



Future

# South Bank

## Master Plan

2024





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# Foreword

## Future South Bank

South Bank is the people's place.

More than 30 years since its creation, South Bank continues to be one of the city's most-loved destinations, welcoming about 14 million visitors a year. It is a place for gatherings, events, wellbeing and everyday enjoyment for people of all ages, cultures and abilities.

Having such a significant public space in the centre of Brisbane is a testament to the enduring collaboration between the Queensland Government, Brisbane City Council (BCC) and South Bank Corporation.

The next 30 years will be a transforming time for South Bank and an opportunity to create an incredible legacy for future generations – making our precinct even better.

While the success of South Bank is a wonderful story that many can be proud of, it is important we preserve and celebrate our heritage, remain current and regularly plan for the future, especially with the precinct nominated to host a range of activities for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games (Brisbane 2032).

On behalf of South Bank Corporation, we are pleased to share with you the final master plan for Future South Bank which provides a roadmap for future improvements and renewal of the 42-hectare precinct. This plan is built on community feedback and South Bank's iconic legacy as the green heart of our great city for future generations to enjoy.

Future South Bank aims to make the precinct greener, livelier and more connected and inclusive, ensuring it remains a place for everyone. The plan looks to provide more public space, a better beach, new attractions, diverse dining opportunities, improved active travel connections, increased river frontage and people-friendly streets.

Thank you to everyone who had their say and helped us as we plan for a greener, livelier and more inclusive South Bank. The Corporation is proud of what this globally recognised precinct has provided to the community and economy of Queensland and we look forward to even greater success in the future.

## Susan Forrester AM

Chair, South Bank Corporation

## Bill Delves

Chief Executive Officer, South Bank Corporation

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners', the Turrbal and Yuggera people, their custodianship and connection with the land, sea and waterways on which Brisbane's inner-city now stands and pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Since time immemorial First Nations people have managed, cultivated and cared for the landscape where Brisbane was established and continues to grow.

First Nations people hold profound knowledge, understanding and custodianship of the land, often expressed as Connection to Country. Country is a word for all the values, places, resources, stories and cultural obligations associated with that area and its features. It describes the entirety of ancestral domains.

Connection to Country is expressed through stories, song, dance, hunting, fishing and gathering. It is alive in the many layers and history of the Brisbane landscape.

We recognise the importance of the living cultures of First Nations peoples on this land and the dynamic contribution First Nations people make to the Brisbane community.

**The Master Plan prepared by South Bank Corporation is intended to guide the long-term evolution of South Bank. Future improvements will be considered when spaces need to be renewed or there are opportunities to enhance the precinct's appeal, as such no commitment has been made to deliver the contents of the master plan, with future implementation remaining subject to subsequent South Bank Corporation and Queensland Government consideration.**

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# Part 01

# Introduction

# and background

# Introduction

The South Bank Master Plan protects what the community loves, while guiding the precinct's evolution for coming generations.

South Bank is Brisbane's favourite destination and one of Queensland's most-visited attractions. Since its inception more than 30 years ago as a legacy of World Expo 1988, millions of people from Australia and around the world have enjoyed its iconic mix of recreational, cultural, educational and commercial areas.

## A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

South Bank Corporation is now planning for the precinct's future. South Bank will need to sustainably cater for significant population growth in the south-east corner of the state, changing visitor expectations, and economic, technological, environmental and cultural trends.

The master plan has two key foundations:

**Progressive improvement:** It provides a framework where ageing assets and infrastructure can be managed and progressively renewed when needed to ensure South Bank remains a world-class destination.

**Integration:** It nominates a range of initiatives to integrate the precinct more seamlessly with the surrounding neighbourhoods, city, and movement network, while responding to changing community needs.

These foundations along with the success factors and strategies of the master plan have guided the planning process and areas for change.

## PLANNING PROCESS

This master plan is a planning framework that looks at how the 42-hectare precinct overseen by South Bank Corporation could evolve into the future. The plan brings together a range of visionary ideas and strategies to guide the long-term future of South Bank to ensure it remains Brisbane's most lively, green and inclusive place for current and future generations.

The master plan is considerate of precinct and city-wide strategies and policies relevant to retail, sustainability, active transport, public transport and events

## THE HEART OF THE OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES EXPERIENCE

Brisbane will transform with existing and emerging precincts that showcase the best of the city, its people, culture, climate, and lifestyle. Brisbane 2032 will deliver new infrastructure and foundations for major city events.

South Bank's heritage as the home of major events provides a hub for public gathering and experiences during Brisbane 2032 and beyond. Its position and existing infrastructure will support a connected and distinctly subtropical, river city experience.

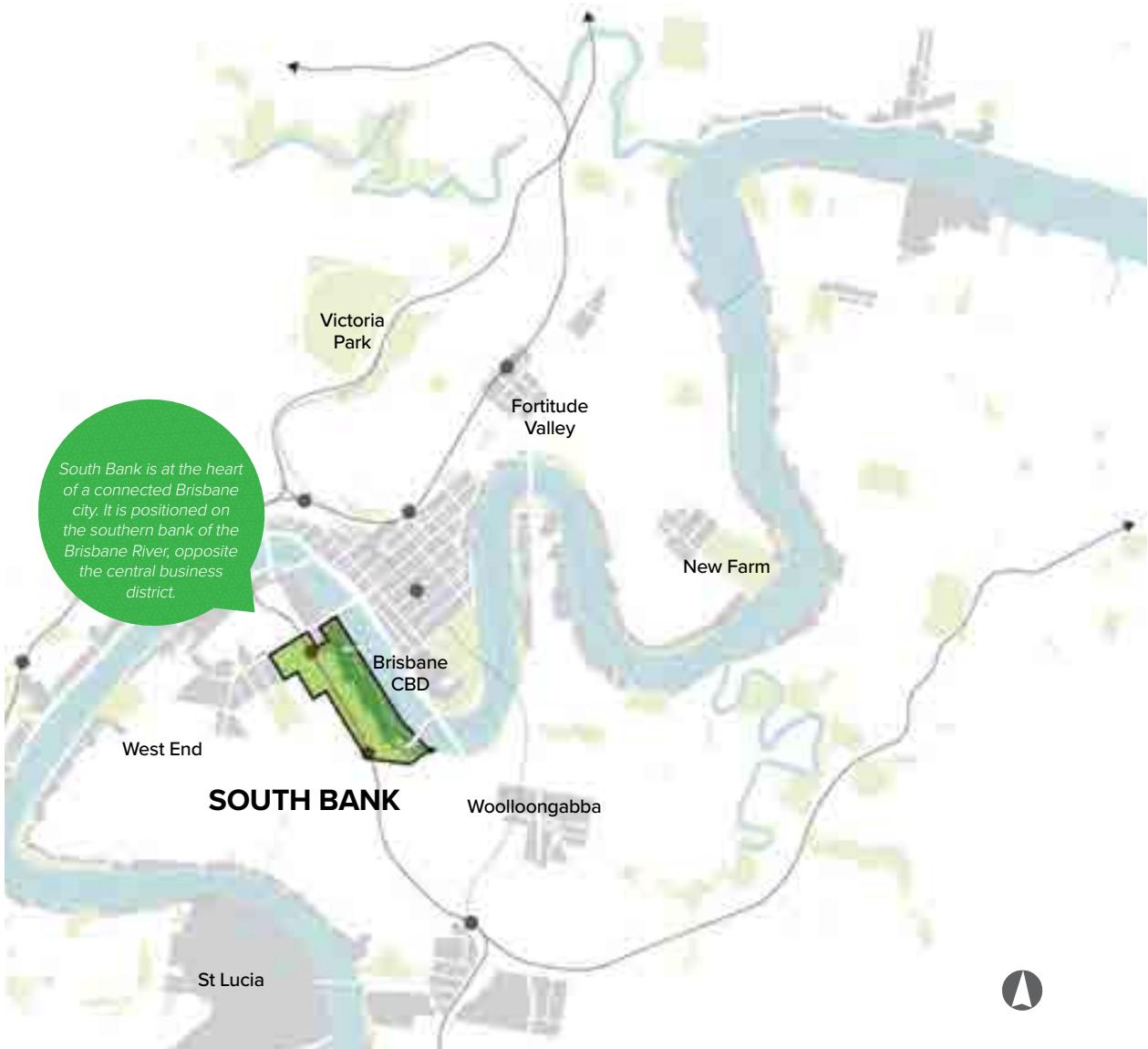
The master plan, like Brisbane 2032, is about creating a legacy for future generations - one that will ensure South Bank remains Brisbane's most lively, green, and inclusive place.

## WHY IS A MASTER PLAN NEEDED?

A new master plan is needed to:

- protect South Bank for future generations
- meet the changing needs of the community and tourists
- increase the precious area of parkland and green space, responding to growing local and regional population
- inform future changes to the planning system
- support investment and renewal
- manage ageing assets and infrastructure
- maintain visitor satisfaction and the South Bank experience.





## STAGES OF THE MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

We are in stage three of the planning process. The Master Plan has now been changed to reflect community feedback during stage two. The Corporation is committed to ongoing community engagement and providing opportunities for community input to future projects and activities.

STAGE 01  
VISIONING, CONTEXT & IDEAS

STAGE 02  
DRAFT MASTER PLAN

STAGE 03  
FINALISE THE MASTER PLAN

WE ARE HERE!



# South Bank today

South Bank showcases Brisbane's relaxed lifestyle, culture and subtropical landscape.

## A PUBLIC LEGACY

South Bank is a permanent legacy of Expo '88 and remains one of Brisbane's most recognised and loved places. It strikes an enviable balance between commercial, cultural, recreational, tourism and community activities.

The precinct promotes important economic sectors such as tourism, culture and education. It also boosts Brisbane's broader economic activity through its continual evolution as part of South Brisbane's dynamic and eclectic urban environment.

## BRISBANE'S FAVOURITE PLACE

South Bank enjoys many unique qualities that sets it apart from other precincts in the city, the region, and the rest of Queensland. These attributes have informed the master plan, including:

- 1.2km open north-east facing, and tree-lined waterfront
- showcase for the distinctive lifestyle and landscape of Brisbane
- unmatched co-location of cultural and creative institutions
- home of major city events
- centre for learning, with seven tertiary and specialist learning institutions in the area
- place for events, business and tourism where the Cultural Forecourt and Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre are forums for Brisbane to meet the world and connect globally
- an iconic beach with city views.

## Contribution to the city and the people of Brisbane:

### ECONOMIC



The South Bank precinct generates significant economic outcomes for the city. It **contributed approximately \$900 million to the economy** in 2017, including supporting 8100 jobs through the tourism, events, business and education sectors.

