions

These 10 strategic directions provide a framework for action for each major theme or topic in our 2030–2050 vision.



Scene from Hyde Park, Sydney
Photo: Mark Metcalfe / City of Sydney

Each strategic direction focuses on relevant issues that our communities identified as important as well as contextual information and findings from our research.

1. Responsible governance and stewardship

Our organisation evolves to provide governance and leadership for our city and communities.

2. A leading environmental performer

Our city is part of a decarbonised world. Our communities live in a city that is regenerative and makes a positive contribution to the planet, to society and to individual lives.

3. Public places for all

Our city has more places for people who live, work, invest and visit here. The history of our city and connections to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is evident in our public places. The city centre is inviting, clean and safe by day and night. At its heart are creativity and public art. Our local main streets are thriving hubs with their own distinctive characters.

4. Design excellence and sustainable development

Our city will continue to grow sustainably and with good design. Our communities are inclusive, socially connected and healthy. They live in walkable, well-serviced neighbourhoods that are supported by public transport. We take the impact of climate change into account in the policies that influence development in our city.

5. A city for walking, cycling and public transport

Our city has more public transport and zero-carbon vehicles and more people choose to walk and ride bikes. The city is greener and calmer with more space for people on the streets.

6. An equitable and inclusive city

Everyone feels welcome and can afford to live here if they choose. Everyone can participate, prosper and reach their full potential in a city that is fair and just.

7. Resilient and diverse communities

Our city and its public places and infrastructure can withstand impacts from a changing climate and emergency situations. We work with communities, businesses and other organisations to strengthen connections and networks, to prepare our city and be able to recover from most situations.

8. A thriving cultural and creative life

We are proud of our city. We are all able to participate in, contribute to and benefit from its cultural life.

9. A transformed and innovative economy

Our city maintains its position locally, nationally and globally as a destination for business, investment and talent. Innovation is central to the economy and transformation has occurred across all industries. Wealth and benefits are shared equitably.

10. Housing for all

This is a city where everyone has a home. Social, affordable and supported housing is available for those who need it. High-quality housing is available for everyone.

Transformative project ideas

Following extensive engagement with our communities, we have developed 10 transformative project ideas.

Developed with prominent architects, landscape architects and urban designers, the ideas demonstrate how future public space and infrastructure projects could achieve our vision for a green, global and connected Sydney by 2050. They propose long-term solutions and communicate creative responses to the opportunities and challenges facing our city.

Many are refreshed ideas from Sustainable Sydney 2030, while some are new. They respond directly to the aspirations of our communities: a city where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their cultures are visible. These ideas will help us become a greener city that is regenerative and innovative with thriving arts and culture.

The ideas bring to life the 2030-2050 vision, drawing on the strategic directions and actions to reimagine a future city for all. The project ideas acknowledge that long-term infrastructure and development requires commitment from all levels of government, business communities and our wider residential communities.



1 Eora Journey – Yananurala



2 Three linked city squares



3 The green city – increasing city greening

These ideas illustrate how our vision for a future Sydney could be realised



4 City space improvement program



5 The water city – making more of our harbour



6 Connecting Green Square



7 Metro as catalyst



8 Building on housing for all



9 Making space for culture



10 Reimagining our community assets

PROJECT IDEA 1

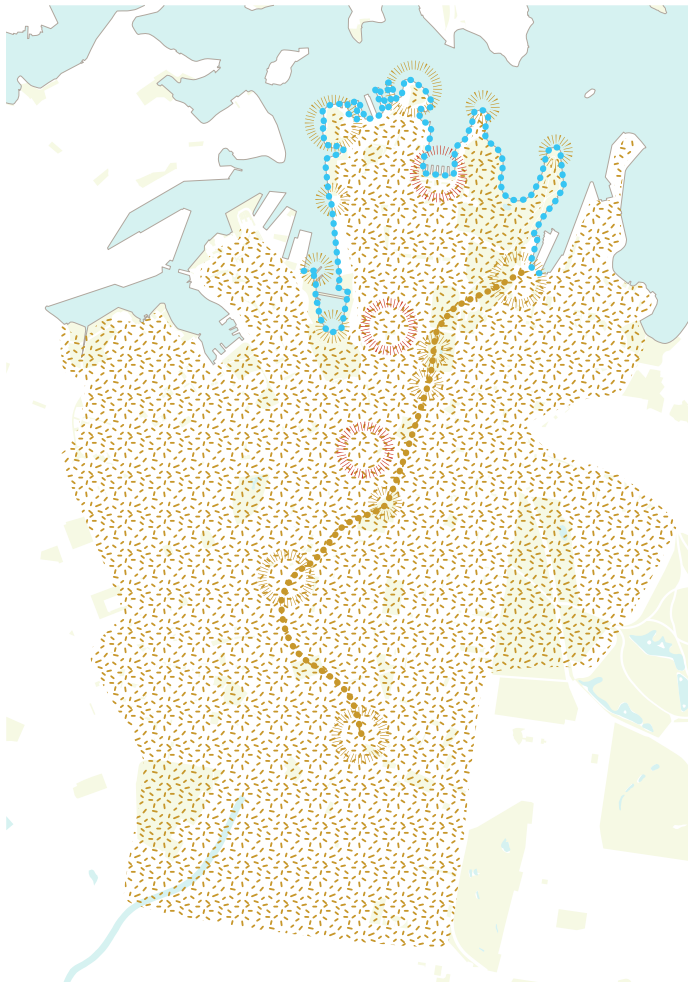
Eora Journey – Yananurala





1 Eora Journey – Yananurala

The harbour walk



- Yananurala
- Harbour to Redfern and Green Square
- ☀ Focal points
- ☀ City Squares
- ☀ Citywide initiatives

Eora Journey
Figure: City of Sydney

In response to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities request to recognise, empower and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their cultures in the City of Sydney area, architect Dillon Kombumerri, a Yugembir Goori man, conceived the Eora Journey as a walk from the site of first contact on Sydney Harbour to the home of Aboriginal activism in Redfern.

One of the key project ideas in Sustainable Sydney 2030, the Eora Journey was the vision's major cultural project. The 4 components of the Eora Journey are:

1. a public art program entitled recognition in the public domain
2. a significant event
3. an economic development plan
4. a knowledge and cultural centre.

Over the past decade, the City of Sydney has produced public art projects and events that recognise and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture. We purchased the former Redfern Post Office building for future use as a local knowledge and culture centre.

Collaborating with community, Aboriginal curators, artists and other Aboriginal knowledge holders, we will continue to develop new projects. The Eora Journey - recognition in the public domain program has seven public art projects of which Yananurala is one. These will recognise the living cultures of Aboriginal peoples and reflect the natural systems that have shaped and continue to shape Aboriginal cultural practices.

Yananurala

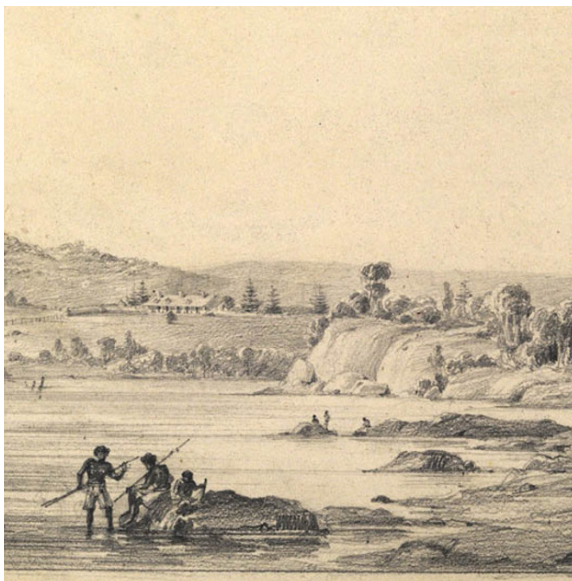
Yananurala (Walking on Country) will share and celebrate new and old stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples along the Sydney harbour foreshore. Harbour walk curator, Emily McDaniel, is working with the Eora Journey curator, Hetti Perkins, to curate a series of interconnected stories from Pirrama (Australian National Maritime Museum) to Bayinguwa (Garden Island). These will form the basis for exhibitions, events, public art and interpretation.

Yananurala will assist local people and visitors understand the concept of Country in the way that Aboriginal people understood and experienced their land for millennia – by walking Country on the edge of our spectacular harbour.

We will also broadly implement the concept of designing with Country, including a specific focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and cultural expression.



Nawi (Sydney tied-bark canoe) with fire at Nawi 2012
Photo: Andrew Frolows



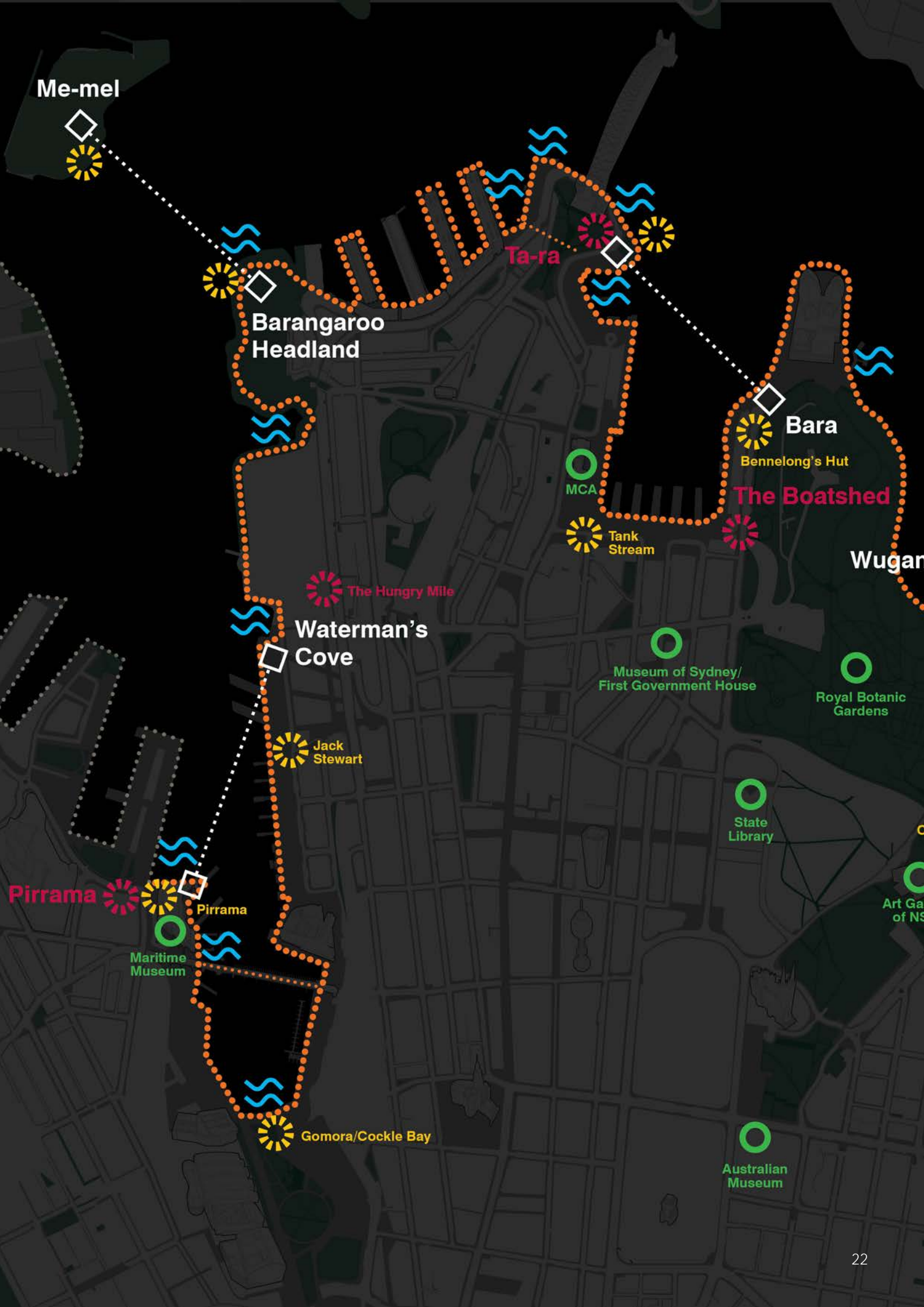
View of Government Domain Sydney, Charles Rodius 1833

Image: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW



Portraits of Biddy Salamander of Broken Bay Tribe, Bulkabra Chief of Botany, Gooseberry Queen of Bungaree, Charles Rodius 1834

Image: Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW



Me-mel

Barangaroo Headland

Ta-ra

Bara

Bennelong's Hut

The Boatshed

Wugar

Waterman's Cove

The Hungry Mile

Jack Stewart

Museum of Sydney/
First Government House

Royal Botanic Gardens

State Library

Pirrama

Pirrama

Maritime Museum

Art Ga
of NS

Gomora/Cockle Bay

Australian Museum



Yananurala

Sitelines



Eight visual devices that frame and articulate 'siteline' relationships.

Conversations



Text and/or audio-based installations that respond to the intimate, hidden histories of the harbour at 12 locations.

Badu (water)



An environmental project in partnership with universities and marine institutes led by an artist team building on research to acknowledge Country as land, water and sky.

Sites



1. Pirrama

A major public artwork adjacent to the Australian National Maritime Museum recognising the connection between Aboriginal people and the harbour.

2. The Hungry Mile

A major public art project recognising Aboriginal people in Sydney's maritime history.

3. Ta-ra (Dawes Point)

A major public art project that highlights the site where Patyegarang gifted the Sydney language to William Dawes.

4. The Boatshed

A major public art project at Circular Quay exploring the connection between the boatshed and the La Perouse community.

5. Woolloomooloo

A collaborative community-based public art project recognising the history and enduring presence of Aboriginal people in Woolloomooloo.

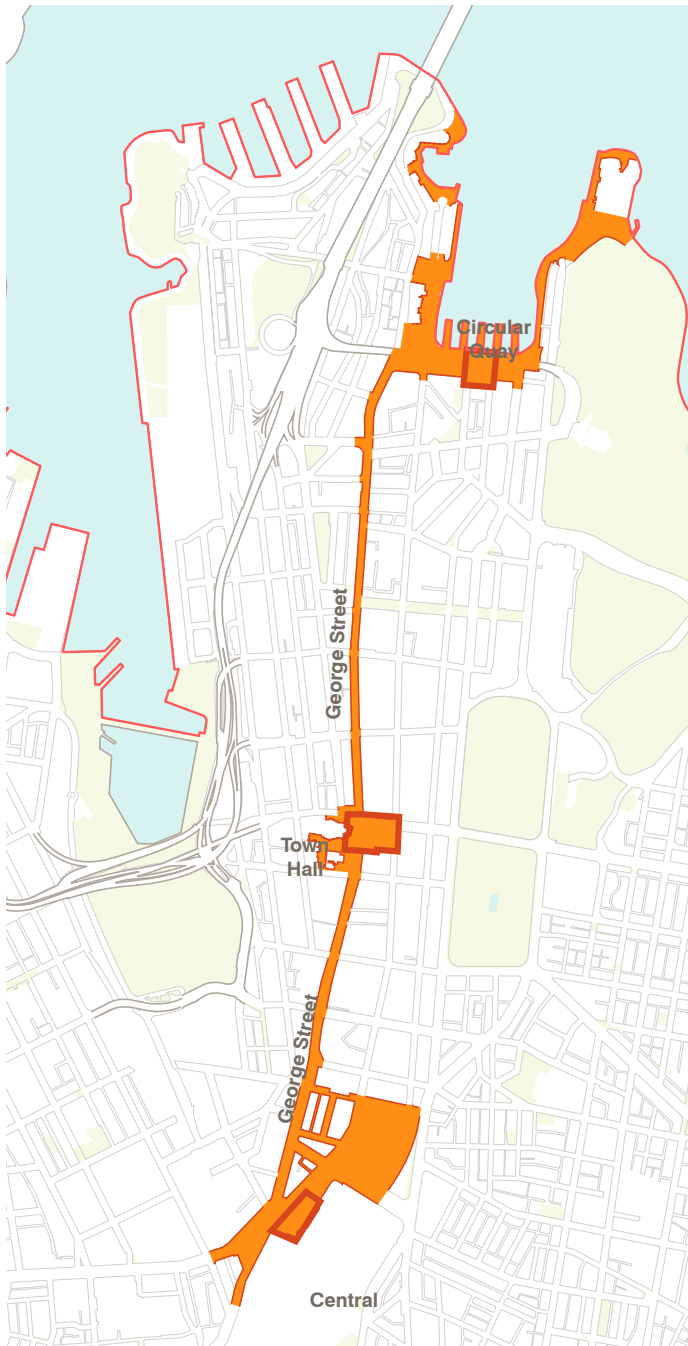
PROJECT IDEA 2

Three linked city squares





2 Three linked city squares



Three city squares linked by George Street
Figure: City of Sydney

Three city squares will be linked by the new pedestrian boulevard on George Street to provide more space for public life in the heart of our city.

The squares at Circular Quay, Town Hall and Central Station are part of a city that provides welcoming civic spaces. It will connect our harbour and cultural assets at Circular Quay to the historic Sydney Town Hall and the innovation and technology hub near Central Station.

This idea reinforces a key Sustainable Sydney 2030 project idea. With light rail now installed in the city centre we are realising our vision of George Street as Sydney's civic spine and have created more space for public life.

