

What you told us:

We were delighted with community, trader and stakeholder comments at the workshops and on the street. It is very clear that you care about the CBD and are invested with us in designing and delivering a refreshed heart for the city. Comments were thoughtful, many and varied and the team is considering a detailed summary of the engagement activities together with the information gathered in the Care Factor and Place Experience surveys. Below is a brief summary of the dominant themes from the workshops.

Strengths and opportunities

Cenotaph

The Cenotaph is a key feature of the CBD for the community of Bundaberg.

This feature of the design was received positively by the vast majority of stakeholders during each workshop with the inviting space seen as an important future attribute to the CBD that will be open and engaging as a place for a range of social activities.

Amenities

Stakeholder responses to amenities reflect positively on the detail of the designs particularly relating to how the CBD will be transformed into a space for a variety of activities. New public toilets, seating areas, tree planting and water fountains are considered as contributing to and enriching the general amenity throughout the CBD, something that was strongly supported by stakeholders. Improved facilities should also be designed and arranged to discourage inappropriate behaviours.

Car parking

Reconfiguration of existing car parking spaces from 60 degree to 45 degree across the CBD was received positively with stakeholders seeing this as an improvement to parking accessibility, ease and safety. Furthermore, the modest repurposing of some CBD car parking was overall accepted on the basis that the CBD Revitalisation Project will positively contribute to a more active, pedestrian focussed and vibrant CBD.

Revitalisation of public spaces

Overall, the broad vision for the CBD to transform it into a place that encourages lingering, social gathering and a variety of activities was received positively. Stakeholders can appreciate that this plan will support economic growth for the City and inject additional confidence, love and opportunity for the City, its residents and future generations of Bundaberg.

Budget

The CBD revitalisation is a mark of confidence for the city moving forward.

Issues and threats

Car Parking

Car parking was a significant theme emerging from the workshops confirming stakeholders do place a high value on CBD car parking. Overall however, the majority of stakeholders could appreciate that a modest reduction in CBD car parking supply would be required to enable a successful upgrade to the CBD of this scale.

Broader feedback regarding car parking was more focussed upon Council's current parking management regime with common responses relating to existing time restrictions and employee parking. Both issues appear to be longstanding concern held by local stakeholders which will be addressed through a review and further consideration of Council's existing car parking management regime.

Disruption

There are genuine and understandable concerns about the potential impacts during the construction phases of the project. Local traders feel that the potential disruption to the CBD during construction could impact trade during this time. There will need to be preparations to deal with this and as the design finalises we will be proactively discussing and managing impacts with affected parties.

Cenotaph

The Cenotaph forms a central part of the overall future design of the CBD providing an important central meeting space for social gathering, events and passive recreation. During workshops, the design was discussed in length with regard to its purpose and future use as well as its potential impact on existing kerbside parking and traffic flow throughout the centre.

Here we provide further summary of each issue relating to the Cenotaph design:

- **Purpose and future use** – A small group of stakeholders question the purpose of the Cenotaph in terms of who will use the space, when and why. Concerns are potential underutilisation of the space by the local community in the future.
- **Car parking** – Some retailers who will see some on-street car parks removed adjacent to their premises feel unjustly targeted, it was agreed work will need to be done to assist these traders to leverage off the project to maximise other benefits.

Traffic impact

The main traffic concern held by a larger cross-section of stakeholders relates to the direction of one-way streets across the CBD (Barolin, Targo and Tantitha streets) which are currently subject to further traffic analysis and design development.

There is strong stakeholder support for one-way streets however there was much discussion about which streets should facilitate north-south movements and south-north. Ultimately, the community are looking for a consistently flowing road network.

Disabled parking and loading zones

Loading zones and disabled parking were considered as key elements that should be included in greater detail in the designs. Stakeholders believe there are currently not enough conveniently located loading zones and disabled parking so believe the CBD Revitalisation Project is a good opportunity to introduce new supply.