The wider precinct's creative and cultural facilities deliver learning, tourism and job opportunities that contribute to Queensland's growing creative and knowledge economy.

### COMMUNITY



South Bank provides almost **14.6-hectares of quality public parkland** for the community to enjoy, along with opportunities to participate in **more than 700 free events and activities each year**.

The green space, alongside the walking and cycling paths, boosts the city's liveability, contributing to a broad range of health and wellbeing benefits to the community.

### FINANCIAL

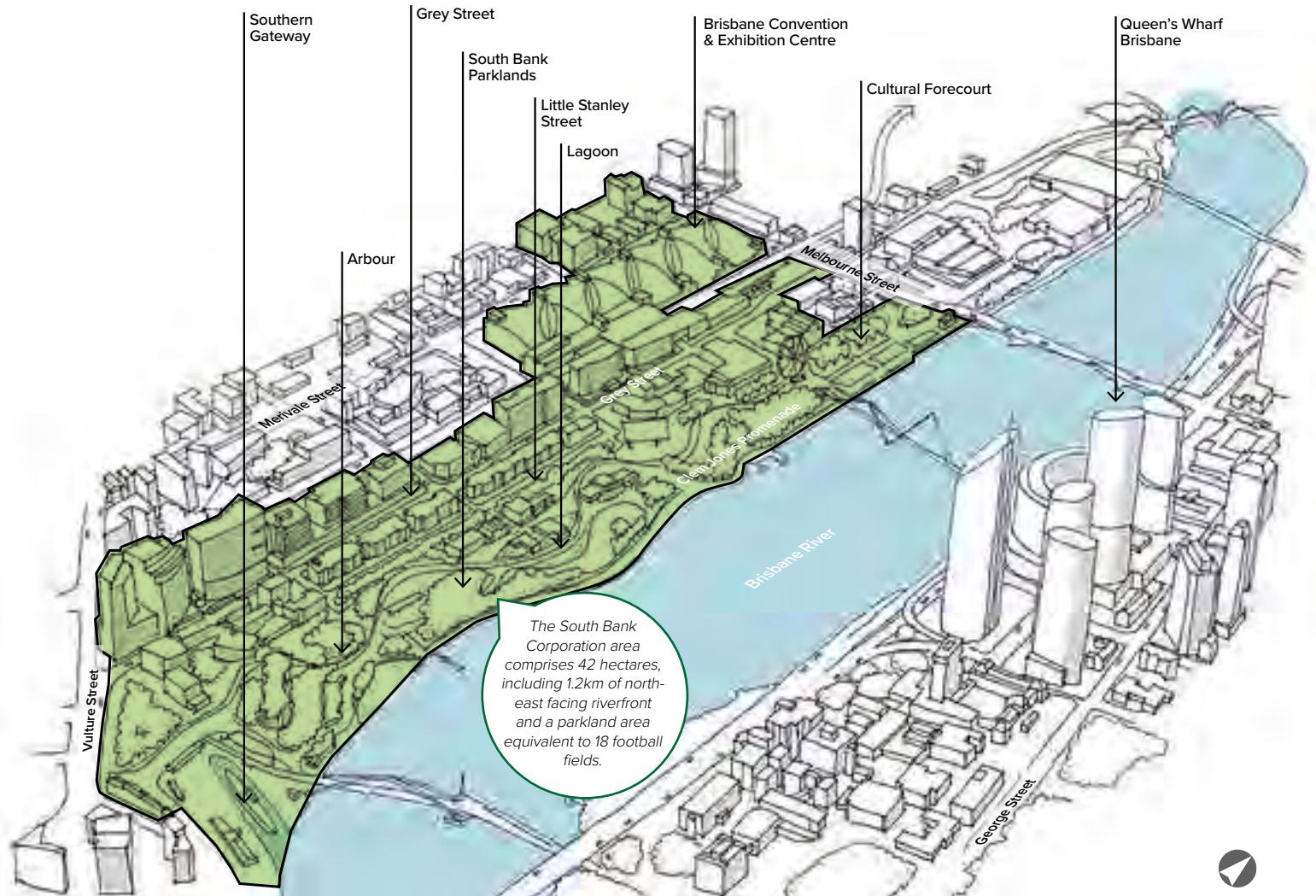


South Bank Corporation generates income that **covers nearly 90 per cent of the cost** of providing free community events and maintaining the parkland. The precinct enhances commercial activity in the surrounding area, which helps sustain and grow investment.

### ENVIRONMENT



The parklands are a large, green city oasis that contribute to urban cooling and provide habitat for local fauna. The precinct has delivered a range of **leading sustainability initiatives**, including urban water capture and management, renewable energy supply and organic waste recycling.



Map of South Bank Corporation area and scope of the master plan, as defined in the South Bank Corporation Act 1989. The Corporation area includes freehold and leasehold land owned by South Bank Corporation as well as other land owned, leased or held in trust by third parties, including BCC.

## Fast facts

OPENED IN  
**1992**

**TOTAL AREA**  
**42ha**

**VISITORS PER YEAR**  
**14 million**

**EVENTS**  
**+700**  
free activities and events each year

**PUBLIC PARKLAND**  
**14.6 ha**

with six hectares of green space such as lawn and planting areas

**RAIN BANK**  
**70%**  
of all water for irrigation captured and delivered by Rain Bank

**MIXED USE FLOOR AREA**  
**400,000m<sup>2</sup>**  
including convention, education, public institution, commercial, hotel, residential and retail

**STATE ECONOMY CONTRIBUTION**  
**\$900 million**  
annual contribution to state economy (2017/18)

# Extending the legacy

A significant public space in the centre of Brisbane, South Bank is a testament to the enduring collaboration between the community, Queensland Government, BCC and South Bank Corporation.

## A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP

South Bank Corporation is an independent statutory authority set up to manage the development and operation of the South Bank precinct. The diverse mix of uses and partnerships with the community, private sector and Traditional Owners, is a key ingredient in South Bank's success.

This model supports ongoing investment while generating economic outcomes and jobs for the city. It contributes to a broad range of community, health and wellbeing benefits, as well as a commitment to sustainability and design excellence that sits at the precinct's heart.

## HOW SOUTH BANK WORKS

The free beach, pools and parklands at South Bank are primarily funded by revenue generated by the retail shops, car park and Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre.

The Corporation manages the day-to-day operation and maintenance of the parklands, its security, community events and the statutory assessment of new development in the precinct.

South Bank Corporation and its partners perform four key functions that support the ongoing operation of the precinct and guide its evolution:

- 1. Place** – Operate and maintain South Bank including the parkland, key assets, public events and activities.
- 2. Improvements** – Keep pace with changing needs with targeted improvements and innovations.
- 3. Planning** – Support public and private investment through the Approved Development Plan in collaboration with BCC.
- 4. Vision** – Maintain a comprehensive, long-term vision to protect the legacy and guide the evolution of South Bank.

## SOUTH BANK ROLE AND FUNCTIONS



## How will the master plan be implemented?

### MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION STREAMS



*South Bank Corporation is committed to reviewing the plan every five years.*

### FOUR IMPLEMENTATION STREAMS

The master plan provides a framework for the progressive maintenance and improvement of the precinct. Four implementation streams are aligned with the functions of the Corporation and its partners. Together they will guide future projects, asset management activities and investment in the precinct by the public and private sectors to bring the master plan's vision and strategies to life.

Future implementation will occur over time, in step with future needs and priorities to ensure that South Bank remains Brisbane's most lively, green and inclusive place. Individual projects will be considered and coordinated with the ongoing evaluation of operational and maintenance needs in real-time.

Commitment to individual projects will be subject to the usual business case and government funding considerations. As a master plan, all of the plans and images within this document are artists' impressions of indicative outcomes and not final design proposals.

### AN EVOLVING PLAN

The master plan lays out a roadmap for the future. It is a flexible and living document, intended to continue evolving alongside the precinct and the changing values and priorities for Brisbane and the wider community. It will be subject to review periodically to ensure its ongoing relevance.

# South Bank over time

South Bank is one of the most dynamic parts of Brisbane and has evolved with each new era of the city.

The precinct has a rich and diverse First Nations and European history from early times to modern day. Some prominent events and dates of South Bank's story are included in this timeline.



## EARLY TIMES

This part of South Brisbane, known as South Bank, has been a significant place in the history of Brisbane for tens of thousands of years before European arrival and continuously since then.

In early times, the river's extensive and fertile valley was home to thousands of First Nations people, with many campsites and villages. The landscape was managed, cared for and cultivated for more than 60,000 years. The area was an important place within the broader First Nations community, providing key links for trade and movement.

The South Brisbane region was culturally significant and was frequently used as a meeting place for visiting First Nations peoples from north and south of the Brisbane River. People from the wider region would come together for periodic gatherings and ceremonies. Historical reports document tribal elders speaking of many regional ceremonies including marriage and trade ceremonies taking place in South Brisbane.

## 1880s

South Brisbane started to rival North Brisbane as the centre of commerce. The Victoria Bridge, Melbourne Street, Grey Street and Stanley Quay were established and Russell Street connected to Boundary Street West End, where the goanna statue is today.

A major flood in 1893 destroyed the Victoria Bridge and many wharves, and submerged South Brisbane completely. As a result, North Brisbane emerged as the main commercial centre. In 1903, South Brisbane gained city status, and over time established its own Town Hall on Vulture Street and School of Art and became home to the Lyric Picture Theatre and Kurilpa Library.



## 1950s

The docks extended from the Kangaroo Point cliffs to Victoria Bridge, with coal loading and railway sidings to the south. The area was a working port with all the associated amenities and numerous pubs and theatres, including the Cremorne Gardens Theatre.



## 1840s

Surveyor General John Oxley first sailed up the river in 1823. A year later the Moreton Bay Penal Settlement was established first at Redcliffe, then Brisbane. In 1842, Brisbane was declared a free settlement and the land surveyed for suburban allotments.

First Nations peoples were generally excluded from the town limits with access by restricted regulation.



## 1970s & 1980s

Victoria Bridge had been rebuilt and the docks relocated to Hamilton. The waterfront was cleared with few remnants, including the Fish Board Wharf at the present-day Cultural Forecourt. The riverfront Clem Jones Gardens was the site of the annual Warana festival, which later moved to Spring Hill. The interstate railway line was extended over the river via the new Merivale Rail bridge providing a vital link between South Brisbane and the city. South Brisbane Square extended from the railway station to the river. The Queensland Cultural Centre was opened in 1985.

## EVOLVING SOUTH BANK

An ongoing commitment to a bold vision has been central to the precinct's success over the last 30 years. Each review of the master plan has involved critical decisions, including the 1997–2001 Denton Corker Marshall plan, which called for a courageous rethink of the precinct's strategic direction, laying the foundations for South Bank as it is today. This led to significant investment in the three-spine concept, which delivered the arbour, reimagined Grey Street as a tree-lined boulevard, and relocated the busway link to behind the railway line.