The private sector has embraced these changes, investing heavily in developments next to the civic spine. The City of Sydney is working to provide a further 9,000m² of public space on George Street between Bathurst Street and Rawson Place and surrounding streets.

“Cultures and climates differ all over the world, but people are the same. They will gather in public if you give them a good place to do it.”

Jan Gehl
Leading architect and urban designer

Image on previous page: George Street, Sydney
Photo: Mark Metcalfe/ City of Sydney

George Street improvements to date

Light rail has provided the catalyst for public space improvements along George Street, between Hunter Street and Bathurst Street. Improvements so far include:

- 7,190m² of new space for people walking
- 59 trees
- 130 bench seats
- more water bubblers
- lower ambient noise levels
- better air quality



George Street – space for people and public transport
Photo: Mark Metcalfe / City of Sydney

2 Three linked city squares

Circular Quay – the Water Square

Circular Quay: The Water Square makes the most of our spectacular harbour setting. Unifying the patches of public space dotted around the foreshore, it reconnects our city centre to the harbour, prioritising access to our waterfront.

We can create this new square on the water's edge at the foot of Customs House by removing the Cahill Expressway, relocating the City Circle rail infrastructure to under Bridge Street and relocating a ferry wharf.

The Water Square reconnects public space to our maritime landscape, people to Country and Sydney to the world. If realised this new waterside square, suitable for local, national and international celebrations, will boost Sydney's reputation as a key global destination.

VISION



NOW





2 Three linked city squares

Town Hall Square: Sydney's civic heart

Town Hall Square reimagines Sydney's civic heart with a new square at its core. Located midway along George Street, the site is flanked by modern and Victorian-era sandstone architecture and offers people multiple public transport choices. The square links civic and cultural places at Hyde Park, Sydney Square and along George Street.

Over the past few decades, the City of Sydney has acquired properties to help realise this vision. We bought 307 Pitt Street in 2004, followed by the Pittsway Arcade building in 2016. These add to the properties we already own, such as the Woolworths building, Hotel Coronation and the Lowes building.

Trees planted along Park Street shade the northern edge to the square, while a contemporary, veranda building offers places for events and activities to the south. A public market hall under the square gives people easy links to trains, buses and trams that converge around the square's edges. Town Hall Square will act as Sydney's new living room and a place of gathering for all ages.

VISION





Town Hall Square: Sydney's civic heart

Concept by Bates Smart, Matthew Pullinger & Paddock Landscape Architects

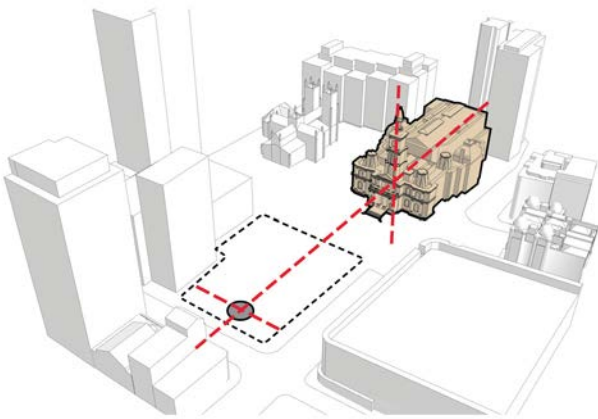
VISION



Town Hall Square: Sydney's civic heart
Concept by Bates Smart, Matthew Pullinger & Paddock Landscape Architects

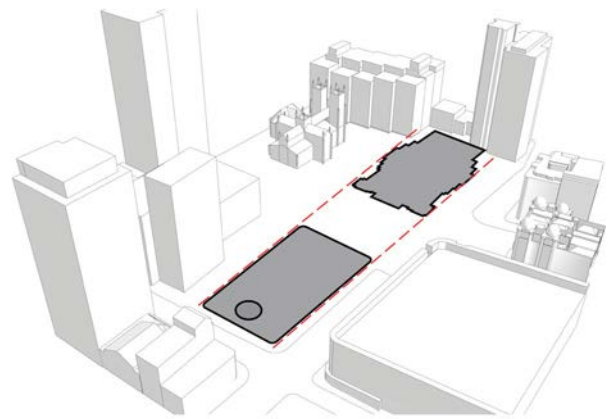
Town Hall Square

Six moves to create a civic square at the heart of Central Sydney



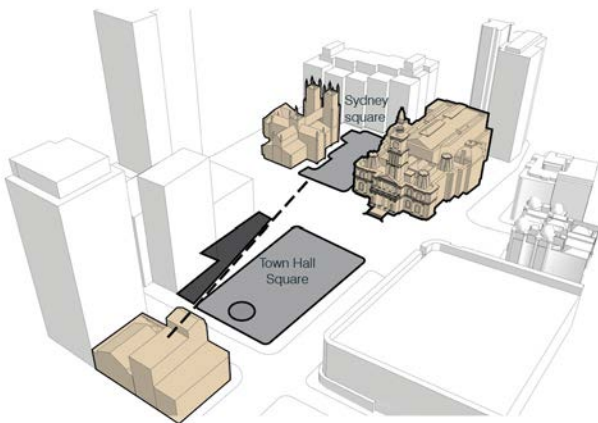
Symmetry

Axial alignment with Sydney Town Hall locates the new metro entry and a performance space near the Pitt Street edge.



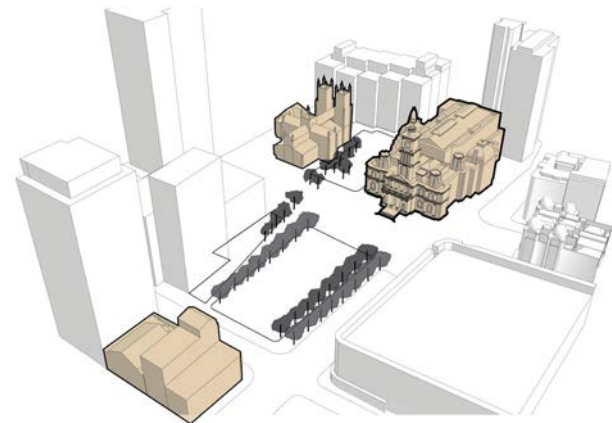
Scale

The scale of Town Hall Square relates directly to the scale of Sydney Town Hall.



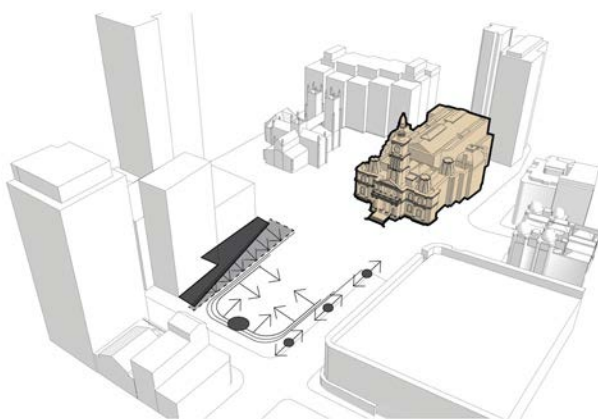
Building alignment

Alignment of a new building on the square's southern edge with St Andrews Cathedral opens Town Hall Square up to Sydney Square.



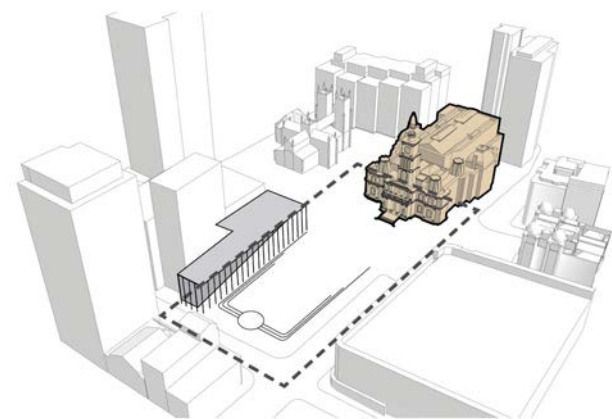
Street tree alignment

New vegetation connects Town Hall Square to Sydney Square, shading and softening its edges.



Activation

Kiosks, steps and a new verandah building creates active edges and outlook over the new square.



Framing

A new colonnade frames the square, referencing the scale of heritage architecture around the Town Hall precinct.

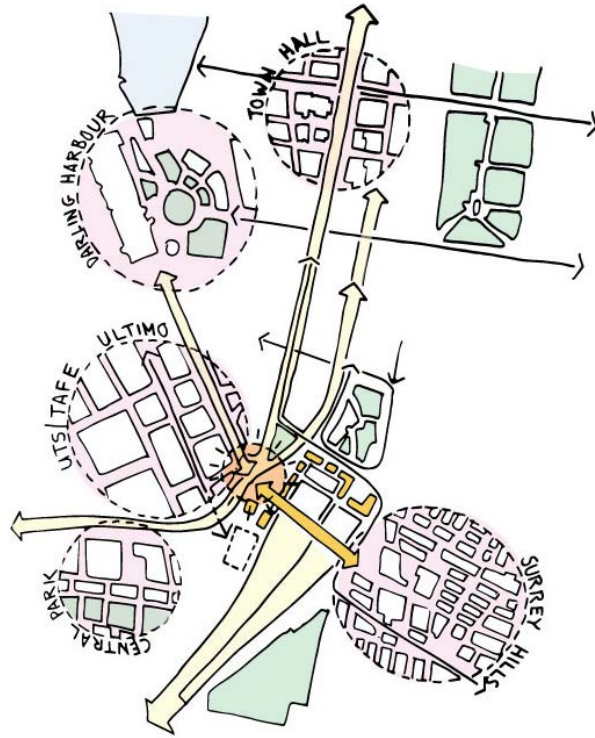
2 Three linked city squares

Central Square: Sydney's arrival square

Central Square will be at the epicentre of an expanded Central Station in 2050 and part of the Tech Central innovation precinct. Greater use of public transport and excluding private vehicles from much of the road means we can free up and explore other uses for this space.

Central Square is situated at the southern end of the George Street spine, close to a renewed Central Station. This active, public transport nexus connects to the innovation, technology and education precincts, including campuses of the University of Technology Sydney and the University of Sydney.

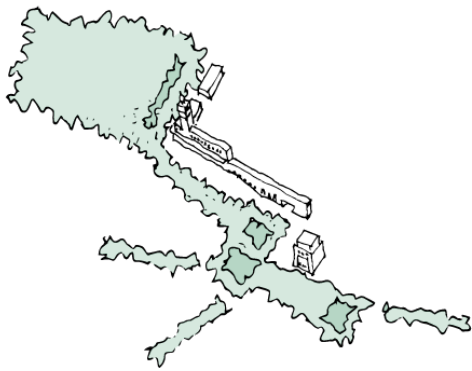
With the scale of development planned at the southern end of the city, the square will provide a more natural environment for people to relax. Greening the area will help our city remain liveable and resilient. We will continue to work with the NSW Government to shape this key civic space.



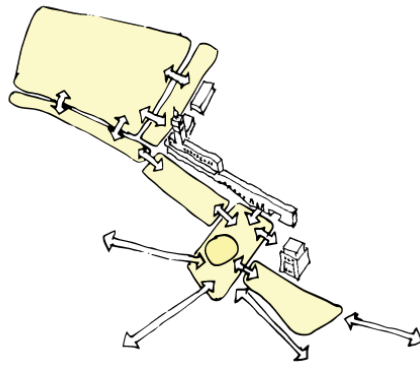
Central Square and its city centre context
Concept by HASSELL



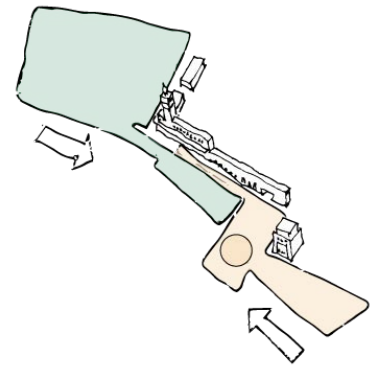
Central Square: Sydney's arrival square. View from Central Walk.
Concept by City of Sydney and Spackman Mossop Michaels



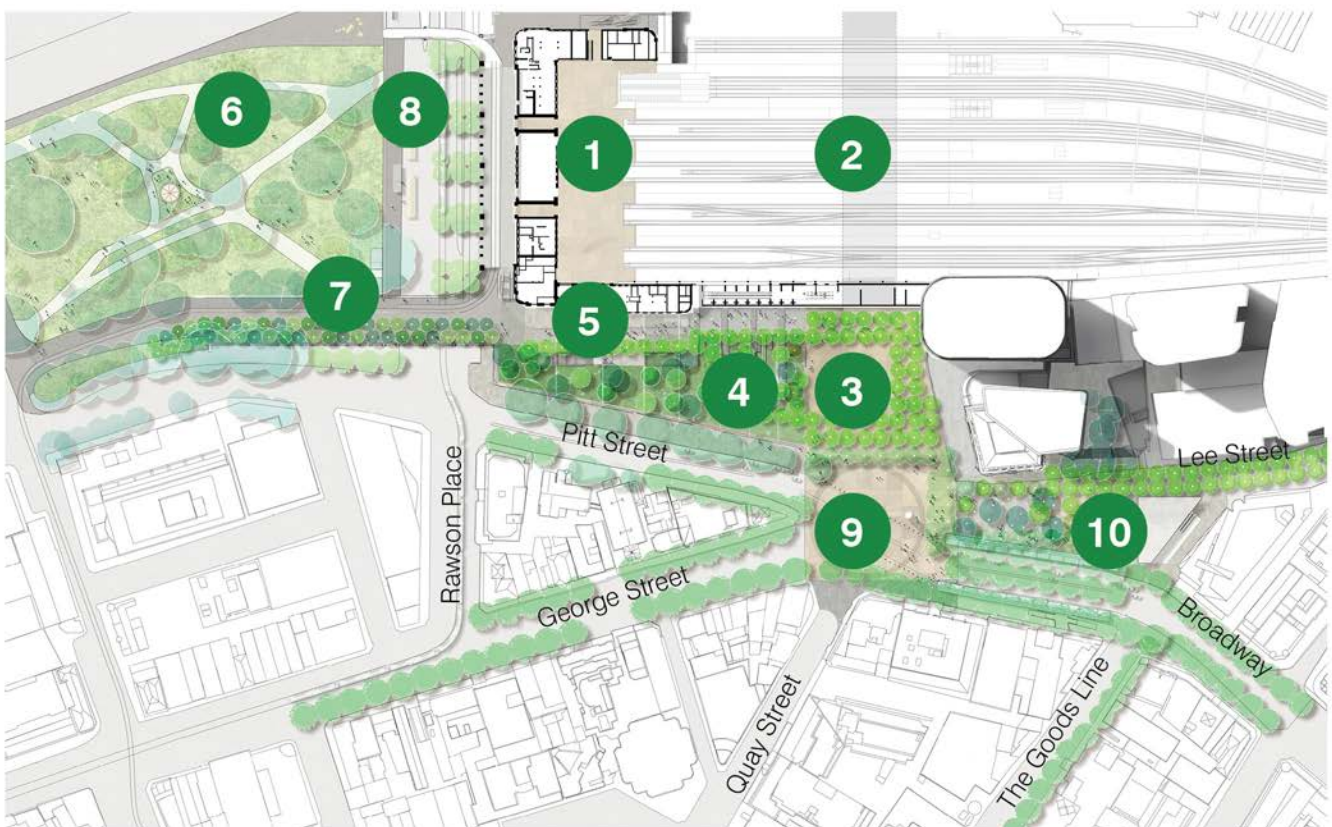
Unite the precinct with continuous tree canopies to create a green identity and improve amenity.



Strengthen connections between urban spaces, streets and Belmore Park.



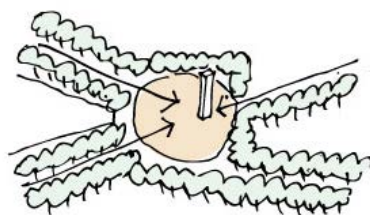
Reinforce the precinct's dual character: verdant and urban.



Central Square and station public realm
Concept by HASSELL

Legend

- 1. Central Station
- 2. Central Walk
- 3. Central Square
- 4. Terrace
- 5. Upper Forecourt
- 6. Belmore Park
- 7. Belmore Park viaduct/ ramp
- 8. Eddy Avenue
- 9. The intersection
- 10. Railway Square



Define and celebrate the intersection with a marker.



Respect and amplify the heritage fabric.

NOW



VISION



Aerial view of the vision for Central Square and the upper terrace
Concept by HASSELL

NOW



VISION



Central Square with a verdant ramp transition to the upper forecourt
Concept by HASSELL

PROJECT IDEA 3

The green city – increasing city greening





3 The green city

The green city set of initiatives aims to make our city more resilient in the face of the global climate emergency and future liveability challenges.

We estimate there will be 115,000 more residents, 56,000 new dwellings and 200,000 more jobs by 2036. So existing open space and transport connections will be put under considerable stress unless we upgrade and add to existing assets.

We have:

- increased tree canopy cover in our area to 19.2% since 2008
- planted more than 15,000 trees since 2005
- landscaped more than 11.6ha
- increased bush restoration sites by 300% from a baseline of 4.3ha
- added 24ha of new open space over the past decade
- installed 249 raingardens since 2004.

