

Our Gold Coast Cultural Precinct gets the 'green light'

From Dale's desk

City of Gold Coast Chief Executive Officer Dale Dickson

Friday 13 June 2014

Hello everyone

The Gold Coast Cultural Precinct is set to become a reality with the Council approving Stage 1.

Stage 1 scope

The \$37 million first stage will be complete in early 2018 in time for the Commonwealth Games, delivering:

- **The versatile outdoor space (Amphitheatre)** - expected to have around 2500 permanent seats with a maximum capacity of up to 10,000 people (artist impression right, subject to final design). It will be able to host a wide range of civic and cultural celebrations and performances and will be supported with a large screen for projection and display.
- **Riverside Gallery** – while the existing Arts Centre building will remain, the Art Gallery has outgrown its immediate space requirements (currently occupying 744m²) and will expand into a larger space in the Riverside Building (1470m² total).
- **Artscape** – initial landscape works will integrate the amphitheatre space with the new Riverside Gallery and enhance Evandale Lake.
- **Ultimate precinct planning work** – Stage 1 will also progress the necessary studies, investigations, designs, plans and approvals to support future stages of the Cultural Precinct.

City administration changes

This first stage will require the demolition of the Surfers administration building to make way for the amphitheatre and surrounding landscape works.

The Riverside building, Council Chambers and Arts Centre will remain.

While some initial planning has already occurred, the Council's recent decision and approved timetable will enable us to finalise detailed plans to move staff to our Waterside and Karp Court sites.

I can confirm that space is being made available at Karp Court to replace the Surfers Gym, subject to negotiations with the Social Club and potential changes to gym fees given the provision of the commercial space and fit out and build costs.

The Surfers Customer Service Centre will also be relocating to Karp Court.

The current schedule of planned moves is as follows:

- June to November 2014 – Planning and Environment to complete its move to Waterside East.
- September to November 2014 – Engineering Services to move from Varsity to Nerang.
- June to July 2014 – Part of Organisational Services to move to Karp Court.

- July 2014 – Level 5 Waterside West move finalised – CEO's office, Executive Services, Corporate Finance, Internal Audit and Corporate Planning and Performance.
- September to October 2014 – EDMP to return to refurbished Level 4 Waterside West on permanent basis.
- 2015 – Community Services and some Organisational Services staff relocated to Waterside and Karp Court sites. Remaining Organisational Services staff will fill vacated space in Riverside building.
- Late 2015 – Gym and Customer Service Centre relocated to Karp Court.
- January 2016 – Surfers administration building demolition commences and construction starts.
- Approx. January 2018 – Stage 1 Gold Coast Cultural Precinct complete.

Regards,
Dale

Artist impression June 2014