## EXPO '88

Expo '88 was held over a six-month period and put South Brisbane on the map, drawing more than 18 million local and international visitors. In 1989, the Queensland Government scrapped plans for a high-rise commercial redevelopment of the Expo site and established South Bank Corporation.

## 1990s

In 1992, South Bank Parklands opened to the public.

## ACKNOWLEDGING CONNECTION TO COUNTRY

This part of Brisbane has always been a gathering place for First Nations people from many places. It is where people come together to debate, protest, trade, and celebrate and is an active forum for First Nations community leaders to engage with each other and the broader community.

South Bank Corporation is committed to ensuring First Nations knowledge and culture is represented within the precinct, for present and future generations to appreciate.

Through discussions with our First Nations community, we have identified themes of cultural importance to explore further. These are:

- country, geography, seasons, resources
- social organisation, language, spiritual sites and beliefs
- travel, movement and social connectivity
- horticulture, wellbeing and healing practices
- traditional knowledge and its application.

South Bank Corporation will continue to engage and collaborate with First Nations peoples and organisations. The master plan details an emerging framework for First Nations engagement and expression across South Bank which includes a commitment to:

- make South Bank more inclusive and welcoming
- raise awareness about First Nations traditions, history, stories, travel, movement, and social connectivity
- initiate change locally
- explore a range of programs and initiatives across South Bank.

# South Bank in the future

In the decades since Expo '88, Brisbane has grown significantly, particularly in the inner-city renewal areas. South Brisbane's population has more than doubled since South Bank first opened, and will nearly quadruple by 2036.

## VISITATION TO SOUTH BANK IN THE LAST DECADE



## EXPECTING MORE VISITORS

The number of people visiting, working or living at South Bank has increased by 40 per cent in the last decade, to about 14 million visitors in 2019. During peak times, the precinct's popular locations like the Clem Jones Promenade, beach and lagoon, parts of Grey Street and the Cultural Forecourt are often reaching capacity.

Locally, it is predicted that many more people will live in apartments across the inner city and will rely on places like South Bank to be their 'backyard'.

South Bank is already one of the most intensively used public green spaces in the world. Increasingly, international tourists are seeking destinations that provide authentic experiences of local lifestyles, customs, culture and nature. Visitation across the precinct is also expected to grow as new neighbouring cultural assets and programs emerge.

## A MORE ACTIVE COMMUNITY

Summer holidays are the peak period for swimming at South Bank. Popularity has increased significantly since South Bank was opened, with around 650,000 people visiting and swimming at the beach and water play areas each year (average from 2014-2019). The central lagoon is the most popular feature, and in January 2020, visitation reached up to 400 swimmers per hour.

When building our vision for South Bank's future, we also need to consider the increasing numbers of cyclists and scooter riders, particularly along popular routes like the Goodwill Bridge and Clem Jones Promenade. The number of cyclist commuters in the surrounding suburbs has tripled in the last decade and the Clem Jones Promenade now supports about four million people walking, jogging, cycling, or scooting each year. Preparing the precinct for the evolving forms of travel and the way they interact with each other will be an ongoing task.

**14 million**  
PEOPLE VISITED, WORKED OR LIVED AT SOUTH BANK IN 2019

**“The Master Plan will future proof South Bank by exploring improvements to meet the needs and challenges of a changing world.”**

## ENSURING A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

South Bank has retained its position as Brisbane's favourite destination for more than 30 years.

While regular visitor surveys show high levels of satisfaction with South Bank, the precinct doesn't cater for some people as well as it could.

The parklands cater well for families, especially those with younger children. However, there are opportunities to boost the range of experiences for more diverse demographic groups of various sizes.

## WORKING COLLABORATIVELY

The Corporation acknowledges that there are opportunities to collaborate with the community, local and state government, land owners and precincts stakeholders. These collaborations will deliver a more connected approach to broader renewal, connectivity, planning and infrastructure in and around the South Bank area, including access to and from South Bank via public transport gateways and active transport connections.

## IMPROVING OUR EXPERIENCES

Opportunities that exist for South Bank to complement and extend the range of experiences available in inner-city Brisbane include:

- improving the range of day and night-time activities, including mornings and family-friendly evening activities
- increasing the range of attractions that excite tourists and grow Brisbane residents' civic pride
- exploring new ways to celebrate our culture and creativity
- strengthening Brisbane's subtropical character
- improving the diversity, quality and atmosphere at our dining and retail locations
- renewing the major event program, including the spaces needed to host them
- cooling the precinct and making it more environmentally resilient
- catering to visitors' technological needs and keeping pace overall with technological advances.

## RENEWING AGEING ASSETS

The South Bank precinct includes a range of buildings, structures and other assets like roads and footpaths, marine infrastructure, landscaping and park features, that are more than 30 years old.

A key goal of the master plan is to guide planning for the future maintenance and renewal of assets across the precinct, if and when required.

## INTEGRATION

Opportunities exist for South Bank to be better integrated and connected with surrounding neighbourhoods and the emerging destinations of the inner city.

### CLEM JONES PROMENADE USAGE

**4 million**



**650,000+**

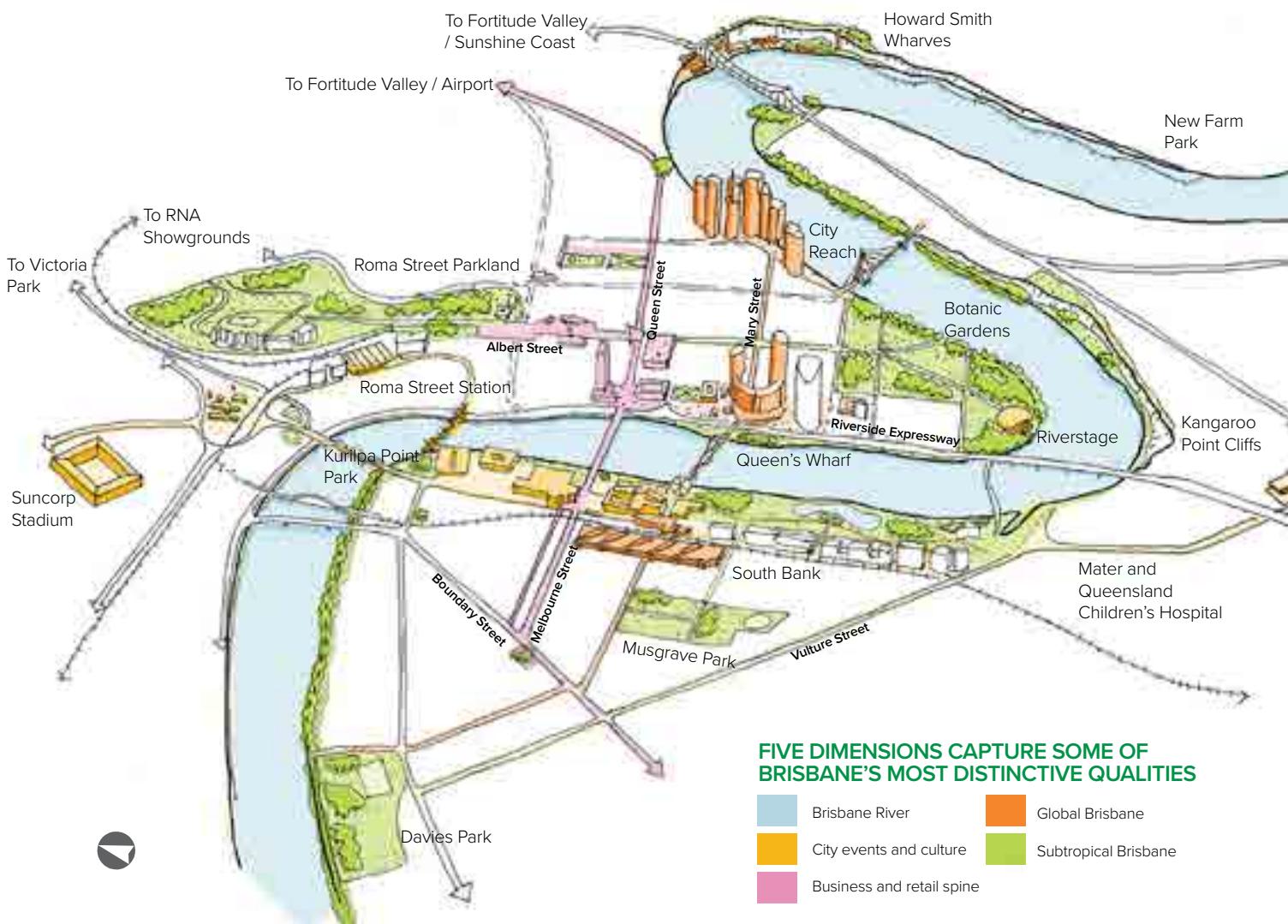
**PEOPLE SWIM AT SOUTH BANK EVERY YEAR**

*Average from 2014 - 2019*



# A connected inner city

Brisbane is an exciting international city, with an emerging network of new precincts. Our master plan will amplify South Bank's role in contributing to our city's lifestyle, culture and identity.



## South Bank brings together the best aspects of Brisbane



### BRISBANE'S EVOLVING NETWORK OF DESTINATIONS

Brisbane and South East Queensland have matured in recent decades and will continue to evolve significantly in the coming decades. New precincts and places are emerging that extend, complement and in some instances, replicate what exists at South Bank.

The master plan outlines how South Bank could maintain its own special status as an amazing destination without duplicating these new areas and initiatives.

Brisbane's home of major events, South Bank has hosted some of Brisbane's most vibrant and memorable events from Expo 88, the Goodwill Games, G20, Brisbane Festival, FIFA women's world cup, and River Fire bringing together more than 1,000,000 people each year to celebrate. The precinct will be supercharged as the heart of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, providing a legacy to host major events and festivals in the State's capital.

### AN INTEGRATED AND CONNECTED EXPERIENCE

Future public realm and cycle network improvements will enhance the quality of connections between key precincts and accommodate the mass movement of people walking and cycling (including e-mobility devices such as e-bikes). These include the walking and cycling connection between the Gabba, South Bank and CBD, and active travel network improvements for Melbourne Street, Vulture Street and the connection to the M1 Veloway 1 bikeway and Kangaroo Point.

Major new infrastructure, precincts and pedestrian connections are reshaping the way people move about and experience the city.

South Bank is located centrally within this emerging network of places and sub-precincts. It is uniquely positioned to expand the CBD's attractiveness and vitality, truly celebrating Brisbane's culture, creativity and subtropical lifestyle.