Three ideas for continuing to make Sydney greener are more green avenues, the laneway commons and expanding Sydney's lungs at Moore Park. They illustrate what our city streets and open spaces could look like in the future, enabled by the NSW Government's significant investment and plans for new public transport.

Bourke Street

Photo: Simon Wood / City of Sydney

Part of a seven-kilometre route between Mascot and Sydney Harbour, the 3.2 kilometre Bourke Street upgrade by the City of Sydney included upgraded footpaths and services, added new street lighting, street furniture, raingardens and more trees.

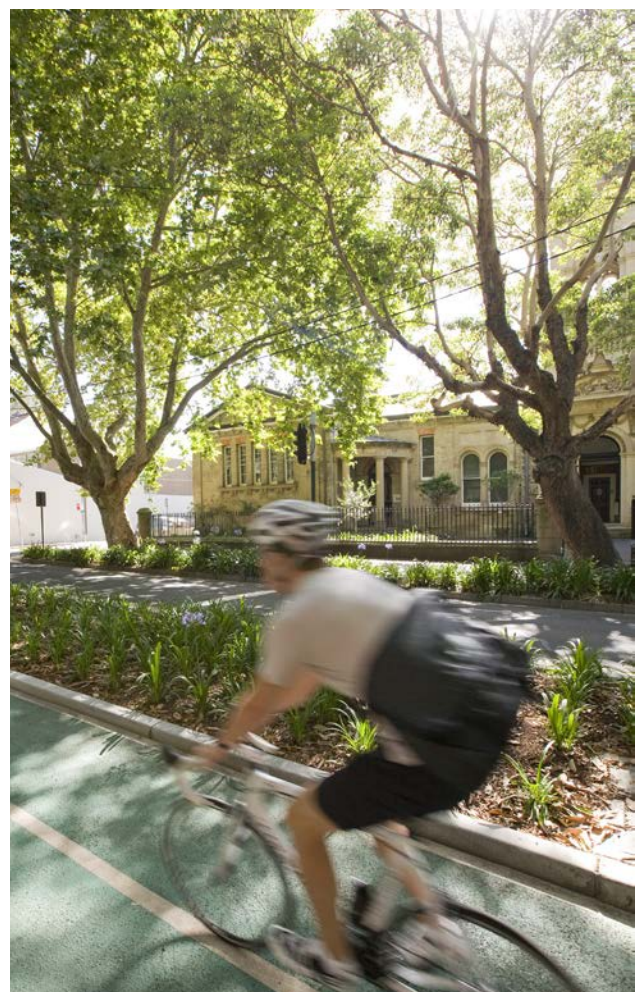
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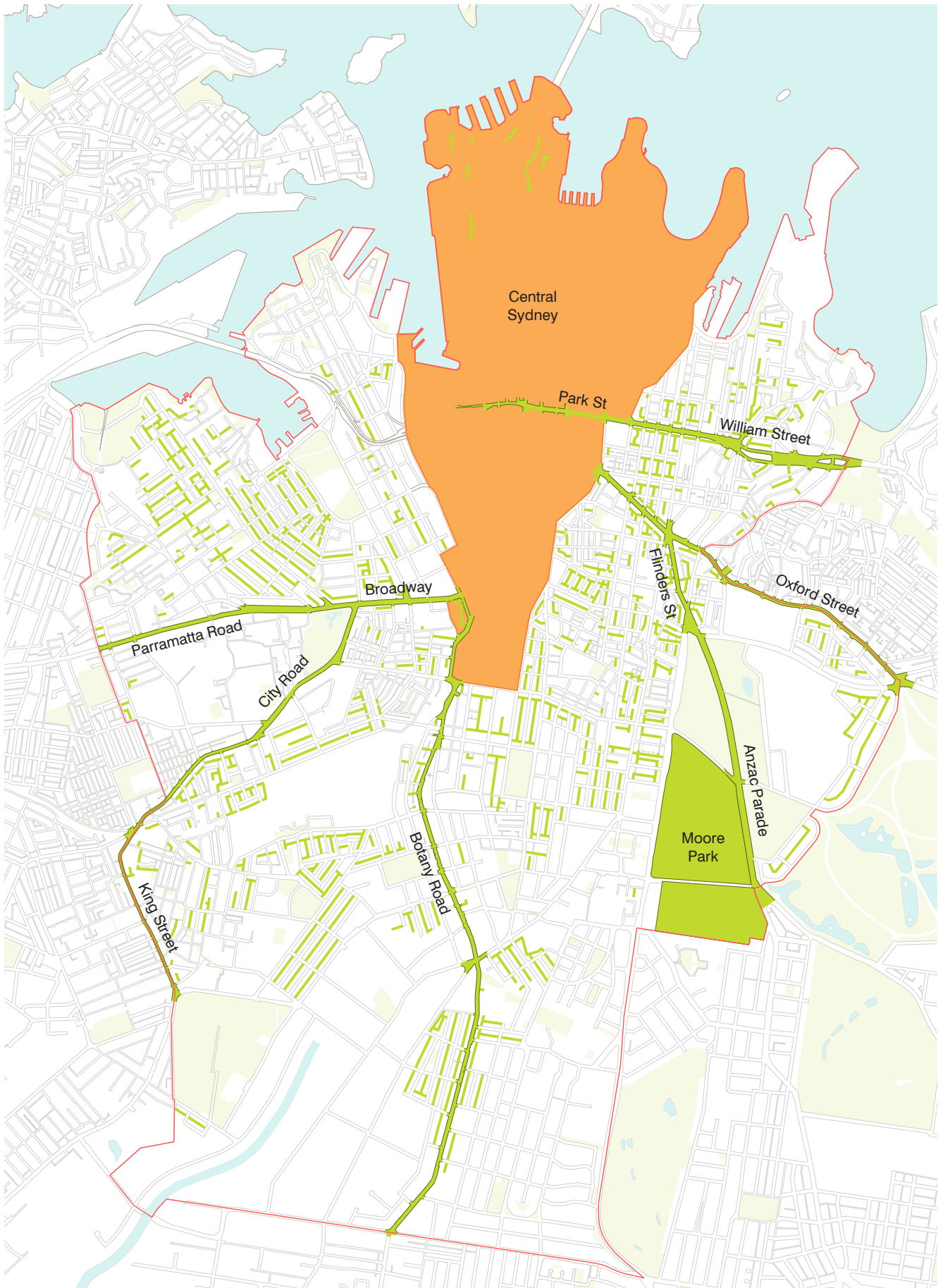
Green avenues: Park Street (looking west)

Concept by Bates Smart and Matthew Pullinger

“Whether it is for managing heat or mental health issues, happiness, physical activity or reduced incidences of disease and illness, an increase in our canopy cover, green space and nature provides multiple benefits to the community.”

City of Sydney's Greening Strategy (2021)





**Green avenues, the laneway commons and expanding Sydney's lungs:
 Sydney's second common (Moore Park)**
 Figure: City of Sydney

3 The green city

Green avenues: Broadway

We envisage transforming and revitalising Broadway, our city's western gateway, as a green link with more space for people to walk and ride bikes. This will support the area's evolution into Sydney's innovation and education precinct.

The road space could be reduced to 2 lanes in each direction, allowing extra room for trees and people. It also provides more space for efficient and reliable public transport, linking activities on Broadway and Parramatta Road.

Planting more trees, plants and grasses will mitigate the urban heat island effect and create a green link between Victoria Park and Belmore Park. Through water-sensitive urban design, water harvesting and installing water recycling infrastructure, we can help mitigate flood impacts and also provide a sustainable water source during dry periods.

VISION



NOW





Green avenues: Broadway (looking northeast)
Concept by Spackman Mossop Michaels

3 The green city

Green avenues: Park Street

The green avenues project idea unites the northern and southern halves of Hyde Park, connecting and improving this central open space for residents, workers and visitors. This project envisages Park Street's east-west axis as a traffic-calmed avenue, freeing up road space for tree planting and people.

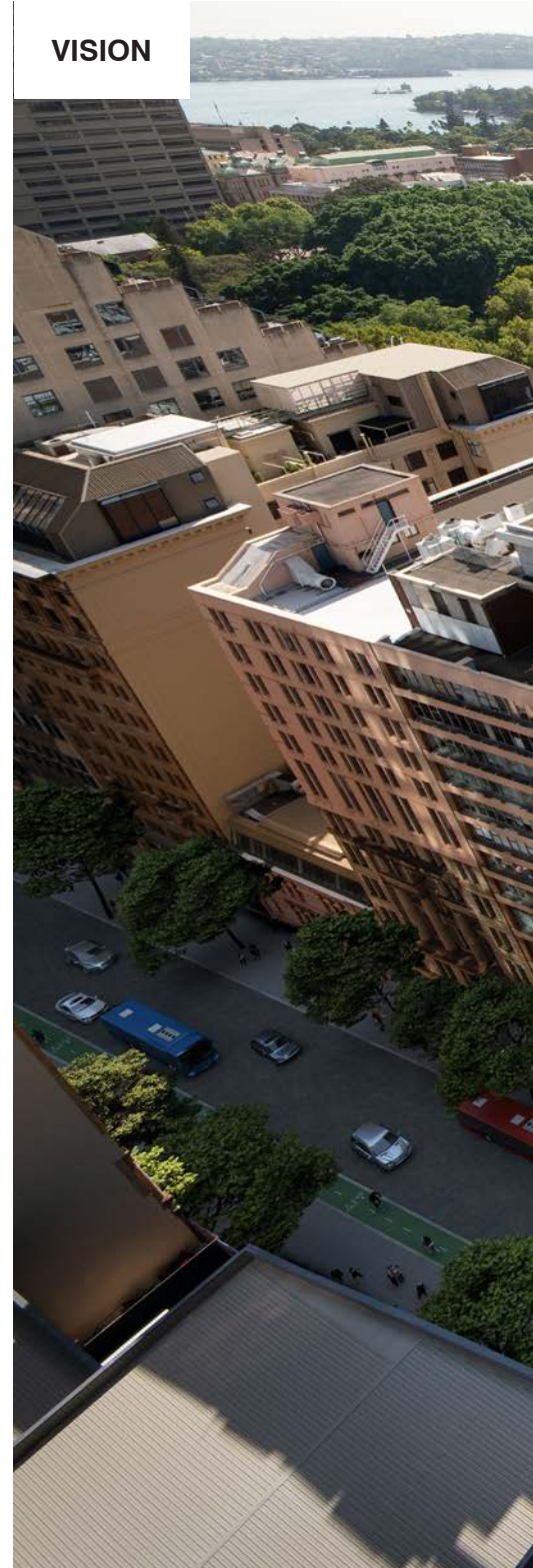
With traffic encouraged to use the Cross City Tunnel, access on surface roads will be limited to local traffic, service vehicles, public transport and cyclists.

A calmer, slower Park Street will complement a future Town Hall Square. It also provides more space for people using the Pitt Street metro station that is planned for completion in 2024.

NOW



VISION





Green avenues: Park Street (looking east)
Concept by Bates Smart & Matthew Pullinger

3 The green city

Oxford and Flinders streets

The green avenues project reclaims space in Oxford and Flinders streets for trees, people and businesses. The project aims to calm road traffic and create more space for entertainment, dining and other activities. Transferring some bus services to rail and light rail will make cycling safer and will allow the reorganisation of bus activity on Oxford and Flinders streets.

Traffic on Oxford and Flinders streets could be reduced to single traffic lanes in each direction with adjacent kerbside lanes used for timed parking, loading, bus stops and turning.

A 2-way bike lane will connect the city centre and Hyde Park to Centennial Park and the eastern suburbs. Footpaths can be widened by up to 6m in some places, creating more space for trees, people and public life.

NOW



SHORT TERM VISION



VISION





Green avenues: Oxford Street
Concept by JMD Design

3 The green city

Botany Road

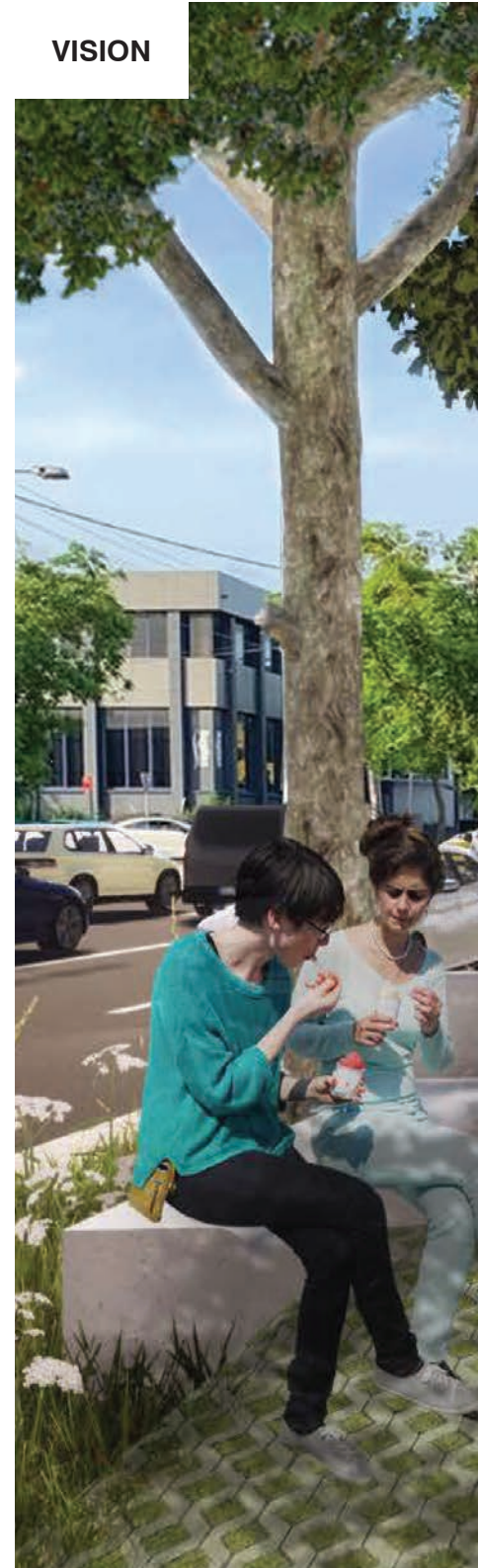
This project turns Botany Road, the city's link to Sydney's international airport into a grand green boulevard. The southern end of Botany Road between Green Square and Gardeners Road will be transformed into a greener, more liveable and attractive main road that better serves the local community. It will provide the city with 5,000m² of extra space for people and trees.

The idea reconfigures existing underground utilities to allow for stormwater harvesting, storage and recycling infrastructure. This water source could help sustain and irrigate new shade trees and gardens. This concept encourages more active ground floor use by people in adjacent buildings and creates a better environment for residents and workers.

NOW



VISION





Green avenues: Botany Road (looking north)
Concept by Studio Zanardo, Gallagher Studio & MAKO Architecture

3 The green city

The laneway commons

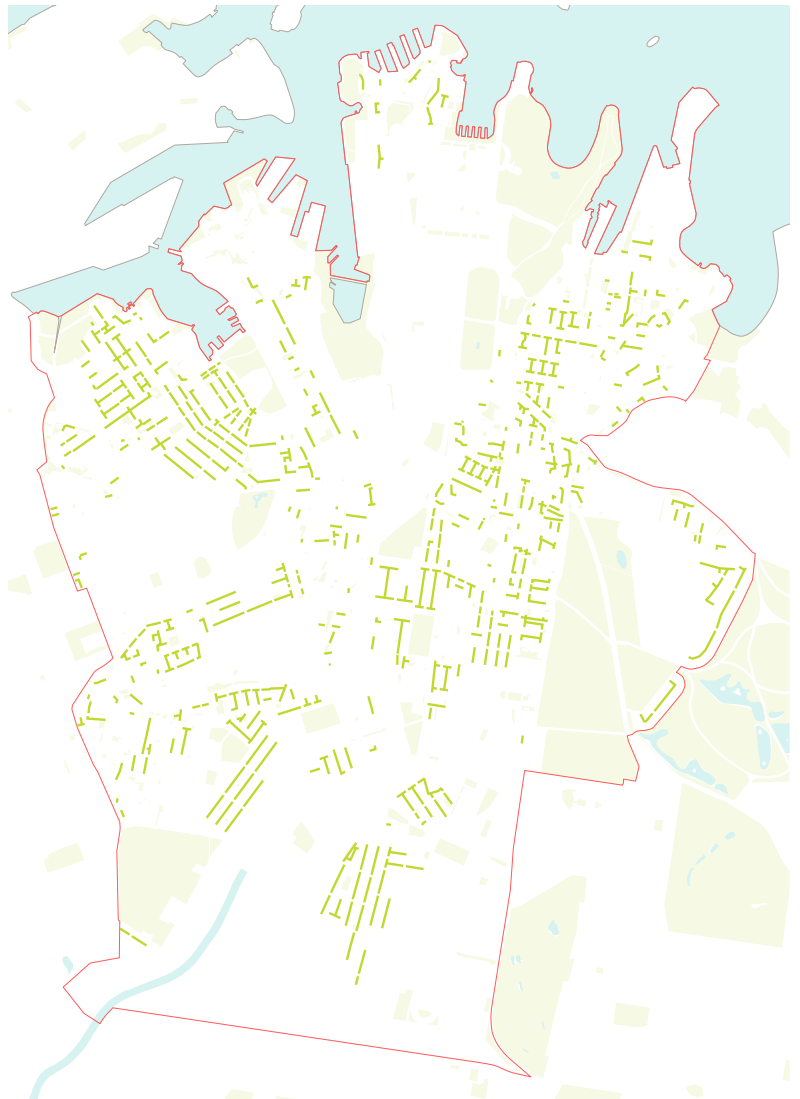
The laneway commons reimagines our neighbourhood service lanes as soft, permeable, green commons that better serve community needs. The initiative transforms land that is now used for private vehicle access and waste collection.