We have identified five ways South Bank helps integrate and connect the city, therein capturing the precinct's most distinctive qualities:



#### Brisbane River

The river is a key lifestyle focus of the city and a link to Moreton Bay and its remarkable islands. South Bank is Brisbane's most accessible public riverfront, with views that define the character of the city and our way of life. As one of the city's earliest public waterfronts, the Clem Jones Promenade will continue to be a central element in Brisbane's growing riverfront pedestrian network.

#### City events and culture

Spanning the city from the Kurilpa and CBD North Quarter to the Gabba, this link includes the city's leading sports and cultural institutions. It is centred on the concentration of major venues used during Brisbane 2032 and community facilities at South Bank, including the Queensland Cultural Centre, Queensland Conservatorium of Music and the Queensland College of Art.

#### Business and retail spine

A concentration of the city's most vibrant and authentic urban neighbourhoods and places, this link extends from West End to Fortitude Valley. The linkage connects Brisbane's history and heritage and its business, retail and cultural centres with urban living. The Cultural Forecourt is an important junction with its connection to the Queen Street Mall via the Victoria Bridge.

#### Global Brisbane

The Neville Bonner Bridge will unlock a new pedestrian network connecting Mary Street and Russell Street, creating a spine of global tourism infrastructure linking the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Cultural Forecourt and Howard Smith Wharves. This new route will also connect the emerging Queen's Wharf integrated resort development, the planned City Reach renewal and the Cross River Rail station at Albert Street.

#### Subtropical Brisbane

A grid of green links will emerge that build on the interconnected network of open spaces, bridges and active transport links in the inner-city.

South Bank's central location, where these corridors intersect, offers the potential to protect key ecological values, while acknowledging local landscape, heritage and cultural assets, including traditional First Nations landscape values.

# Community Consultation

The people of SEQ support the vision for future South Bank.

Since 2019, the community have been involved in helping to shape the future of South Bank. Engagement ensured diverse viewpoints were received, and issues and ideas for future South Bank were understood.

In late 2022 (November 2022 – January 2023), South Bank Corporation released the Draft Master Plan for future South Bank (the Plan) inviting the public to have their say on the Plan's vision, ideas and strategic priorities to protect and celebrate, renew and improve and rethink key areas in the precinct. The Plan was the result of the feedback and findings from stage one community engagement.

Stage two engagement activities included information sessions, an online survey, stakeholder meetings and briefings, and written submission, providing the community with a wide-range of activities, across numerous locations and accessible channels to have their say.

The feedback and insights from this stage of engagement have informed the direction and outcomes delivered in the final master plan for future South Bank.

## Stage 1 Summary

### VISIONING, CONTEXT AND IDEAS

**Completed November 2019 - September 2020**

A snapshot of the engagement within this stage:

- 97% of people believe South Bank is important or very important to Brisbane
- +10,000 pieces of feedback received
- More than 3,600 visits to the master plan website
- + 1500 attendees at pop-ups
- 331 online surveys completed
- More than 1500 participants at the ideas fiesta.

The top eight themes identified as areas and aspects most-loved by the community during this process included:

- Beach and Water Play
- Events and Activation
- A Place for Everyone
- Accessibility and Connection
- Riverside Experience
- Green Space and Parklands
- Arts and Culture
- Retail, Food and Beverage.

## Community engagement, from visioning to final:



**Audience reach of more than  
4.5 MILLION  
PEOPLE**  
THROUGH PROACTIVE  
COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA

**More than  
13,600  
VISITS TO THE  
MASTER PLAN  
WEBSITE**



**More than  
4,000  
IN-PERSON  
INTERACTIONS**

## Stage 2 Summary

### DRAFT MASTER PLAN - HAVE YOUR SAY

Completed November 2022 - January 2023

A snapshot of the engagement within this stage:

- 89% of people support the vision for future South Bank
- +15,000 pieces of feedback received
- More than 10,000 visits to the master plan website
- 1,004 individual interactions and conversations
- 743 online surveys completed.

Top three vision ideas supported for future South Bank were:

- The Promenade (55%)
- Destination Grey Street (49%)
- Parklands Core and Little Stanley Street (39%)

The top three supported strategies were:

- Expanding the subtropical landscape strategy (52%)
- Enhancing the river's edge (46%)
- Prioritising people (37%).

### KEY FEEDBACK AND THEMES

The top six themes identified in Stage 2 as being of importance and interest by the community include:

1. **Grow and promote the active transport network.** Support for the need to improve access and safety for all precinct users, by growing the active travel network, improving connections to the broader network and providing solutions for better management of modal conflicts. The community and stakeholders want to see South Bank evolve as a more accessible and connected precinct.
2. **Green space and shade.** Support for increasing green space, green vegetation and more trees in the precinct.
3. **Southern Gateway renewal.** Support to renew the Southern Gateway and prioritise implementation of this vision idea with further refinement through planning and design.
4. **Little Tribune Street.** Strong opposition and concerns by adjacent South Bank residents for the proposed Little Tribune Street shared zone on the basis of amenity, environmental, safety, access and privacy impacts.
5. **Integration and coordinated management approach.** People want to see a more coordinated approach to broader renewal, connectivity, planning and infrastructure in the area in and around South Bank, especially in advance of Brisbane 2032.
6. **Deprioritise cars in South Bank.** There was a desire to deprioritise cars in the precinct. This is directly linked to improving the active travel network, however, it contrasts with other feedback from stakeholders raising concerns about the potential loss of parking in the precinct and on Grey Street.

South Bank Corporation acknowledges the importance of these issues and themes and has carefully considered this feedback to inform the refinement of the final Master Plan for future South Bank.

# 2,300

ATTENDEES AT  
POP-UPS



# +25,000

PIECES OF FEEDBACK  
RECEIVED

**“I think the Master Plan runs true to the ground work done over the past few years. I love all the concepts, mostly recognition and inclusion of Aboriginal Cultures. Thank you.**

*Survey respondent*

# Success factors

Brisbane's South Bank is acknowledged as a global exemplar of culture and public waterfront redevelopment.

## GLOBAL PRECEDENTS

As part of the master plan process, an analysis was conducted to gain insights from a range of projects and places around the world.

A scan of more than 20 waterfront and signature lifestyle precincts was undertaken to understand particular attributes relevant to South Bank and provide insight into success factors and solutions to challenges.



## SUCCESS FACTORS

To guide the master planning process a set of 10 success factors was highlighted from the global precedent analysis:

**Powerful** – a vision and narrative that is bold and emotive, that is understood and shared by stakeholders and citizens.

**Intentional** – a place that is conscious of what outcomes must be secured and deliberate in its decision making to optimise performance.

**Resilient** – is future conscious, considerate of internal and external shocks including social, environmental and economic. People and the planet are both better for this place.

**(Re) Inventive** – living places, dynamic and future flexible, always evolving within a consistent vision.

**Engaged** – a place that is made by and for people that touches our hearts and provokes our minds in a deeper way. Provides ways for us to connect with each other and the city. An accessible precinct full of opportunities for all ages, abilities and cultures.

**Loveable** – a place that powerfully resonates with local people, soft and not always sparkly. It creates moments that nurture as well as inspire, that comfort and challenge.

**Instagrammable** – a place that is memorable and creates shared moments that become their own campaign, aligning the excitement of the lived experience with a potent signal of our emerging global identity.

**Artful** – skilfully crafted and curated to be of its place, telling its own story, celebrating its special context and being imaginative.

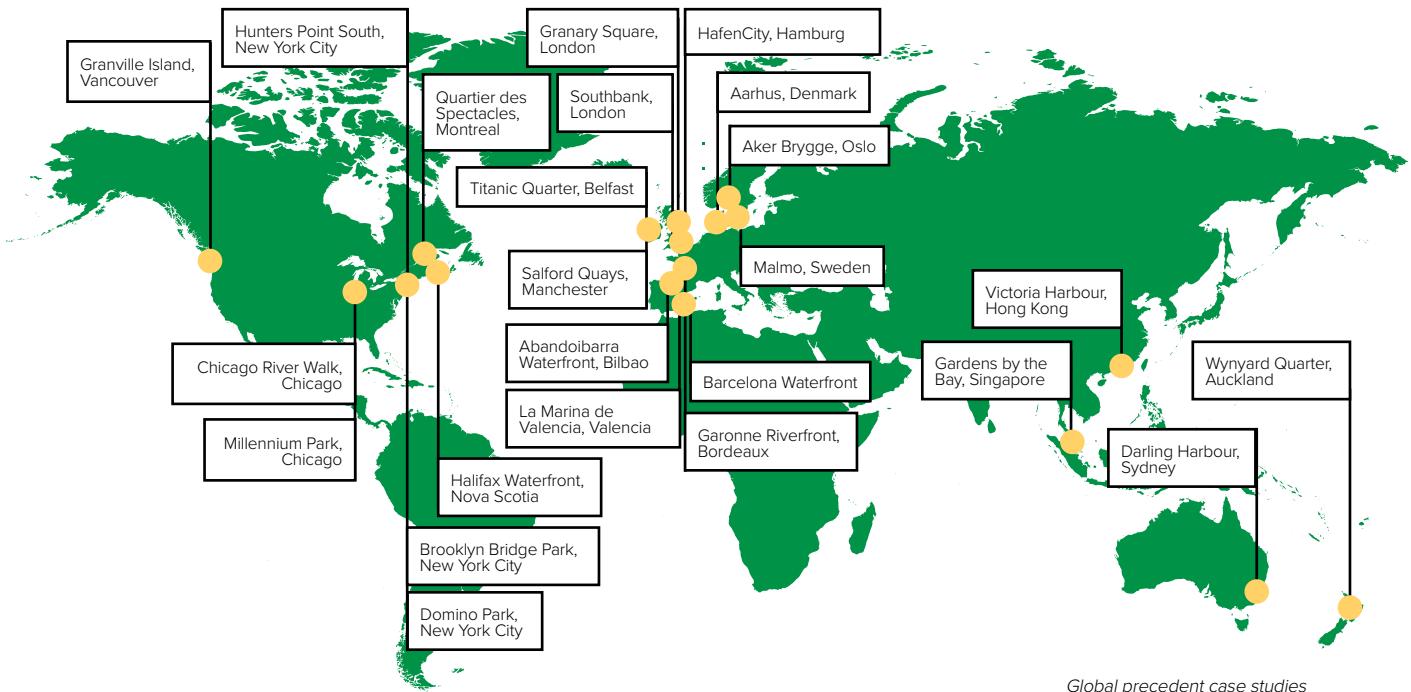
**Playful** – reinvent the lost art of play, fun, self-expression and even joy that elevates our individual and collective sense of happiness and wellbeing.

**Discoverable** – a place that encourages and enables experimentation, learning and creativity.

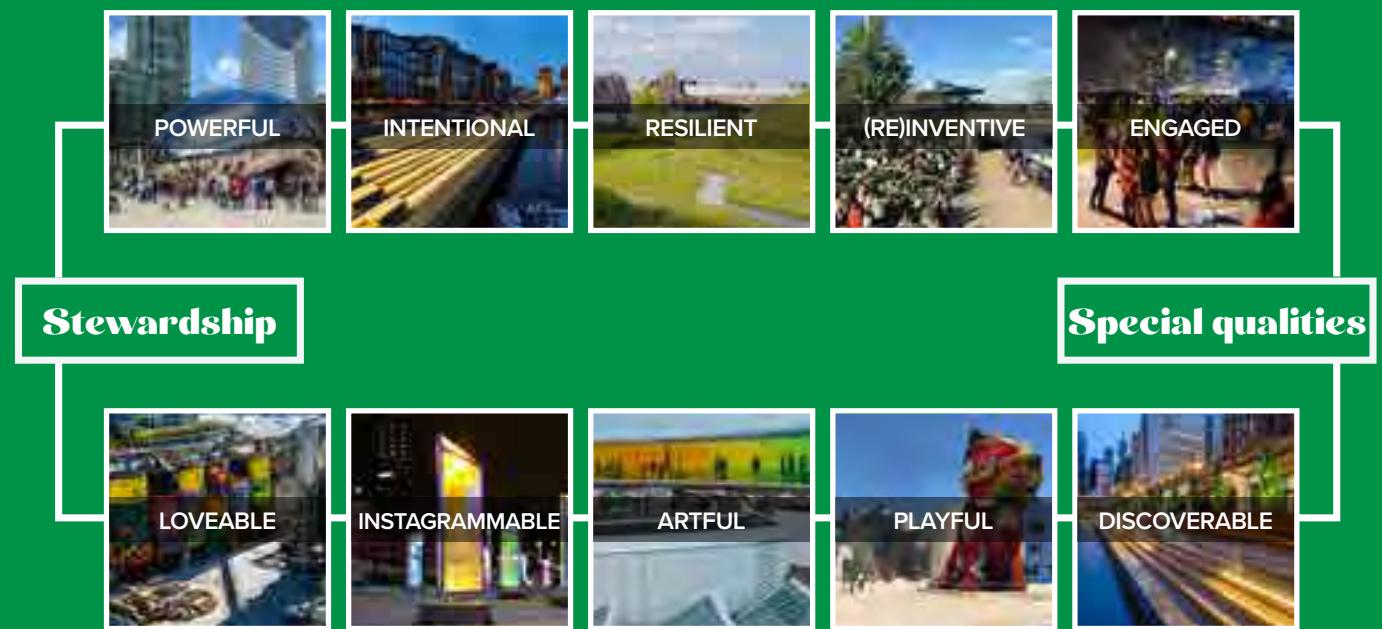
In addition, two other aspects will be included in our plan:

**Stewardship** – effective and enlightened governance that maintains a focus on the social, cultural, environmental and economic performance of the precinct. Bringing together partners, curating the program to the advantage of stakeholders and remaining future oriented.

**Special qualities** – this is the alchemy: a secret ingredient or unexpected outcomes without which the magic of an enduring great place is never fully achieved.



## SUCCESS FACTORS FOR WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT







**Part 02**

# **Vision, master plan & strategies**

Future South Bank  
Master Plan

# Our vision



**... is to remain Brisbane's most lively, green and inclusive place for current and future generations.**



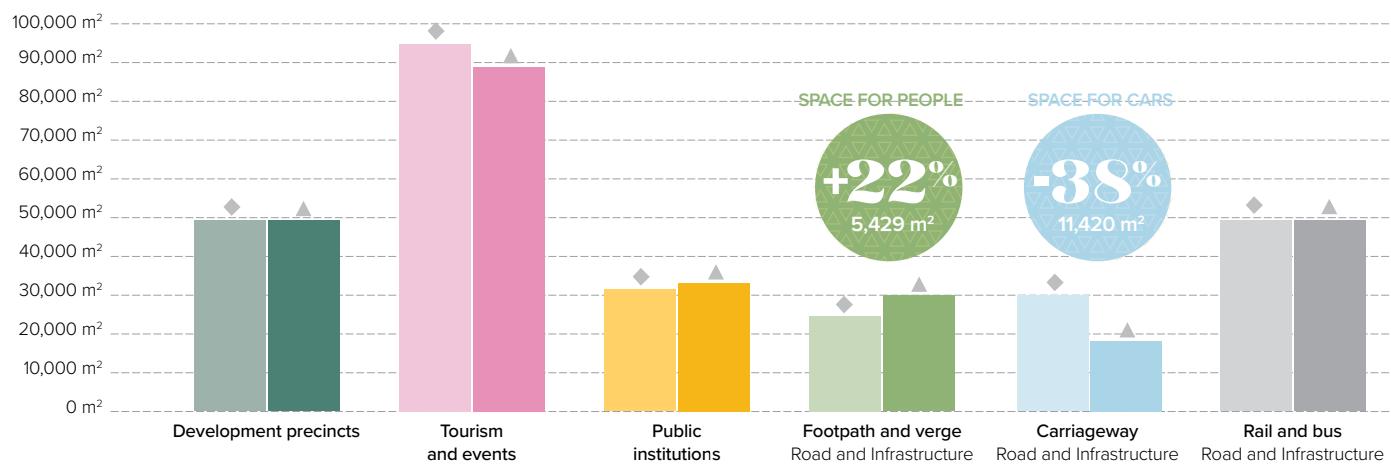
# The plan at a glance

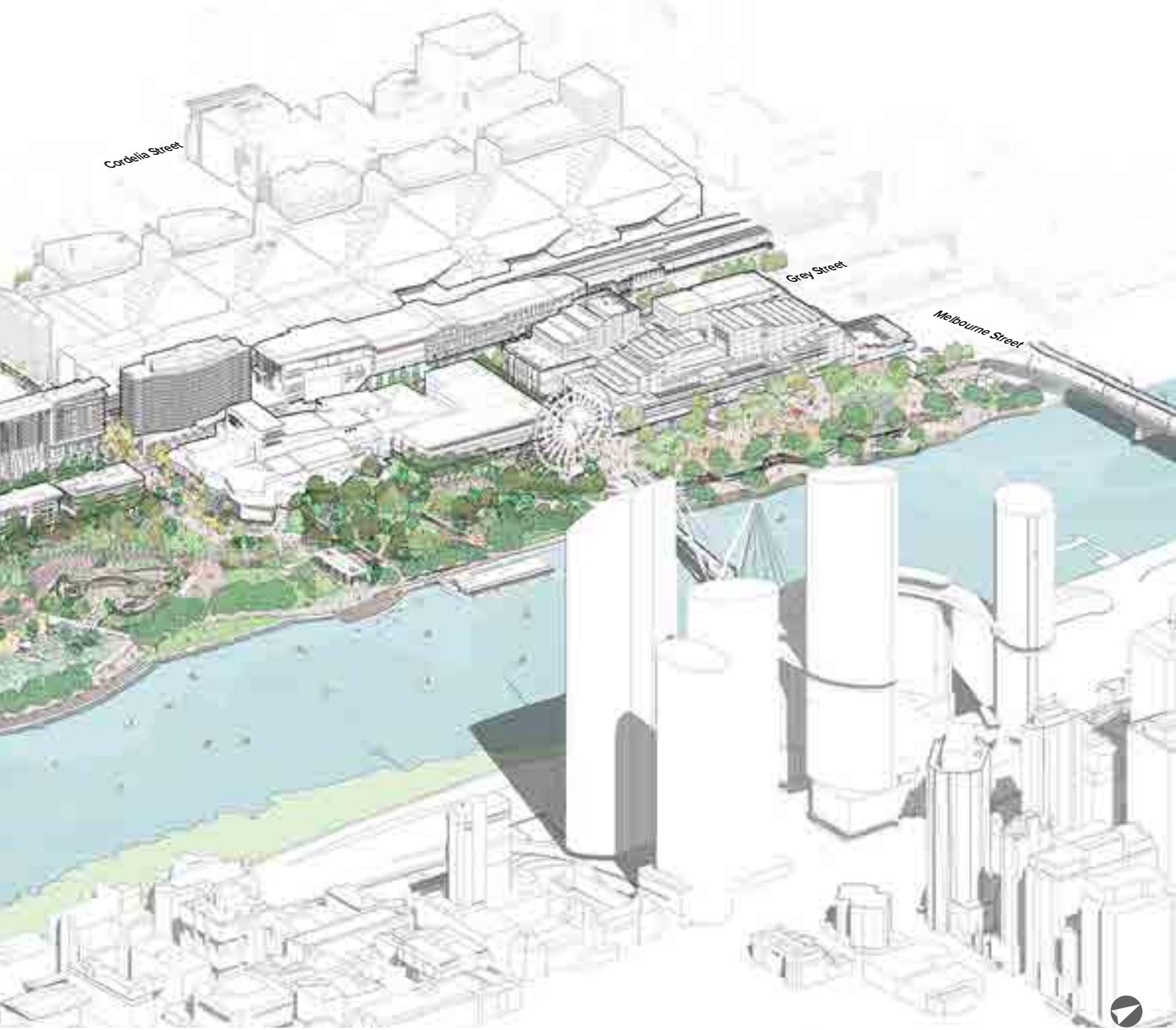
The master plan grows areas that people value.



*Artist impression of an indicative outcome, not final design.*

## Master plan areas

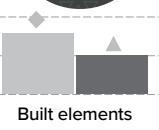




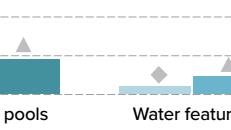
**GREEN SPACE**  
**+8%**  
 $4,580 \text{ m}^2$



**BUILT ELEMENTS IN PARK**  
**-39%**  
 $6,149 \text{ m}^2$



**Overall increase in Parkland**  
**+8%**  
 $12,215 \text{ m}^2$



### Legend

- ◆ Existing area
- ▲ Master plan at a glance area

# Master plan structure

A structure plan and five key design ideas provide a ‘roadmap’ for the master plan and the precinct’s evolution. The framework builds on feedback from stakeholder and community engagement and technical investigations.

South Bank is an evolving place. Its early development was guided by two master plans: the first plan focused on building the parkland and the second on building the precinct.