The transformed neighbourhood lanes could support our target to increase canopy cover by adding thousands of trees and up to 383,000m² (38.3ha) of green neighbourhood space for recreation and local food production.

This idea can only be realised if it is co-created with residents living adjacent to the lanes.

“We want a city designed for people and not vehicles... where there is space to walk, bike, stroll, jog, chat, rest and enjoy life.”

**Sydney 2050 Citizens Jury
Concept Report**



Sydney's lanes

The laneway commons project focuses on lanes across Sydney with widths of 6m (plus or minus 1m).



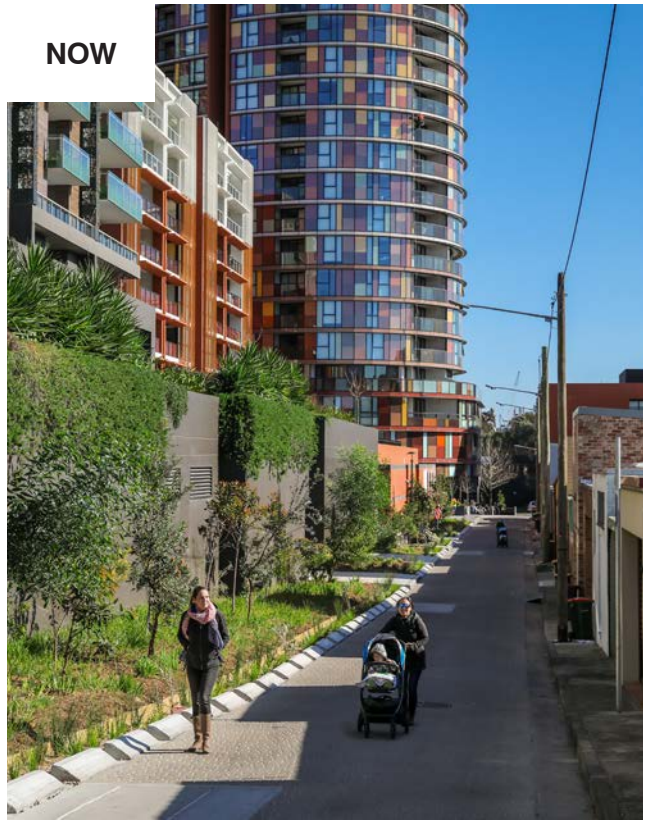
Possible green link with a centralised waste collection

Concept by Studio Zanardo, Gallagher Studio & MAKO Architecture

BEFORE



NOW



Portman Lane, Green Square

Photos: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney



Footpath garden at McElhone Place, Surry Hills

Photo: Jamie Williams / City of Sydney

3 The green city

Expanding Sydney's lungs at Moore Park

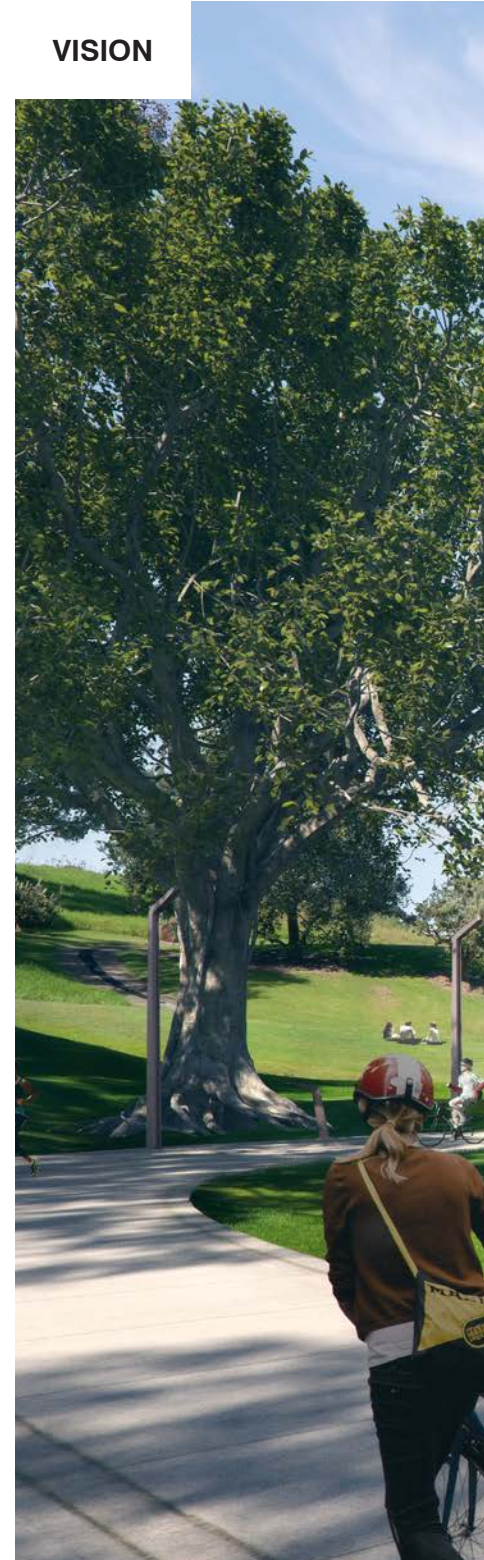
Unlocking existing crown land at Moore Park for wider public use, will facilitate the expansion of Sydney's lungs. We propose to retain Moore Park Golf Club, driving range and maintenance depot, but convert the 18-hole course into a 9-hole course. This could create up to 20ha of extra parkland for our residents. We envisage a 4km cycling and walking track around the edge of Moore Park and the golf course.

The land was originally part of Sydney's second common. The Moore Park Golf Course adjoins the Green Square area. By 2040 there will be up to 90,000 residents within 2km of Moore Park. Large open green space is not only important for the environment, but also a much needed asset for the health of these communities, giving people room to exercise, relax and connect with nature.

NOW



VISION





VISION





Expanding Sydney's lungs - creating a new accessible edge along Dacey Avenue
Concept by City of Sydney

PROJECT IDEA 4

City space improvement program





4 City space improvement program

The Lunch Club

The Lunch Club is a temporary initiative to transform road space into places for people to dine and enjoy our city centre. Using light-touch, low-cost and reversible additions, Lunch Club seeks to create more space for our growing population of residents, workers and visitors.

We could time closure of roads so the space could be used for pop-up festivals and lunchtime performances, while parking or loading zones could temporarily be used for alfresco dining. Interventions could be as simple as installing more street furniture or planters to soften and green city streets.

The Lunch Club is our opportunity to partner with the NSW Government and businesses to test the logistics of creating more space for public life in the city centre.

Organising Lunch Club events will be easier because of a fast-track application process for outdoor dining that we launched during the Covid-19 pandemic along with the NSW Government. Our next step will be an ongoing program to create more space for people and public life in the city.



City centre street network
Figure: City of Sydney



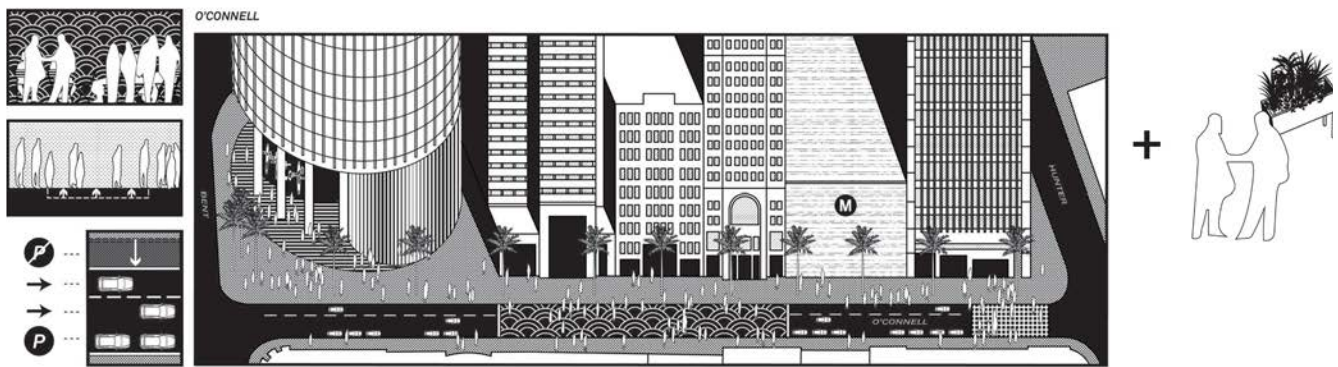
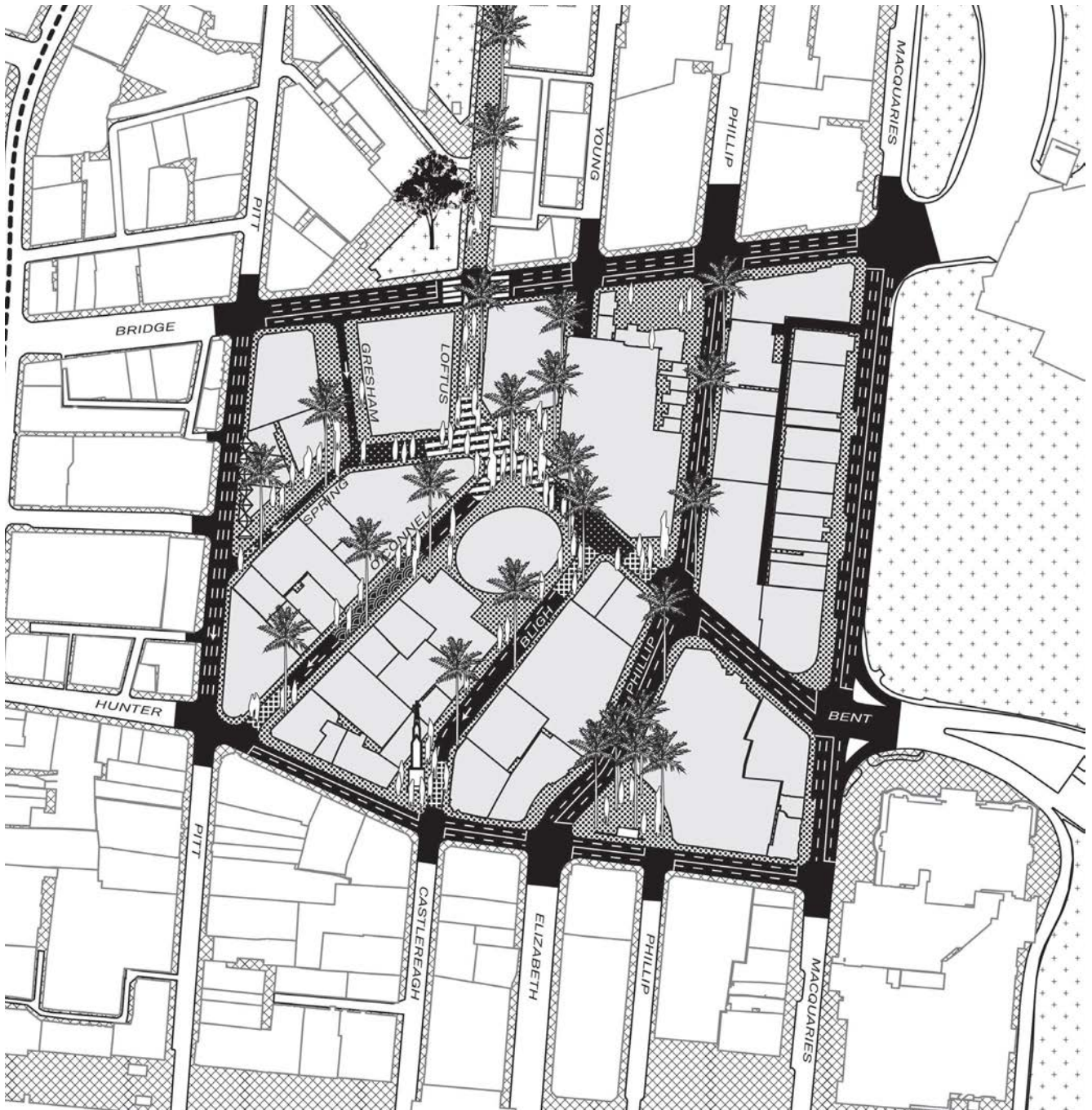
The Lunch Club methodology

Concept by HASSELL

Lunch Club reimagines our city centre road space with temporary lunchtime closures with simple elements (fixed and fleeting) - the first step towards more permanent change.

Image on previous page:

Loftus Street public domain upgrade (looking south)
Concept by HASSELL



Lunch Club: Sydney's old street grid

Concept by HASSELL

The Lunch Club trials time-based street changes in Sydney's old street grid during peak lunchtime periods to create more space for people and help catalyse change.

4 City space improvement program

Roads to spaces

This program could convert more roads into spaces for people to walk, linger and enjoy. Since 2007 we have worked alongside our NSW Government colleagues, studying every street in the city centre to find ways to create more space to meet the needs of the growing number of people visiting and working in the city. Their needs must be balanced with complex access and servicing requirements for residents, workers, visitors and businesses.

NOW



VISION





Loftus Street public domain upgrade (looking north)
Concept by HASSELL

NOW



VISION



Pitt Street public domain upgrade (looking south from Park Street intersection)
Concept by HASSELL

NOW



VISION



Pitt Street public domain upgrade (looking south from Market Street intersection)
Concept by HASSELL

PROJECT IDEA 5

The water city – making more of our harbour





5 The water city

Improving water quality

The water city integrates water and urban planning for a holistic urban water-sensitive management approach. This will help meet our water needs and support a resilient, healthy, sustainable and liveable city.

Our growing population and more frequent, extreme weather events linked to climate change will place increasing pressure on our water resources and infrastructure. Water scarcity and pollution will become ever more pressing issues.

We already use a water-sensitive management and urban design approach. Key initiatives include water efficiency and water recycling. Benefits of a water-sensitive city include:

- healthy waterways
- efficient water use through recycling and water saving initiatives
- safe and clean water quality
- lower flood risk
- improved urban biodiversity
- a green and cool city.

To improve water quality in Sydney Harbour, state and local governments need to continue using key water-sensitive urban design initiatives with smart technology and real-time monitoring of water quality. For 21st century water management it will also be essential for us to draw on the knowledge and values of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Water sensitive management approaches

Approach	Initiatives
Water sensitive urban design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slow down and clean stormwater to enhance waterway health. • Reduce stormwater to enhance waterway health. • Increase permeable surfaces to allow water to be absorbed into the ground and reduce flooding. • Celebrate water and green spaces in urban design.
Water efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use as little water as possible in our properties, parks and aquatic centres to deliver community services. • Meter and monitor our water systems to make informed management decisions.
Water recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise water use from alternative sources (rainwater, groundwater, stormwater and recycled water) to conserve potable (drinking) water. • Key focus areas for water recycling include park and open space irrigation, cooling towers and toilets.

5 The water city

Swimming in the harbour

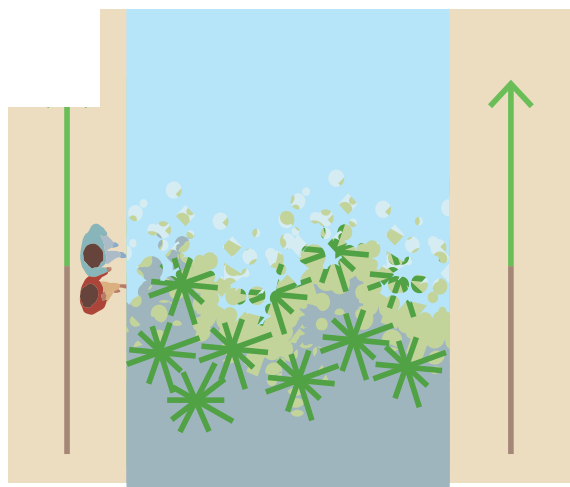
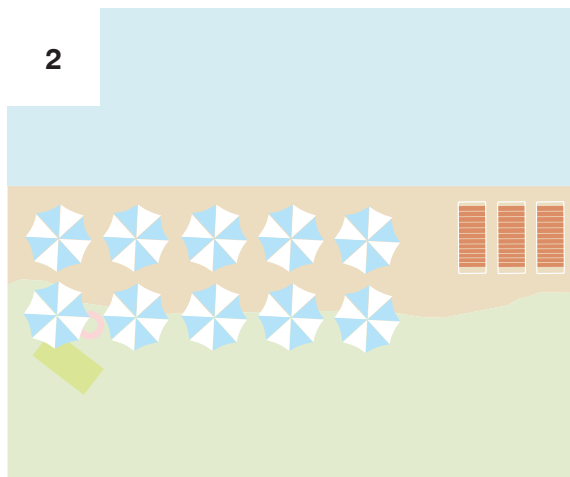
Swimming in the harbour is an ambitious idea that symbolises a water-sensitive city. Rehabilitation, protection and good management of Sydney Harbour in the future will create more opportunities for recreation and attract more investment – supporting the environment, the wellbeing of our communities and the economy.

Features like floating pools, boardwalks, constructed and natural edges will unlock the harbour foreshore for these purposes.

To make the harbour safe for swimming, we need to improve water quality. Part of this involves restoring the broader network of waterways, tributaries and catchments. We will address complex water quality and sediment issues in partnership with the NSW Government, other local councils, Sydney Water, the Sydney Harbour coastal management program and other agencies.

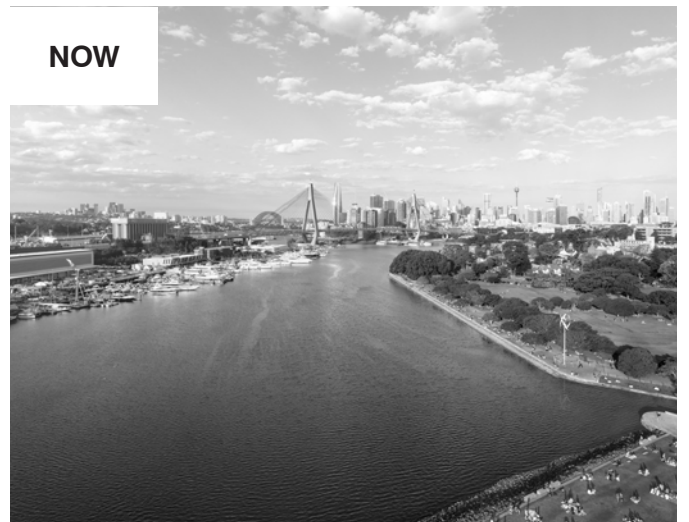
The water city vision suggests 3 ways we can unlock this significant natural and recreational asset if water quality is improved.

1. Minimal intervention, using and extending existing foreshore infrastructure. For example at Pirrama Park, 3 sides of a boardwalk have already been built. Adding a fourth side would allow the enclosed central area to be used as a swimming pool, once sea water quality has improved.
2. Co-located programs that would enliven the foreshore with markets, festivals, stage productions, outdoor cinema and other events.
3. Create swimming facilities that provide biofiltration, remedial ecologies and showcase state-of-the-art filtration.



Three intervention strategies to unlock Sydney Harbour as a recreational asset for all
Concept by Andrew Burges Architects





New floating pool facility with filtered harbour water on Rozelle Bay
Concept by Andrew Burges Architects

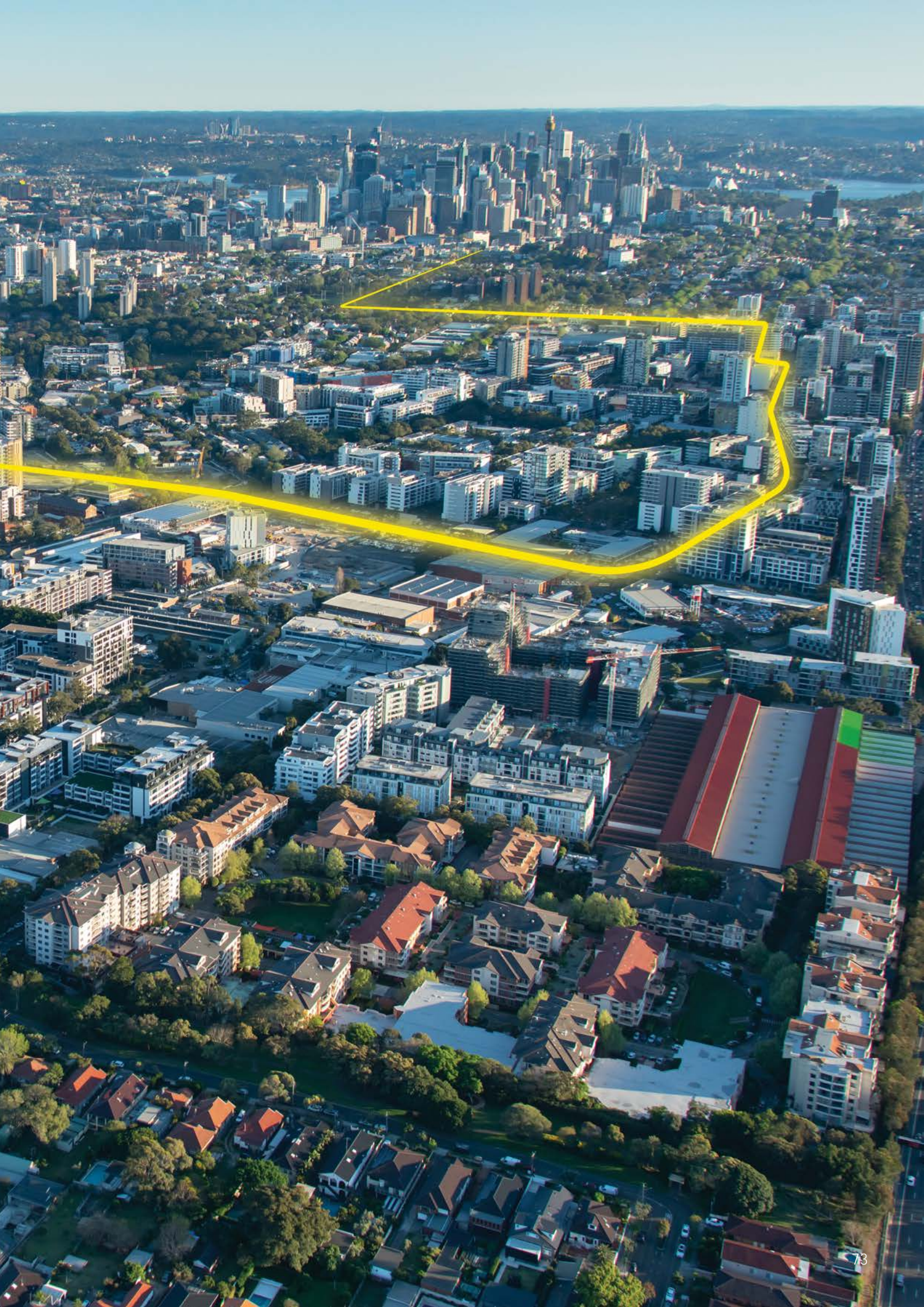




PROJECT IDEA 6

Connecting Green Square





6 Connecting Green Square

The eastern transit corridor

Green Square is one of Australia's largest urban renewal areas and priority location for jobs and services. By 2030 it will be home to approximately 61,000 people and host 22,000 workers.

Located between 2 of Australia's major universities, Green Square is close to emerging innovation and health precincts at Camperdown and Randwick, and only a few kilometres from the city centre and Sydney Airport.

Current public transport connections to these locations can be unreliable and slow. Green Square's single rail station is serviced by a suburban train line that also connects to Australia's busiest airport. At peak hours, the trains can be highly congested.

The eastern transit corridor is a surface transport corridor linking Green Square town centre and its rail station to a future metro station in Zetland and then toward the city centre. This corridor could support light rail or emerging trackless tram technologies, with zero emissions bus services as an interim measure.

The corridor together with a metro station at Zetland and improved bus links, cycleways and walking connections, would ensure that Green Square is appropriately serviced by public transport.



Trackless trams – a possible alternative transport mode for a greener Sydney

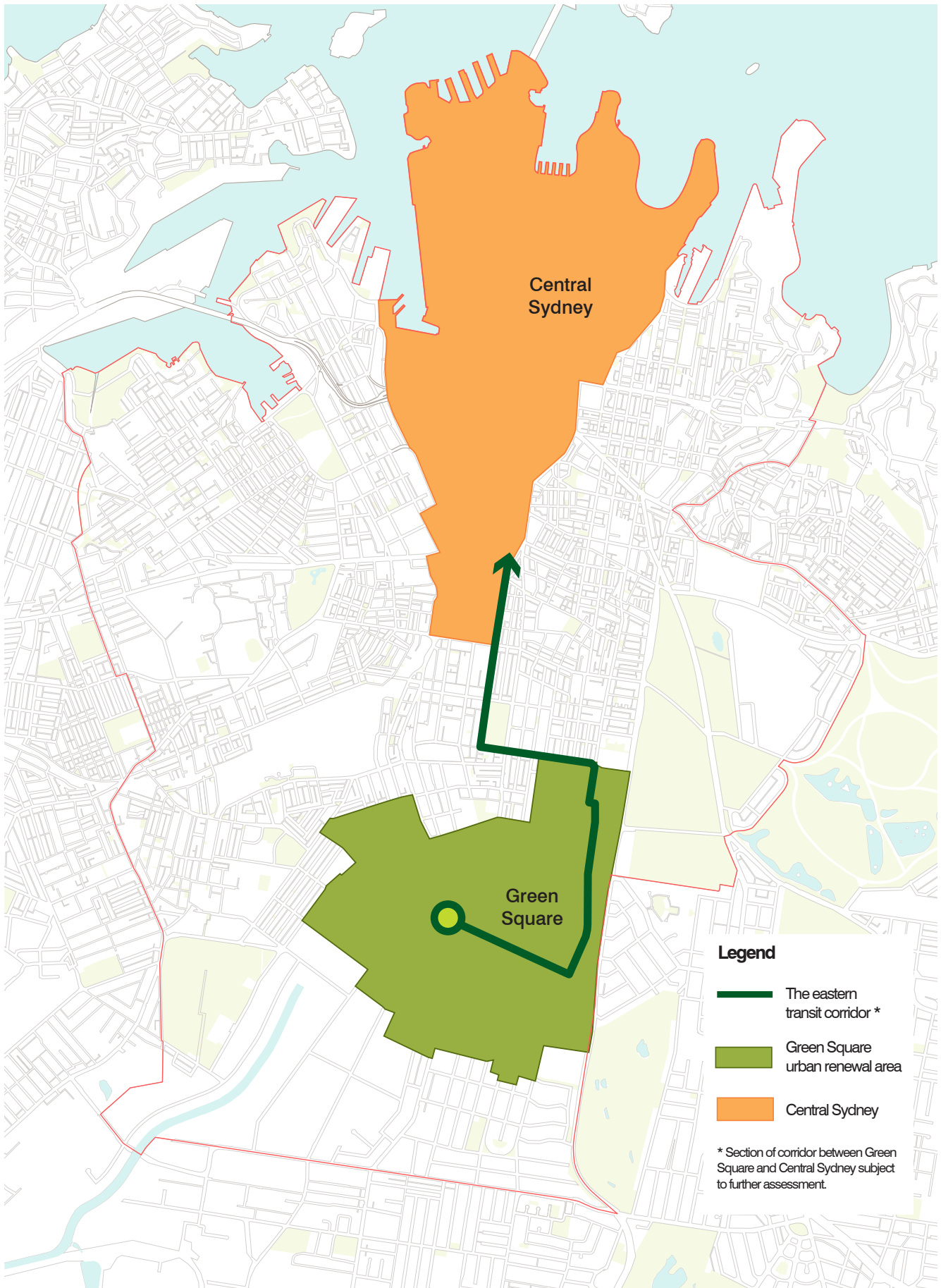
Photo: Graham McCabe



Zero emission buses - an interim solution for a greener Sydney

Photo: Transport for NSW

Image on previous page: Connecting Green Square
Image: Ethan Rohloff (base image) / City of Sydney



The eastern transit corridor – connecting Green Square and surrounding neighbourhoods to Central Sydney
 Figure: City of Sydney

PROJECT IDEA 7

Metro as catalyst





PYRMONT



NSW
GOVERNMENT



Transport

0:00

7 Metro as catalyst

The Metro West extension

The NSW Government is building a metro between Sydney's city centre and Parramatta through the Bays Precinct and Pyrmont. Connections to Zetland in Green Square and Randwick are planned for 2041. Given the current transport capacity constraints and planned growth across our area, the City of Sydney wants the NSW Government to bring this extension forward to 2031.

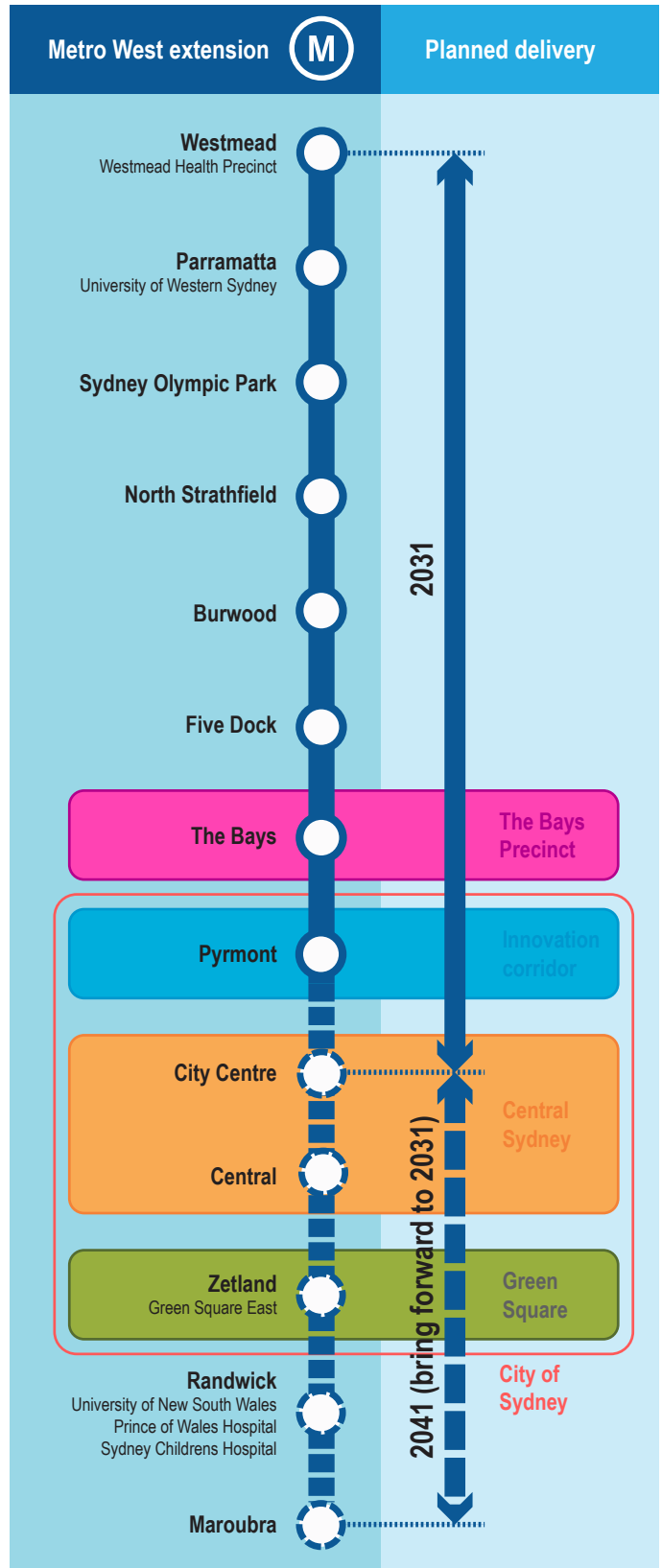
The metro extension is the best way to link Sydney's current and future innovation, knowledge and employment centres at Pyrmont, Central and Randwick, to each other, the city centre, Zetland (Green Square) and to other centres across metropolitan Sydney.