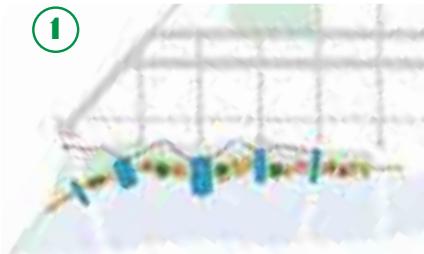
The new master plan needs to complete the unfinished work of the earlier plans and integrate the precinct more seamlessly with its surroundings, while progressively improving and renewing the heart of the precinct over time.

Many of the important community connections and streets that define South Bank and Brisbane’s inner city were created where First Nations walking routes, gathering places, and songlines existed. South Bank Corporation is committed to acknowledging and celebrating these important cultural foundations into the future.

## Structure ideas

The structure plan is made up of the following key design ideas:

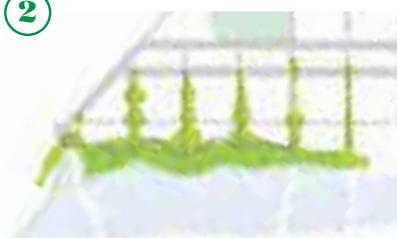
1



### Brisbane's most engaging river edge:

A driving principle for the master plan is to make the riverfront and promenade a slower, more diverse space that encourages people to linger, interact with the water and make the most of this spectacular setting.

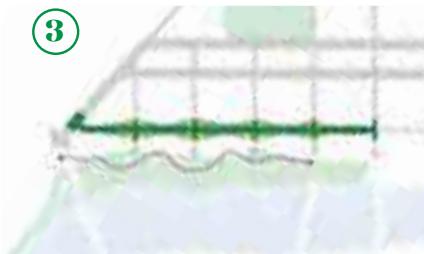
2



### Grow the green and connect the surrounds:

The parklands and its greenery are an important part of the South Bank experience. A priority of the master plan is to extend the green area into the surrounding streets and spaces.

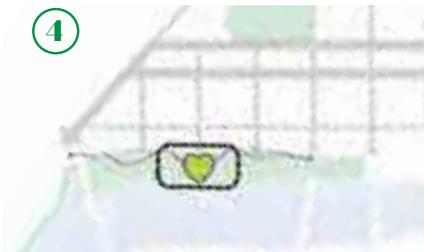
3



### Australia's coolest subtropical street:

The master plan’s ambition is to recast Grey Street as one of the world’s most recognisable subtropical people-centric streets, with greater levels of comfort and safety for active transport movements.

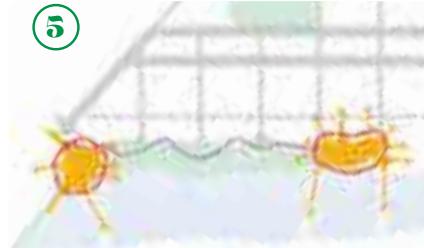
4



### The lively green heart of Brisbane:

Each new initiative will progressively grow the quality, experience, layout and function of the heart of the parklands as assets and infrastructure require renewal.

5

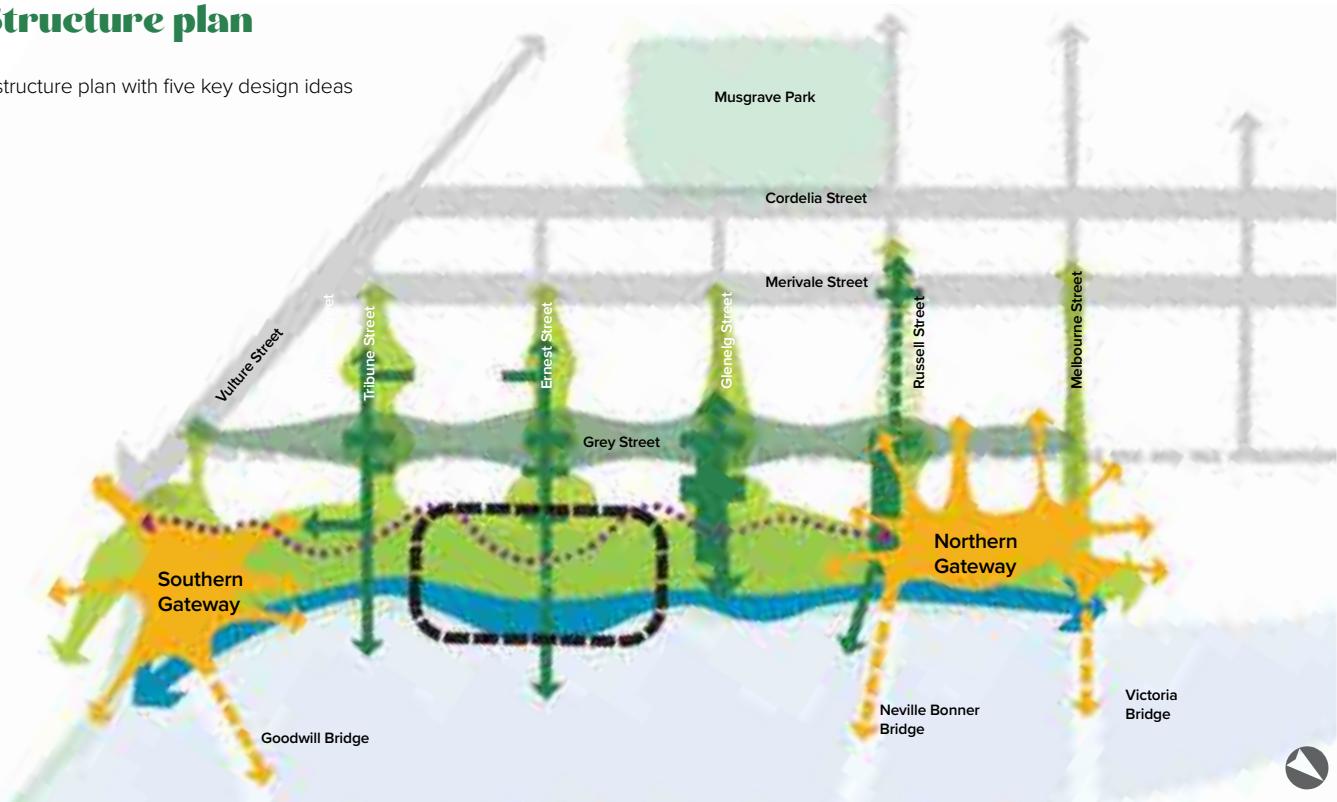


### More welcoming arrival experiences:

The master plan focusses on improving the arrival experience and stitching South Bank more seamlessly with the city centre, the Cultural Precinct, West End, Kangaroo Point, Kurilpa and towards Woolloongabba.

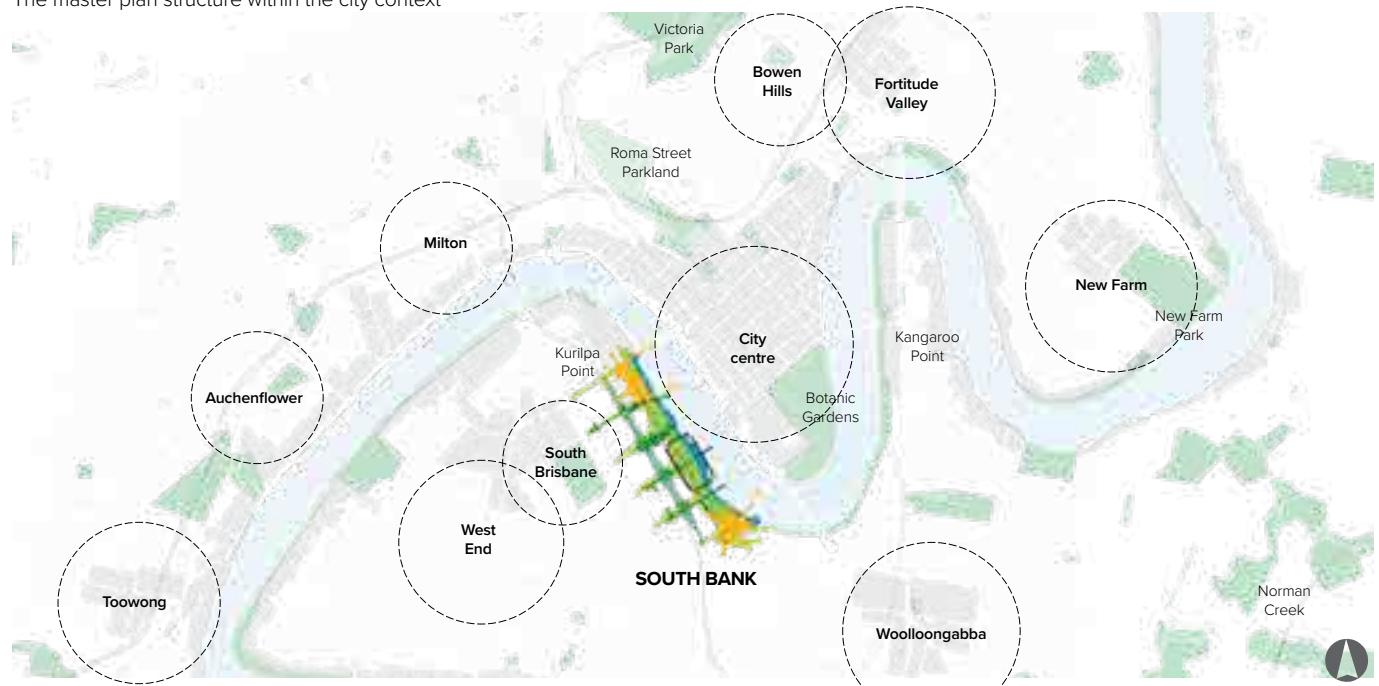
## Structure plan

A structure plan with five key design ideas



## Broader context

The master plan structure within the city context



# Areas of change

The master plan vision identifies a range of opportunities for change.

The master plan seeks to:

- Protect and celebrate the iconic and most popular aspects of South Bank.
- Renew and improve key parts of South Bank that are well-loved but are likely to need future attention.
- Rethink key areas within the precinct where relevance, age and functionality are impacting performance or visitor experience.



## Protect & celebrate



The Arbour would be preserved with improvements and increased opportunities to enjoy spaces beneath it.



The BRISBANE sign would be retained as part of an enhanced Cultural Forecourt.



The provision of free public amenities would be maintained and augmented.



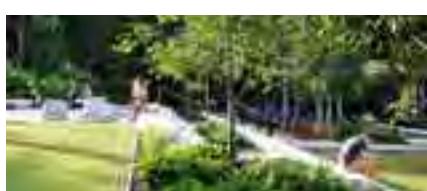
Heritage buildings such as the Allgas building would be retained, activated and celebrated.



The Rainforest, Rainforest Green and Liana Lounge would be maintained and amplified with new places to relax and opportunities to connect with nature.



The River Quay lawn and its waterfront uses would be retained.



The green spaces and open lawns that define South Bank including the recently completed Riverside Green would be retained.

## Renew & improve



South Bank's community garden, Epicurious Garden, could be relocated to connect with the Little Stanley Street dining experience. It could also link to an activated First Nations bush tucker trail.



Part of Little Stanley Street could be made into a shared zone and public realm, joining the parklands with the urban environment.



Support the potential improvements of the Southern Gateway as an improved tourism, culture and heritage destination.



Consider enhancing the Cultural Forecourt as both Brisbane's signature events space and the gateway to the cultural precinct.



Consider enhancing entries and edges of the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, improving visitor accessibility and activation.



Water play is a quintessential activity of South Bank. The beach, lagoon and Aquativity elements will remain, but could evolve to better meet community needs.



Consider realigning and improving the Clem Jones Promenade to ensure its long-term performance and a more vibrant and memorable riverfront experience.

## Rethink



The Riverside Terrace could be relocated to make way for a supercharged all-ages and all-abilities, integrated play precinct. The fast casual food offer will be retained in a central location near the pools and play areas.



The Piazza could be removed to open up views and access down Glenelg Street while enabling a new complementary use. The community event space function would be accommodated in key locations across the precinct.



Temporary installation Flowstate could be removed or relocated for an elevated, tilted lawn, new amenities and increased landscaping. Potential opportunity to relocate or renew the lighting activation, Jem.



Removal of the roundabout at Ernest and Grey streets could slow the street and create new public space for pedestrians and cyclists.



Removal and regrading of the Pavilions and beach interface could open expansive views and at-level access from Stanley Street Plaza to the lagoon and river.



Picnic Island Green could be modified to provide for a new street to help reduce conflicts between users at the Goodwill Bridge landing. A new natural sanctuary space is proposed with subtropical landscaping.



# The master plan



## Master plan ideas

- 1 The Clem Jones Promenade:** Realign and widen the promenade to provide a greener and more natural river experience
- 2 New river lawns:** New river lawns providing more spaces to linger by the river
- 3 Grey Street:** A greener Grey Street with more room for people
- 4 Promenade extension:** Complete the promenade link to Kangaroo Point and create new riverfront public spaces near the Dry Dock
- 5 Little Stanley Street:** A refreshed dining and market destination with expanded green space and Epicurious Garden
- 6 Market:** A new covered market space to showcase local creative industries and young designers
- 7 Lagoon and beach:** Improved beach and lagoon that showcases four distinctively Queensland water experiences
- 8 Beach plaza:** A new and expanded area to enjoy South Bank's beach in the city, including the relocation of existing retail and public amenities
- 9 Tilted lawn:** A large new lawn overlooking the beach, river and city skyline, with riverfront restaurants and new toilets underneath
- 10 Treetop walk:** A new Gondwana rainforest treetop walk



- 11** **Signature playscape:** A world-class playscape integrating water, nature, culture and education for all abilities and ages
- 12** **Park to Park link:** A vibrant new green spine extending towards Musgrave Park and West End from the river that reflects and celebrates First Nations culture
- 13** **Cultural Forecourt:** Expanded cultural forecourt event space with reflective water 'mirror' and BRISBANE sign
- 14** **River edge:** Widened promenade with riverfront restaurants under the Cultural Forecourt
- 15** **Southern Gateway:** An improved tourism, culture and heritage destination

- 16** **Brisbane to Bay hub:** A new tour boat and commercial vessel jetty
- 17** **Southern Gateway:** Improved pedestrian and cycle safety and reorganised vehicle access
- 18** **Link through Queensland College of Art:** A new link providing access to River Quay and the Park Avenue Apartments
- 19** **Convention Centre:** Improved entry and arrival experience
- 20** **Streetscape improvements:** New public space and streetscape around the Convention Centre

# Eight strategies to guide South Bank's future

Eight strategic directions guide our master plan. These build upon the aspirations, opportunities and challenges that members of the community shared with us during consultation. Each strategy describes a clear ambition for the future and sets out potential core elements, ideas and actions that could bring the vision to life.

1



## Creating a place for everyone

Building on South Bank's 'welcoming and inclusive' mantra by enhancing accessibility for those of all ages, abilities and nationalities, and celebrating First Nations culture.

5



## Lifting the destinational appeal

Creating new destinations and experiences that captivate locals and visitors, building civic pride for future generations.



## Enhancing the river's edge

Creating new opportunities to enjoy and connect with the riverfront that embrace nature and history. Improving connections at both ends of the precinct, towards Kurilpa and Kangaroo Point.



## Prioritising people

Prioritising walking, cycling and active transport modes to key destinations within South Bank.



## Expanding the subtropical landscape

Making South Bank the 'coolest' place in the city by extending greenery across the precinct and into neighbouring streets.



## Being clean, green and smart

Building on South Bank's leading sustainability initiatives and embracing new technologies to make the precinct more responsive to the community's changing needs and more environmentally resilient.



## Expressing and experiencing our culture

Bringing art and culture into the parklands and creating a sense of discovery, learning and adventure.



## Energising the experience

Making sure there's always something happening at South Bank that's fun, memorable and exciting.

1

# Creating a place for everyone

This strategy is focused on creating a more active and accessible precinct.

**Be a welcoming environment for all,  
regardless of age, ethnicity or ability.  
Everyone belongs in South Bank.**

We will achieve this by ensuring that South Bank is a vibrant and safe place, full of opportunities for people to enjoy what the precinct has to offer. This will also help improve people's mental and physical wellbeing and enhance their sense of belonging to the wider community.



**“South Bank works because it is accessible and welcoming to all types of people.”**

Community feedback 2020



## Core elements of the strategy

### MORE PUBLIC SPACE

South Bank is a permanent legacy from Expo '88. It was envisaged as the 'people's place': created for the people and by the people. These civic values are enshrined in the legislation that established South Bank and continue to guide its evolution. A central aim of the master plan is to protect this public legacy and make South Bank better for future generations.

The master plan vision increases the amount of free, accessible public space and improves the range and quality of experiences. This could be achieved by more efficient use of existing public spaces, rethinking how buildings are arranged and located, and converting underutilised areas into green and recreation spaces. Overall, areas of accessible parkland could increase by more than 8 per cent, providing the equivalent of nearly two extra football fields of green and public space for future generations.

### THE PEOPLE'S PLACE

South Bank already offers a wide range of free and programmed experiences and is a welcoming and inclusive part of Brisbane's social fabric, celebrating our relaxed lifestyle and culture. The plan's ambition is to make everyone feel welcome at South Bank.

The master plan aims to elevate South Bank's contribution to culture, events, recreation and education. Key initiatives include:

- a more expansive culture and events program
- better play and water play facilities catering for all ages and abilities
- an interpretive landscape overlay to celebrate our shared history and culture, including First Nations culture
- embracing technology to improve accessibility and provide a platform for sharing digital and interpretive content.

The master plan will support ongoing communication and consultation with the community.

### SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE

Feedback indicates that South Bank is seen as one of the safest places in Brisbane. The master plan aims to maintain and improve visitor safety through a range of design features and operational initiatives.

These include the adoption of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles and a mix of uses to promote passive surveillance. Other measures include appropriate lighting, clear sight lines, event and crowd safety management, CCTV monitoring, security patrols, call points, and lifeguards patrolling the lagoon and aquatic play areas.

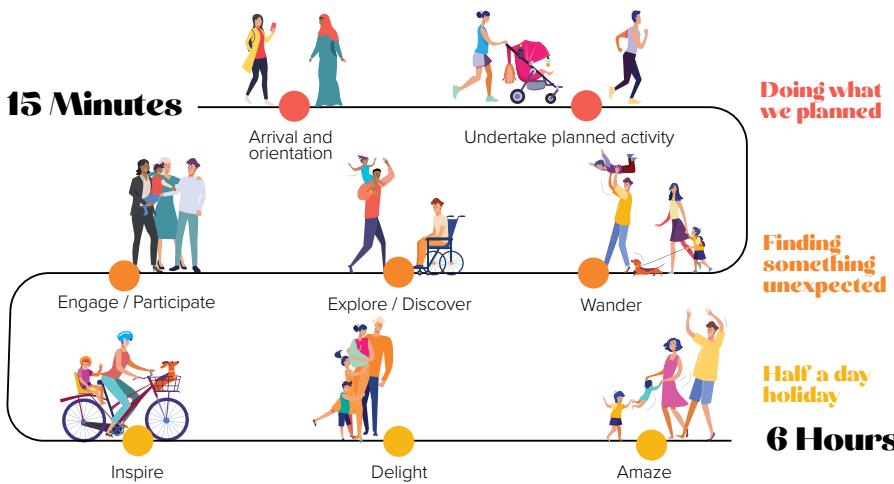
The master plan envisages South Bank as the most accessible place in Brisbane. Key initiatives will include the progressive improvement of movement routes to better support universal access and improved navigation, smart wayfinding and signage, such as the exploration of digital navigation aids and programming.

### HEALTH AND WELLNESS

As one of Brisbane's largest and most active public spaces, South Bank will build on its already extensive program of activities to support greater community health and wellbeing. Future programs will promote social and community connections, healthy activities and experiences, outdoor activity and community gardening. Sanctuary zones will provide for relaxation and contemplation.

The master plan will provide meaningful spaces for healing and wellness that have a connection to local hospitals and schools. Restorative and healing landscapes will be created near Vulture Street to be accessible to the Queensland Children's Hospital and Mater Hospital, providing a respite area for their patients, visitors and staff.

### 15 Minutes



A key focus is to expand the community's enjoyment of South Bank, offering something for everyone and experiences that encourage us to stay longer and come back more often.