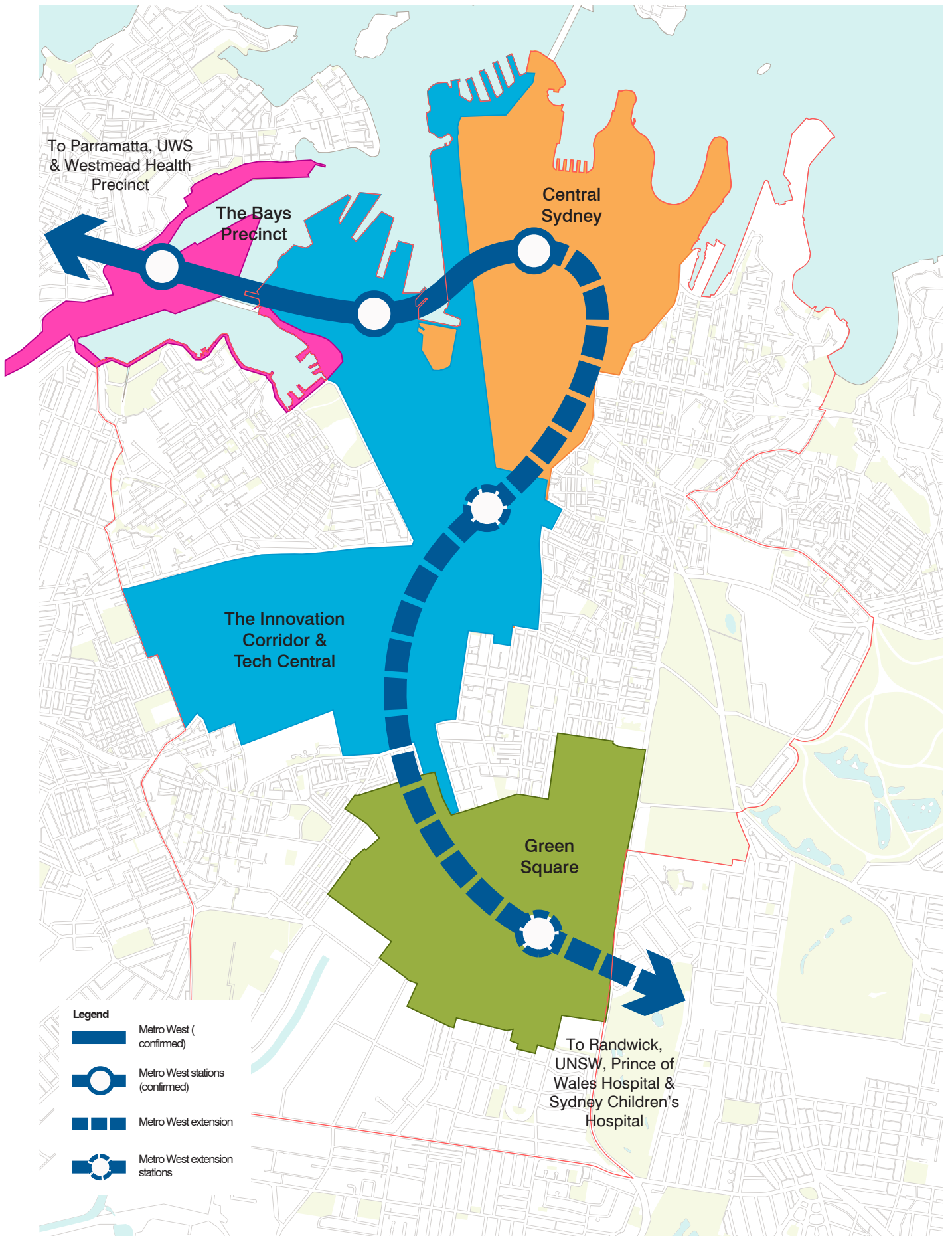
More stations on the Sydney Metro West extension could serve emerging parts of the city and connect to existing rail lines. Together with the connecting Green Square project idea, the extension would provide Sydney with a more comprehensive, reliable and better-connected public transport network.

Well-located metro stations allow people to interchange with buses for better overall trip experiences. Fewer cars and buses will improve safety and create more space on streets for people.

Table: Metro West extension – Planned delivery

Image on previous page:
Sydney Metro West - Pyrmont
 Image: Sydney Metro





Sydney Metro West – extending the line
 Figure: City of Sydney

Metro West extension



Estimated customer travel times

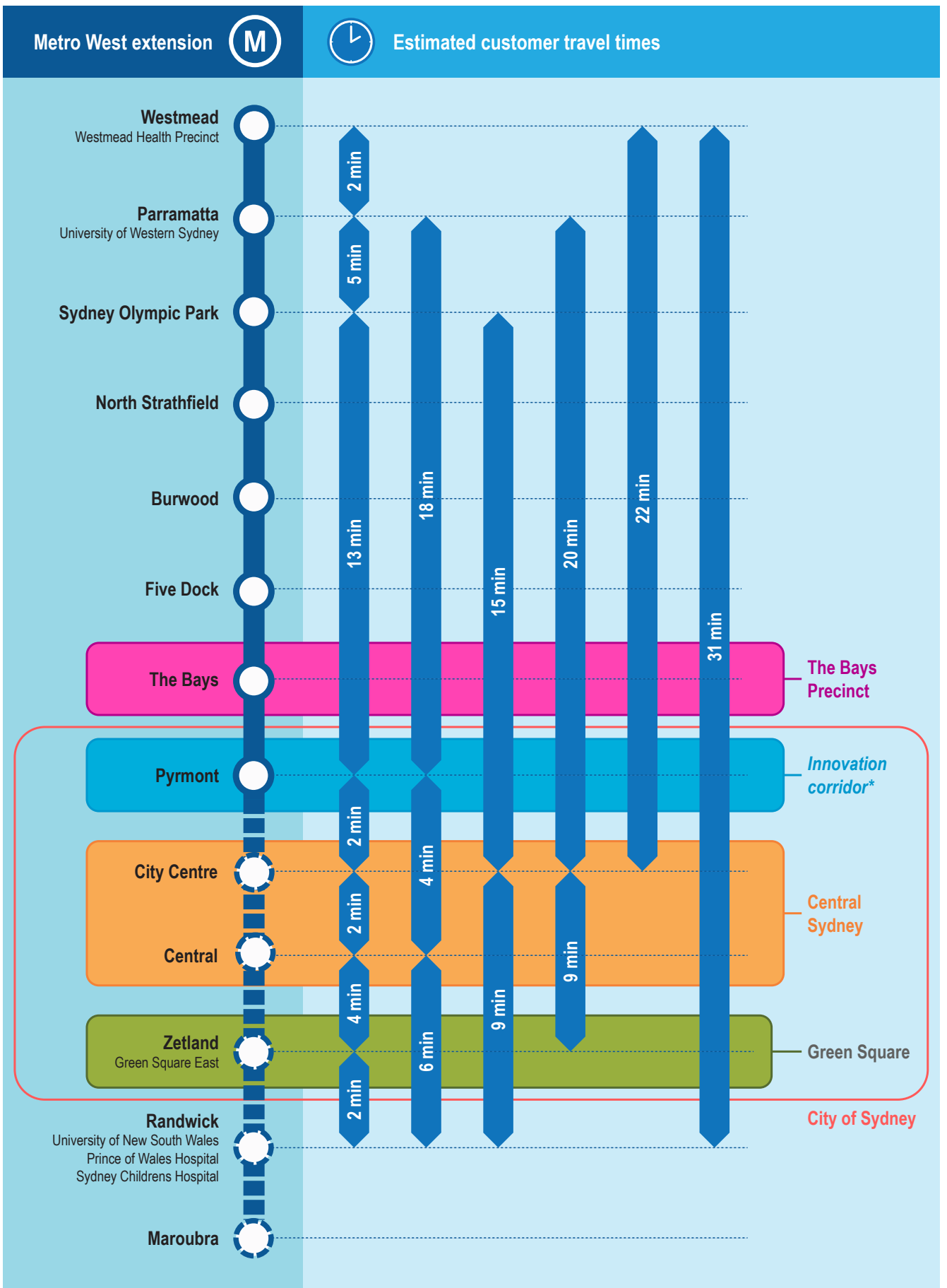


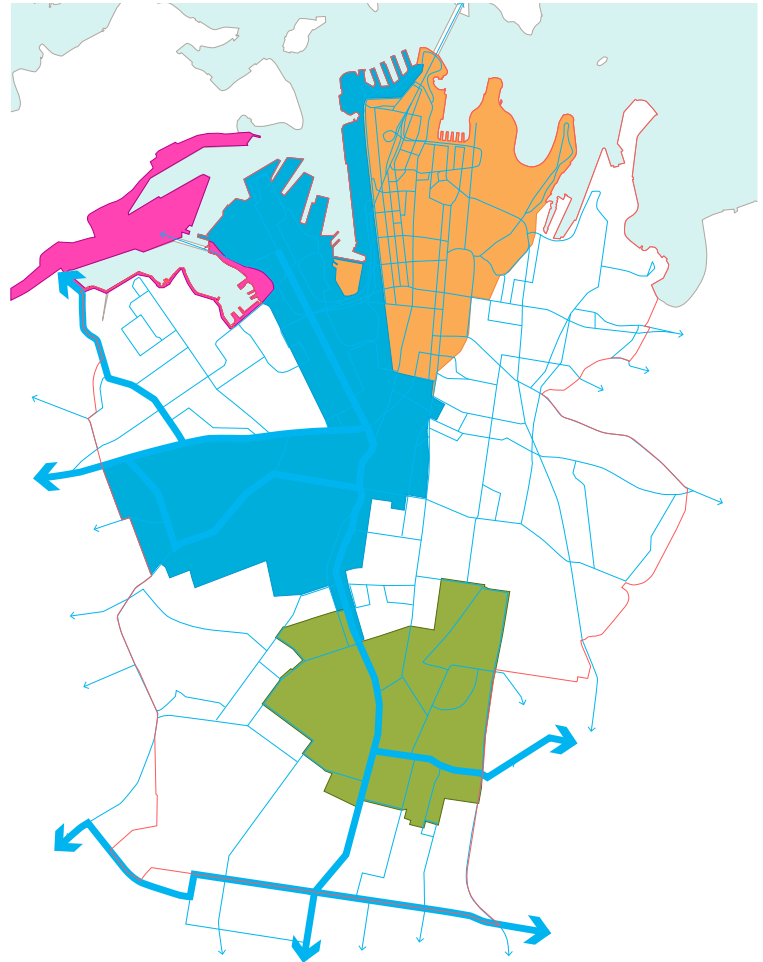
Table: Metro West extension – Customer travel times

7 Metro as catalyst







Interim measures

The NSW Government has announced a rapid busway network for Sydney's south and southeast, which includes Green Square. Direct, frequent bus services could connect innovation, knowledge and employment centres, while we wait for the metro extension.

Changes to the bus network will make cross-regional public transport more attractive. A connection serving Randwick, Green Square, University of Sydney, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and Bays Precinct is one example. To ensure the resilience of the public transport network, these connections could remain after the Metro West extension opens.



Legend

-  New rapid buses
-  Bus network
-  The Bays Precinct
-  Central Sydney
-  The Innovation Corridor & Tech Central
-  Green Square

Interim measures – connecting innovation, knowledge and employment centres with zero emission buses until the metro extension is in place.

Figure: City of Sydney
Photo: Transport for NSW



PROJECT IDEA 8

Building on housing for all





8 Building on housing for all

New models for affordable housing

Sydney, like other global cities, is becoming increasingly divided between those who can afford housing and those who cannot.

It is expensive to buy a home, and for growing numbers it is too expensive to rent one. The City of Sydney's targets are for at least 156,000 additional private dwellings by 2036 and 17,500 other dwellings, including boarding houses and student accommodation. Of the private dwellings, 7.5% will be affordable housing and 7.5% will be social housing.

Exploring alternative affordable housing development models

The City of Sydney supports affordable housing through affordable housing contributions schemes, but new homes are not being developed as quickly as we need.

In 2019 we held an alternative housing ideas challenge, an international call for new models to boost the diversity and supply of affordable housing. The final proposal from this challenge combined 2 ideas: the metropolitan land trust policy by Dr Louise Crabtree and Jason Twill and a cooperative affordable rental model for Sydney by Alexis Kalagas, Andy Fergus and Katherine Sundermann.

There are successful community land trust and cooperative rental models in the US, UK and Europe. The models are mature and well-understood which has implications for financial cost and risk pricing.

We must test this proposal to see if it is financially sound and can be provided at scale to help supply affordable housing in Sydney.

Community land trust

Community land trusts are private not-for-profit organisations that hold property titles for perpetual affordability and community benefit. Their focus is determined by their governance mechanisms and local need. International examples hold properties that include affordable co-housing apartments, single family homes, cooperatives, boarding houses, community and commercial spaces. Tenure can include ownership as well as rental.

A cooperative affordable rental model for Sydney

In Zurich, 20% of all housing is constructed and managed by housing cooperatives, creating a 'third way' between unaffordable market rental and social housing models. They run on a not-for-profit, 'cost rent' model. Projects are often on public land provided at low or no cost, and are financed through a combination of member equity, low-interest loans and commercial mortgages.

Costs are amortised over a 60-year period with savings passed on to tenants, allowing rents to be around 20% below market rate. Tenants become members of the cooperative, offering stability, long-term rental and participation in decision making. At the end of the 60-year term, the building ownership reverts from the cooperative to the public landowner.

Benefits of cooperative affordable rental models

- \$ Affordability and demographic diversity.** Fixed rents grow increasingly affordable over time and residents are curated to ensure social inclusion.
- 🏠 A microcosm of the city.** A mix of uses brings vibrancy to the neighbourhood, while commercial rents cross-subsidise residential tenancies.
- 🏠 Lifelong housing.** A range of housing types are offered, allowing residents to move within the cooperative as needs change.
- 🌿 Environmental sustainability.** They can provide fossil fuel-free housing, exemplary thermal performance and onsite mobility hubs with shared vehicles.
- 👥 Building of community.** Self-managed shared facilities and services and active resident participation help create a sense of community.
- ★ Design excellence.** This is enabled through design competitions, the use of multiple architects and knowledge sharing.

An international precedent Champlain Housing Trust, Vermont US

The Champlain Housing Trust was founded in 1984. It is the largest community land trust in the United States and provides the communities of Northwest Vermont with a range of affordable housing choices.

Its portfolio includes 2,300 apartments and 620 owner-occupied homes in a shared equity program. As well, the organisation offers education programs, financial counselling, provides services to five housing cooperatives and offers affordable energy efficiency and rehab loans.

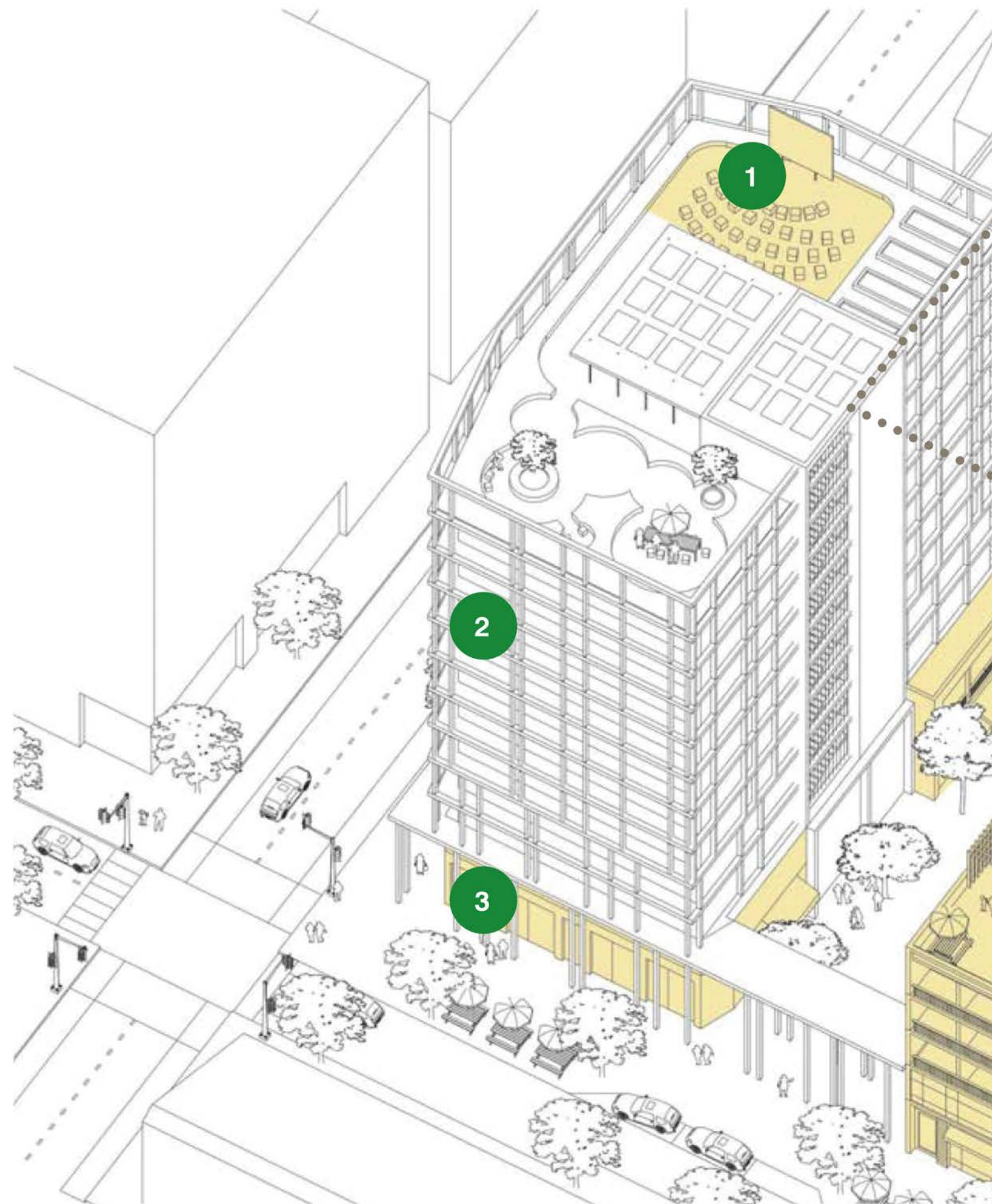


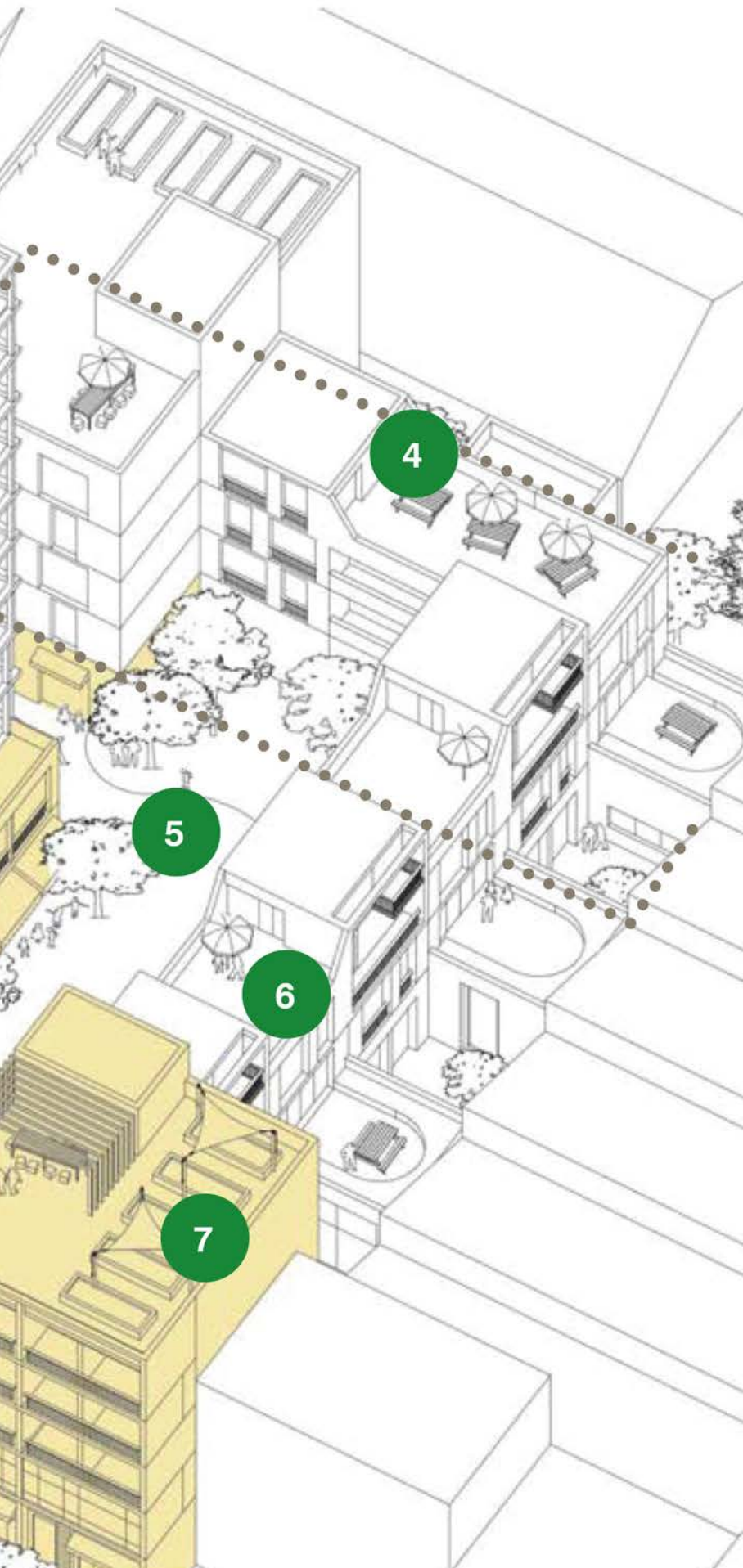
Park Place, St Paul Street, Burlington Vermont
Affordable studio, one and two-bedroom apartments managed by Champlain Housing Trust.



Laurentide, North Avenue, Burlington Vermont
Affordable apartments created in partnership with Champlain Housing Trust.

Source: getahome.org





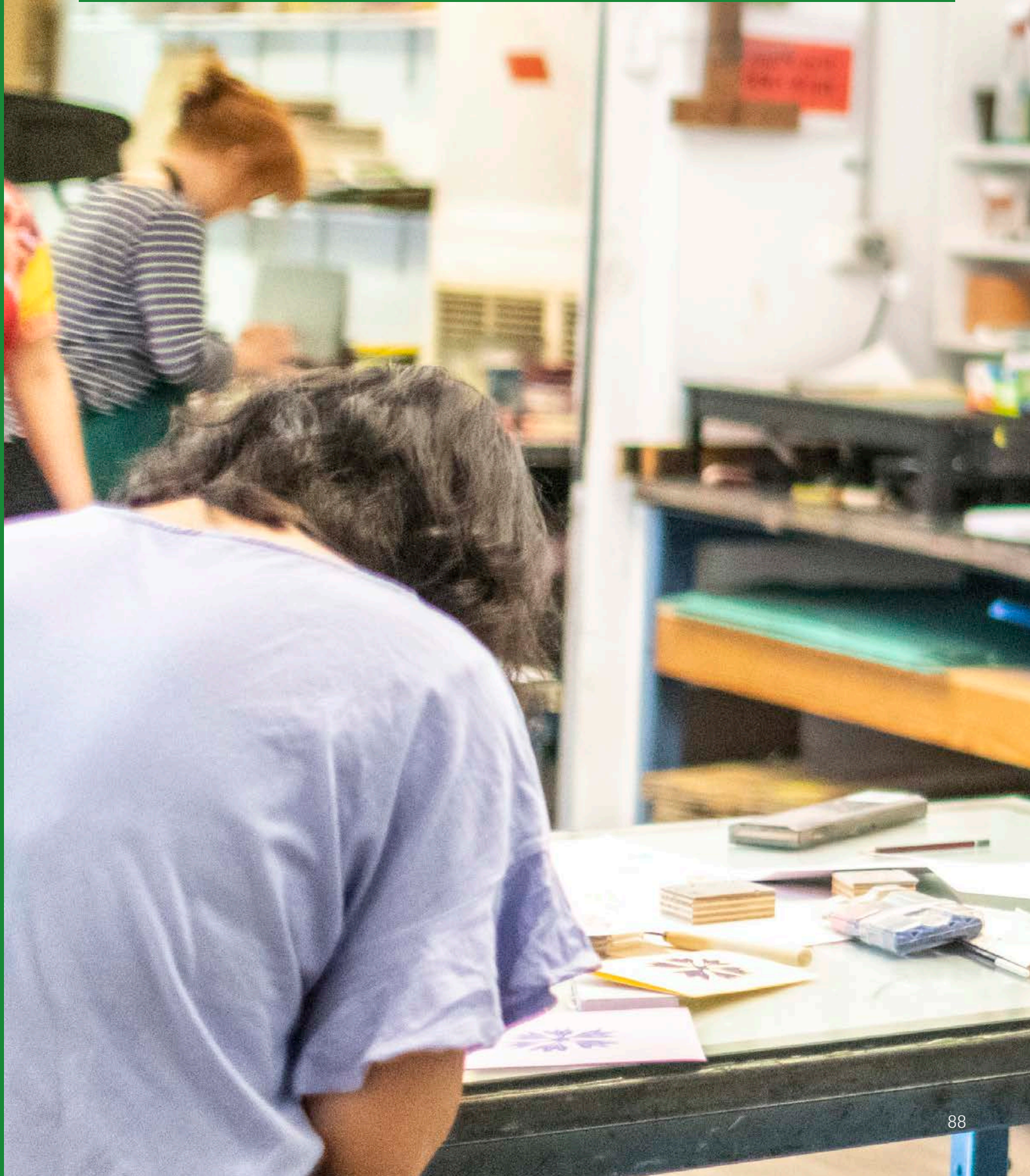
1. Communal roof terrace able to be commercially leased for events as part of a cross-subsidy strategy
2. Flexible, efficient floor plate residential slab building with load bearing façade to enable a range of dwelling configurations over time
3. Ground floor small retail tenancies owned and managed by the cooperative to support a dynamic mix of uses typically excluded from speculative development
4. Basement mobility hub of 1000m² with electric share vehicles, hire scooters and e-bikes for use by members and the broader neighbourhood
5. Mews outdoor space open to the public
6. Work/live lofts and larger family dwellings with direct front doors to a semi-public garden mews
7. Boutique hotel with integrated first floor co-working facilities and social enterprise restaurant

A cooperative affordable rental model for Sydney

Concept by Alexis Kalagas, Andy Fergus and Katherine Sundermann

PROJECT IDEA 9

Making space for culture





9 Making space for culture

Making space for culture is a 2-part strategy for creating and preserving cultural and creative space in Sydney. It involves revitalising precincts and establishing a creative land trust.

Sydney is home to major national and local cultural institutions. Its consumption of arts, cultural and creative products is strong. But spaces for creativity and culture are disappearing. The supply of affordable production spaces, such as studios, workshops and warehouses, and accommodation has plummeted.

A City of Sydney survey found that in the 5 years to 2017, about 2,000 fewer people were employed in the creative industries and about 110,000m² of creative and cultural employment space was lost. We have yet to determine the impact of Covid-19.

Cultural capital and infrastructure and creative workers make global cities more attractive. They attract investment, talent and visitors. As Sydney grows and leasing costs rise, so will demand for subsidised cultural floor space. The City of Sydney cannot meet future demand alone. We already subsidise just over 10,000m² of cultural floor space, such as the new City of Sydney Creative Studios.

New models that create, provide and operate cultural space need to be based on partnerships between all tiers of government, the private sector, not-for-profit organisations and the community. Cultural policies and priorities need to be refreshed and integrated with supportive planning and taxation systems. Culture needs to be an integral component of urban development.

The precinct revitalisation approach protects and grows existing clusters of cultural space across Sydney. This approach advocates for enhancing existing cultural precincts and new cultural space on government-owned land and seeks to change planning controls to create incentives to co-locate creative industries and enterprises in certain areas. Cultural precincts can build economies of scale, collaboration, visitation, employment, local character and amenity.

The creative land trust approach provides Sydney with an alternative model that helps cultural and creative industries access equity in the Sydney property market, to ensure long-term affordability and security of tenure.

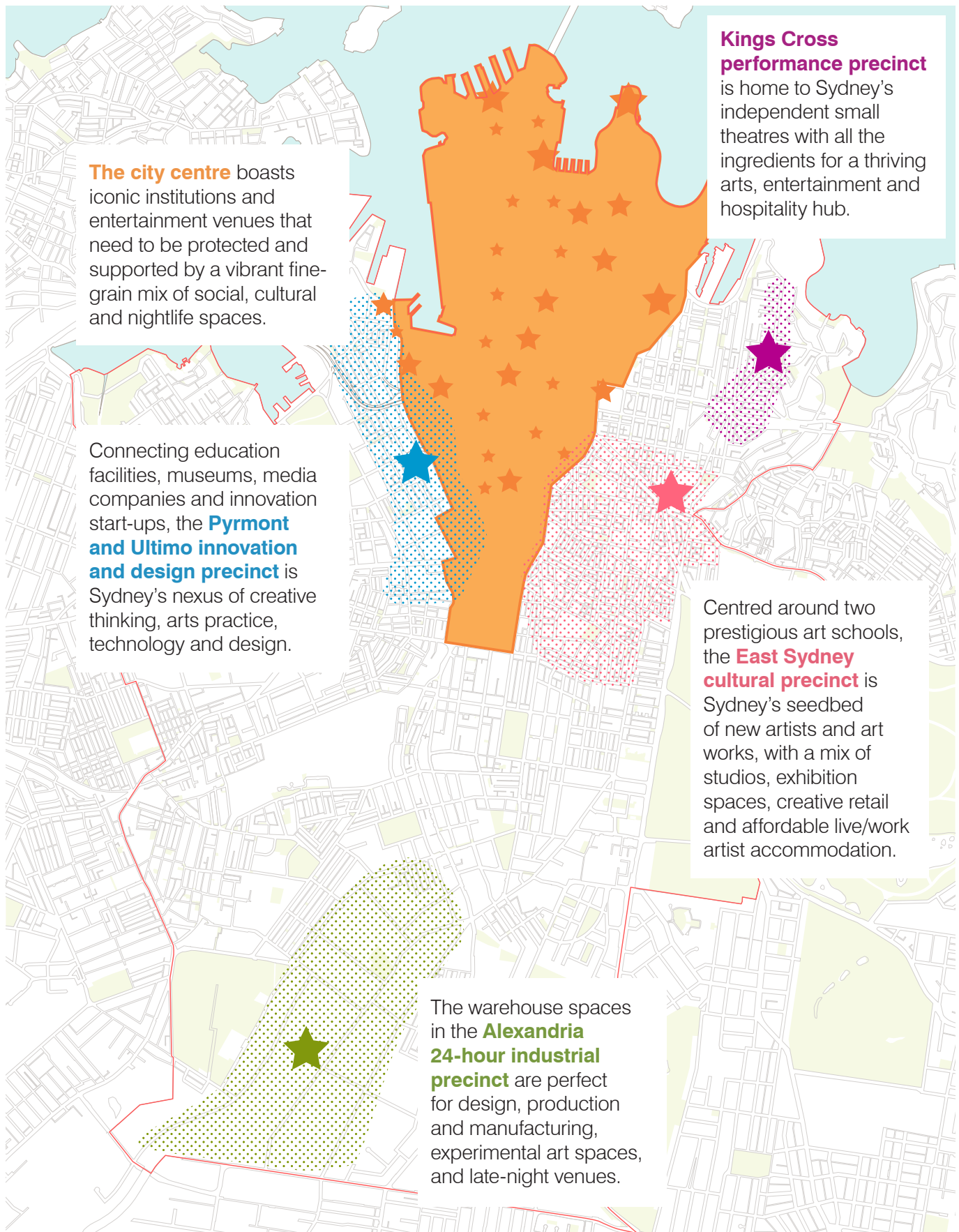
“Unless we take a proactive and innovative approach to making space for culture and creativity that is affordable for the sector in the long term and creates security of tenure for creative industries, we are at risk of losing the cultural vibrancy that makes Sydney a globally relevant city.”

Aileen Sage Architects & Left Bank Co.
Sydney-based architects and urban strategists.

Image on previous page: Art Month workshop at Pine Street Creative Arts Centre
Image: City of Sydney

The revitalisation approach

Sydney's Precincts



The precinct revitalisation approach – Sydney's precincts

Figure: City of Sydney

9 Making space for culture

Precinct revitalisation: East Sydney

An example of the precinct revitalisation approach in East Sydney is amplification of the National Art School as a key cultural institution for the area. Current commitments by the NSW Government identified the area as an important cultural asset for Sydney.

Relocating the law courts away from Taylor Square would open the historic Darlinghurst Courthouse complex for public and cultural use and open the National Art School to Oxford Street, the public and our communities.

Opening the frontage to Oxford Street and Taylor Square would connect this major cultural hub to the wider precinct and elevate it as a major cultural destination.

Moves for culture in East Sydney

1. **Rearrange** the courthouse's eastern wing to allow access from Oxford Street into the National Art School along its eastern edge.
2. **Open** the service land that runs from Forbes Street to Darlinghurst Road between the National Art School and the courthouse complex to facilitate greater permeability and public access.
3. **Fragment** the courthouse's front fence to open the forecourt lawn for public use.
4. **Introduce** a canopy structure at the junction of Forbes and Oxford streets to provide protected public space for cultural events and initiatives.
5. **Locate** an urban marker over the Taylor Square toilets to demarcate the cultural precinct from distant vantage points.
6. **Expand** and **unify** the public domain by reducing road widths on Oxford and Flinders streets and adding new vegetation and uniform paving treatments (Project Idea 2a – Green Avenues: Oxford and Flinders streets).
7. **Realign** Flinders Street to create a more usable public space and unify disparate sections of Taylor Square.

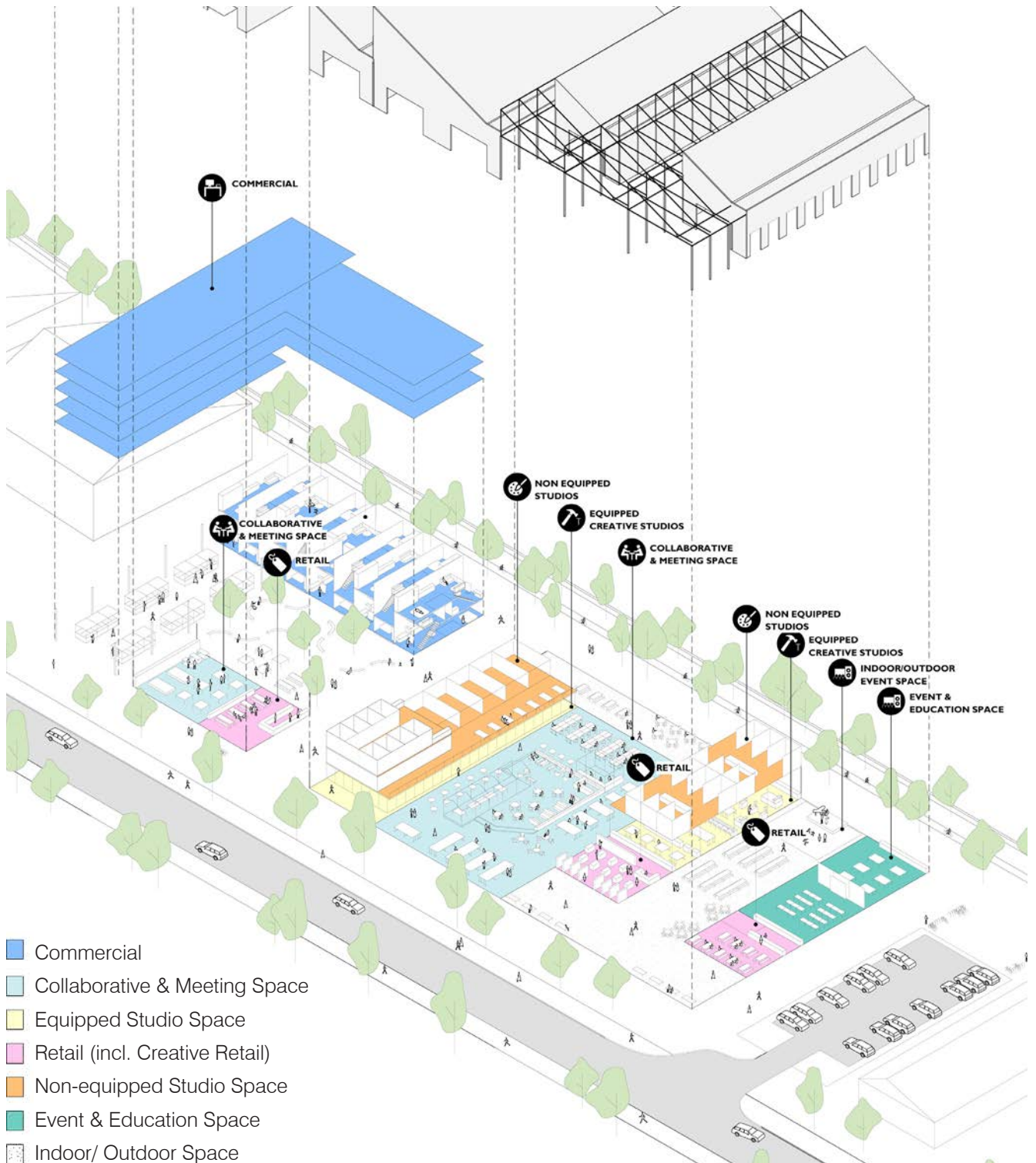




Amplification of the National Art School in East Sydney's cultural precinct
Concept by JMD Design and Tonkin Zulaikha Greer

9 Making space for culture

The creative land trust approach: Alexandria 24-hour industrial precinct



Potential mix of cultural and commercial uses on a creative land trust site
Concept by Aileen Sage & Left Bank Co.

A creative land trust acquires, creates and secures affordable floor space for cultural uses. The trust is a not-for-profit landholder that retains property for creative and cultural purposes, taking the land out of the market and placing it in the hands of the cultural sector. These models have successfully protected and created new cultural assets in Toronto, San Francisco and London with support from government and the private sector.

In this model, cultural infrastructure is subsidised by the development opportunity of market-rate commercial space, hospitality, retail and rent-to-own accommodation. Examples include arts studios, production and event spaces that are co-located on the creative lands trust site.

By building a hub in an emerging creative precinct like Alexandria, on land held by the cultural sector, we can ensure that studios, makerspaces and tenure can be secured. The hub is planned to derive different income streams that are sustainable and at scale. Subsidised rates for cultural tenancies will help sustain the management of this mixed commercial–creative hub.

The creative land trust opportunity



International case study Artscape, Toronto

Artscape is a not-for-profit organisation that brokers, develops and operates affordable creative spaces. These include performance venues, galleries and arts studios. Artscape works with developers to build long-term, affordable work and living space for creative workers in new property projects. The partnerships create sustainable community assets that are owned by the creative sector, rather than relying on public resources.

This type of for-purpose development model can be harnessed to activate a creative lands trust site in Sydney.



Daniels Spectrum
Toronto, Canada

Source: artscape.ca/portfolio-item/danielsspectrum

PROJECT IDEA 10

Reimagining our community assets





10 Reimagining our community assets

Reimagining our community assets explores new ideas for how communities can use our civic infrastructure and buildings. Responding to the Citizens Jury concept of a regenerative city and the needs of our people, we will work with our communities to uncover imaginative new uses for our facilities, halls and open spaces.

Maintaining accessible and inclusive community spaces will be increasingly challenging as Sydney grows. We need to adapt how we use existing assets rather than build more spaces. We will explore changes to planning and heritage controls to ensure our community assets are places that bring people together.

Community co-design has the potential to empower citizens to bring fresh ideas and solutions to our shared spaces and strengthen social cohesion.



Joynton Avenue Creative Centre

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney



Sydney dance school 'Dancekool' practise their "roving pigs" street entertainment for Sydney Lunar Festival 2019 at Alexandria Town Hall

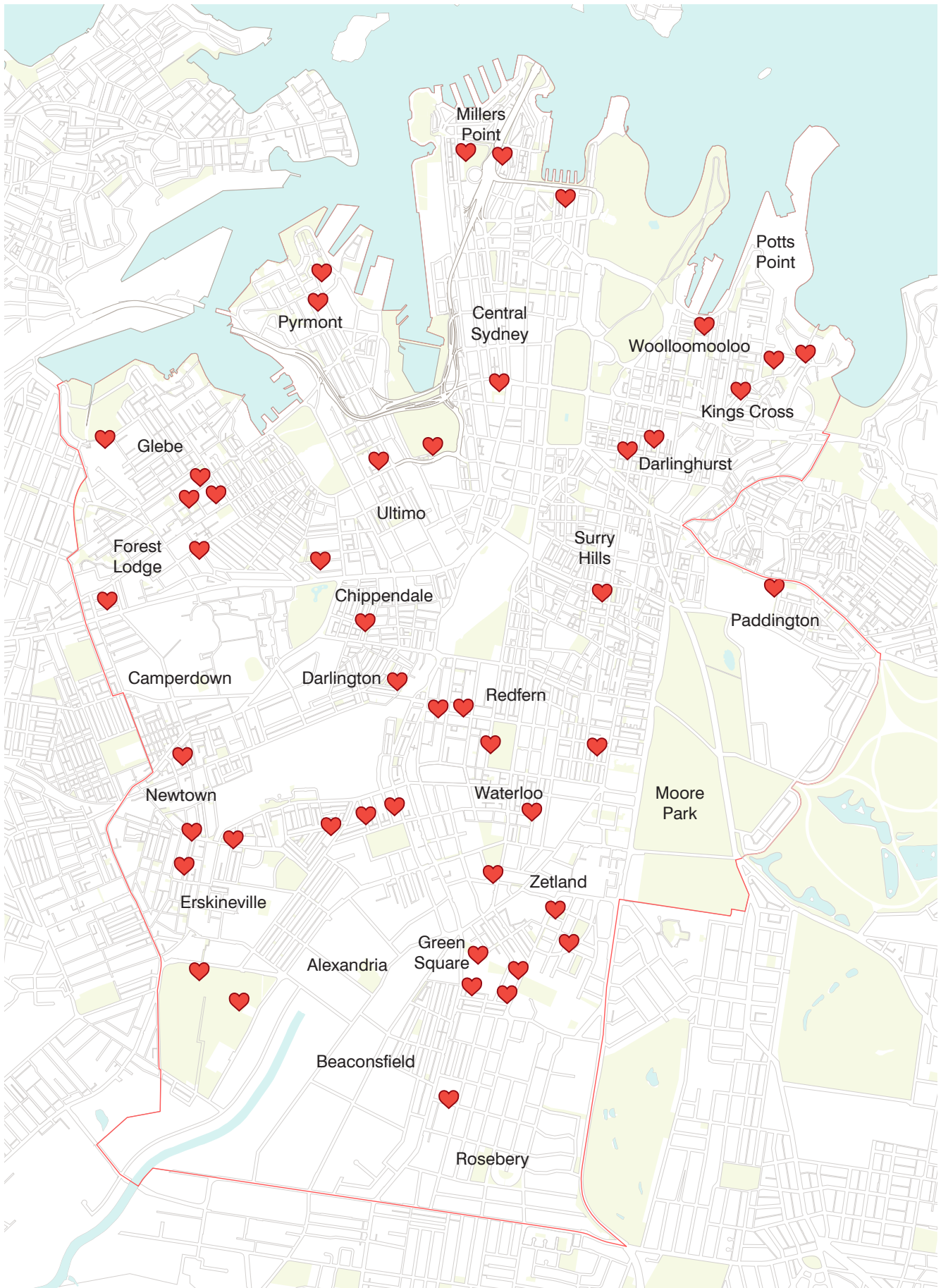
Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Image on previous page:

Art & About: DEMO by Branch

Nebula at Customs House Forecourt

Photo: Mark Metcalfe/ City of Sydney



Creative and cultural spaces, community centres, libraries, recreation centres, halls and town halls across Sydney
 Figure: City of Sydney

10 Reimagining our community assets

Town Hall examples

Many of our town halls no longer serve as seats of local government. Most have been repurposed and adapted for community uses. Successful adaptive reuse is often constrained by restrictive planning regulations, heritage listings and spaces that are not fit for purpose. Architecturally our town halls can feel institutional, unwelcoming and intimidating. Creative and innovative interventions and new uses, co-designed with the community, could transform our town halls into more inviting community spaces.

Erskineville Town Hall offers great potential for a wider range of local community uses. Public art could make the town hall and its forecourt more welcoming and inviting. Its large hall could be transformed into a space for theatre, music, dance, art or community gatherings. Its smaller rooms could be adapted as public living rooms with free wifi or provide space for a community cafe that spills out onto its forecourt.



Reimagining Erskineville Town Hall
Concept by Lacoste + Stevenson

Sydney Town Hall, one of our grandest civic buildings, still accommodates council chambers and venues for meetings and functions. Although this ornate Victorian building remains a civic and government centre, some internal spaces could be transformed to allow new public and active uses. Showing the kind of changes that can be made, the restoration of Sydney Town Hall includes improvements to its performance spaces and the creation of flexible cultural space.

With our vision for a Town Hall Square (see page 30), we can further shape the area around the building to make it a thriving community meeting place.

NOW



VISION



Reimagining and activating Sydney Town Hall's edges
Concept by City of Sydney

10 Reimagining our community assets

Unlocking public space

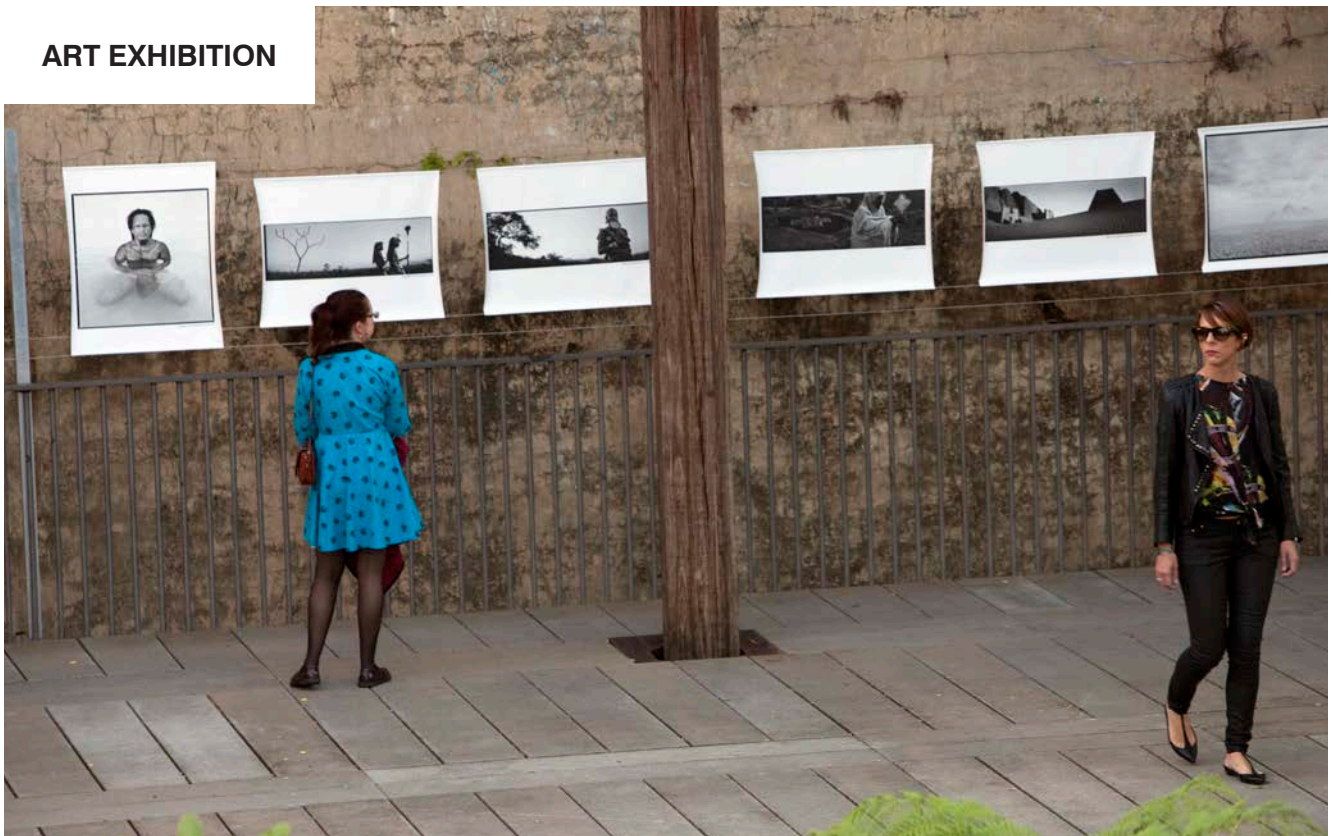
Paddington Reservoir Gardens is an award-winning community place that provides much needed respite and public space in Paddington. It already hosts limited events.

A community co-design process could unearth innovative, creative and unexpected new uses for the space. The concept images seek to stimulate discussion about new uses, such as an underground sculpture and water garden or public baths.



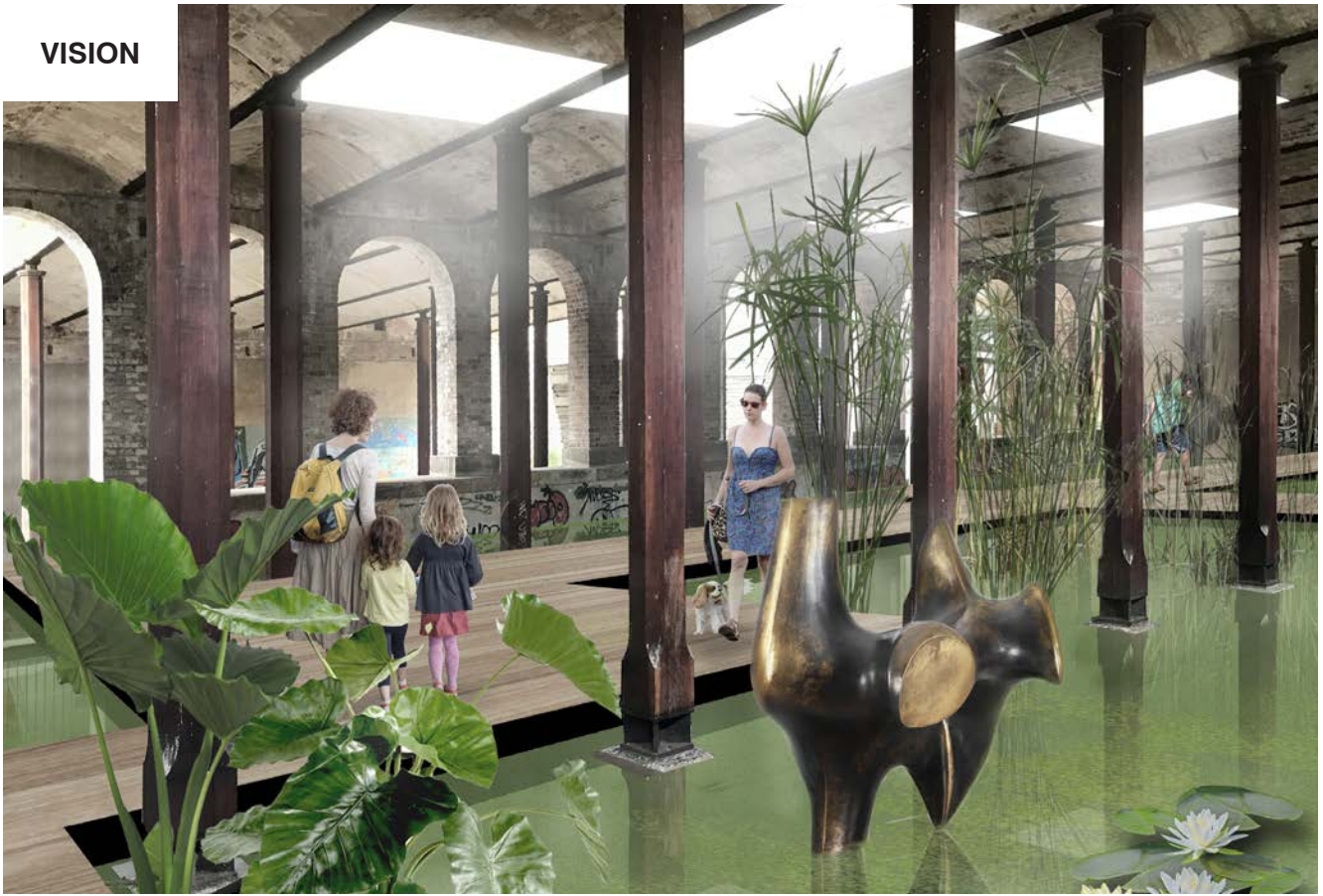
Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Australia 2016
Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

ART EXHIBITION



Slices of Sydney exhibition 2014
Photo: Sarah Rhodes / City of Sydney

VISION



VISION



Reimagining Paddington Reservoir Gardens as an underground sculpture garden or public baths
Concept by Lacoste + Stevenson

Green
Global
Connected