# Future actions

<b>1</b> <b>CREATE SPACES FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS AND EVENTS</b> <p>Unlock new spaces for community gatherings, celebrations and events that generate a sense of confidence, ownership and excitement, including temporary street closures, riverside lawns and pedestrian plazas. Cater for small- to medium-sized community events with possible open-air venues as an alternative to the existing Piazza.</p>	<b>2</b> <b>CREATE SANCTUARY SPACES</b> <p>Deliver a series of smaller, quiet sanctuary spaces that offer respite from the pace of the city and an opportunity to connect with nature. Make South Bank one of the most mindful, relaxing and restful precincts in the city by creating a range of fixed and flexible seating arrangements that are easily accessible and cater to various group sizes and uses.</p>	<b>3</b> <b>ENCOURAGE LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION</b> <p>Revitalise Epicurious Garden, our community garden and the concept of 'edible landscapes' that maximise social and environmental benefits. Introduce targeted programs with a focus on creating partnerships between local schools, tertiary institutions and First Nations communities to broaden participation.</p>	<b>4</b> <b>CREATE INTERPRETIVE LANDSCAPES</b> <p>Integrate a stronger educational and cultural component into the South Bank experience. Provide local cultural and environmental themes that promote learning experiences for children and adults. Explore partnerships to build awareness and knowledge of South Bank's landscape and ecosystem.</p>	<b>5</b> <b>CELEBRATE FIRST NATIONS CULTURE</b> <p>Introduce a range of cultural and place initiatives that promote awareness by recognising and respecting First Nations communities, culture, customs and stories.</p>
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## Legend

- ➡➡➡ Possible temporary event and festival streets
- Accessible pathway network
- Amenities, toilets and change room locations
- Universal access improvements
- Digital wayfinding beacons
- All-abilities inclusive playscape
- ↔↔↔ Health and wellness connection
- Public transport nodes



# 6

## ACCESSIBILITY AND SAFETY IN DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Ensure South Bank remains one of Queensland's most accessible, inclusive, safe and welcoming destinations. Provide new and updated amenities, including toilets and change rooms. Deliver a multilingual digital wayfinding system with integrated emergency call points. Embed CPTED principles across the precinct.

# 7

## 'EVERYONE CAN PLAY' ATMOSPHERE

Develop a wide range of inclusive play facilities for all ages and abilities in different landscape settings. These facilities will include water play, physical challenges and sensory experiences that encourage healthy activity and create opportunities to connect with others.

# 8

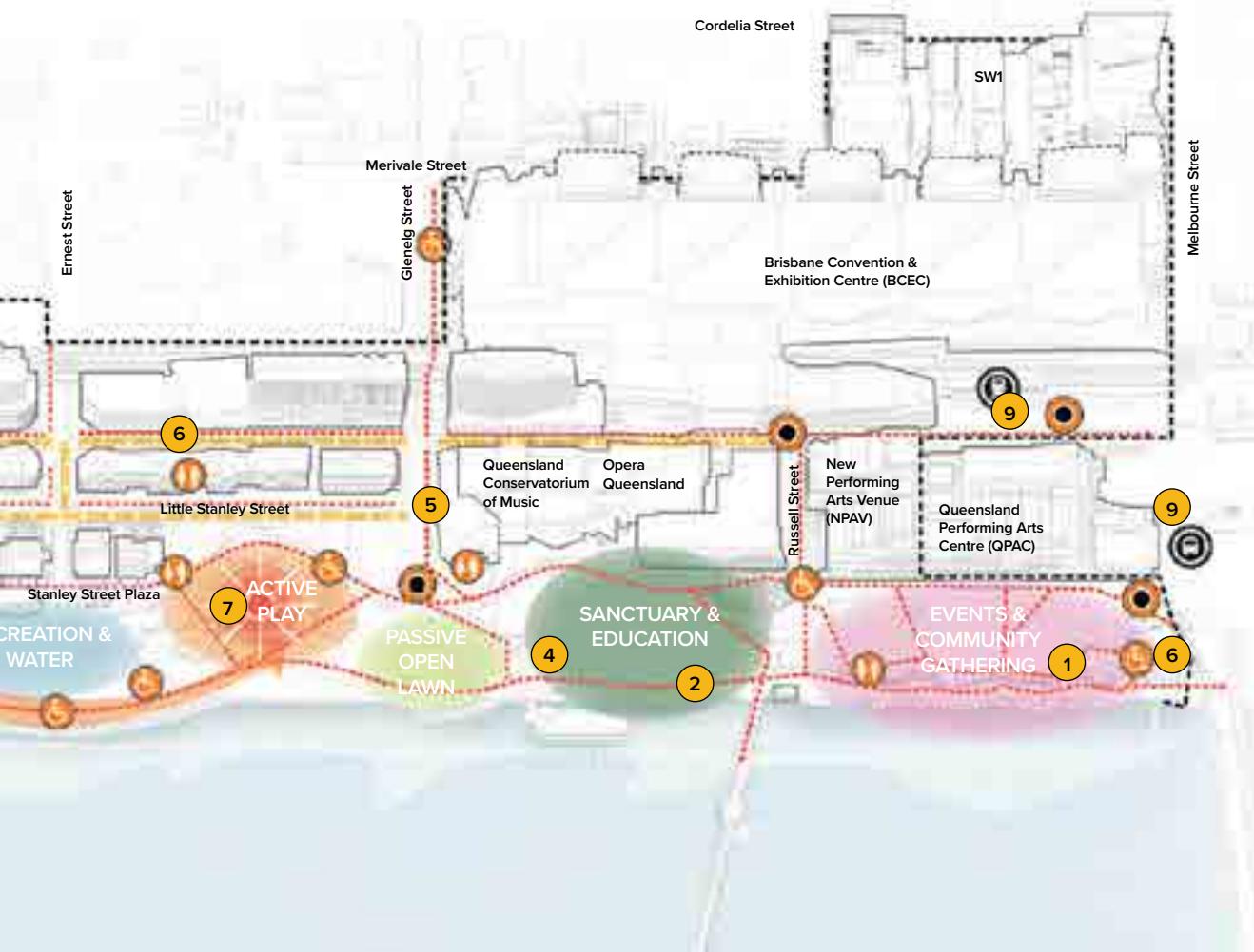
## ADOPT HEALTH AND WELLNESS INITIATIVES

Adopt a range of health and wellness initiatives across the precinct, such as a healthy eating and food platform, expanded mental health and wellness programs and supportive environments for physical activity and healthy eating including shade, lighting, highly walkable public spaces, edible landscapes, barbecues and healthy dining options.

# 9

## ENHANCE ARRIVAL EXPERIENCES

Enhance arrival experiences at public transport hubs including South Brisbane and South Bank railway stations, and South Bank bus station including improved safety, legibility and comfort.



②

# Enhancing the river's edge

This strategy focuses on transforming the Clem Jones Promenade and riverfront into a slower, safer experience for all users.

**Make South Bank's river edge the  
most engaging and special  
in Brisbane.**

We will achieve this by enhancing the riverfront, creating new and flood resilient opportunities for more people, inclusive of all ages and abilities, to access and experience the river's edge, while celebrating South Bank's place in Brisbane's heritage.



**“ The great thing about South Bank is the river side with a view of Brisbane skyline. It should be maximised all the way along the river! ”**

Survey respondent 2022



## Core elements of the strategy

### A PROMENADE FOR ALL

Among Brisbane's waterfront places, South Bank is different. It offers an open, north-east aspect, views to the city, free and easy access and a safe place to be day or night. It provides a deep green frame to the river and a distinctive subtropical setting. The curtain of trees and absence of big buildings close to the river make it one of the most-loved and visited places in Brisbane.

The experience of being beside the river has been identified as one of the things people love most about South Bank. A unified landscape experience will transition from a distinctive subtropical 'urban' landscape between the buildings and in the streets of the precinct, to an immersive parkland.

This strategy protects the qualities people love about South Bank, while harnessing its unique location, setting and scale to strengthen Brisbane's appeal as one of the most liveable river cities in the world.

It aims to celebrate the river as Brisbane's most defining and enduring geographic and cultural feature, including its significance for our First Nations community.

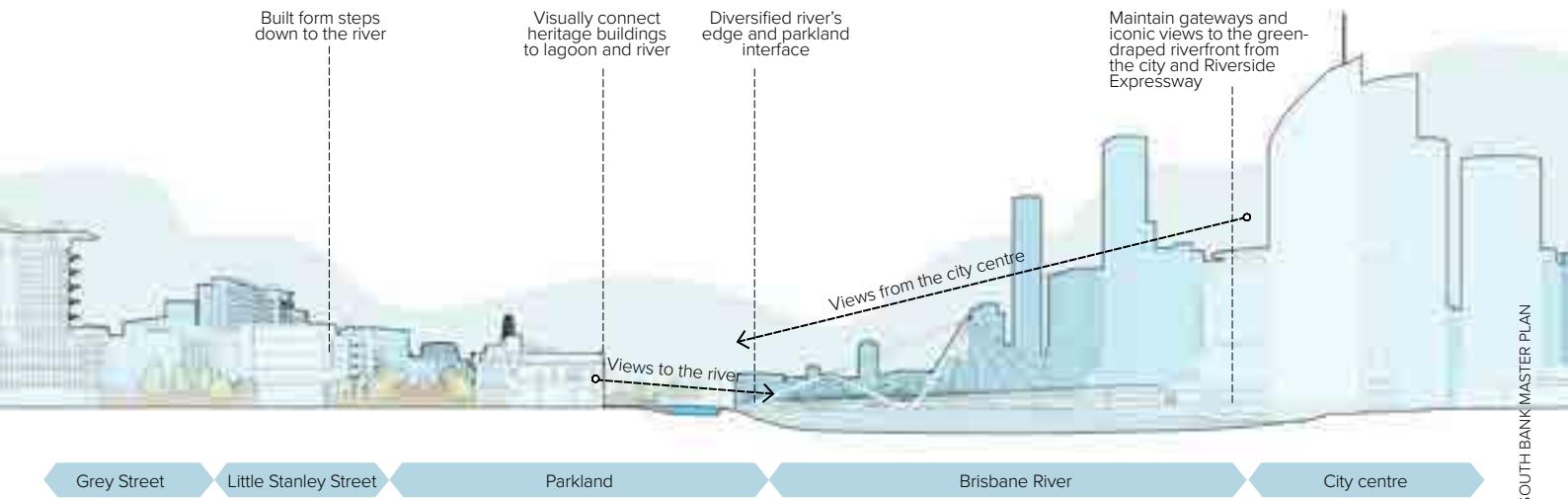
A central element of the strategy is the potential future renewal of the Clem Jones Promenade to become a more distinctive and natural river edge that will complement the new and emerging urban riverfront precincts in other places across the city.

### SEAMLESSLY CONNECTED

South Bank plays a central role in the network of waterfront places and movement routes that define Brisbane as a river city. This strategy will strengthen these connections, remove barriers to safe and easy access and improve their attractiveness.

Connections will be strengthened to Kurilpa Point, the Cultural Precinct, Kangaroo Point, and across the Victoria and Goodwill Bridges to the Botanic Gardens and CBD to create a more seamless and higher quality network of waterfront places and experiences. It will also reduce the potential for conflicts between growing numbers of pedestrians and cyclists.

New and emerging river crossings, including the Neville Bonner Bridge, will link South Bank directly to Queen's Wharf and contribute to the planned network of green bridges.



Proposed cross section through the precinct and river highlights South Bank's relationship with the river, unlike any other space in the city.

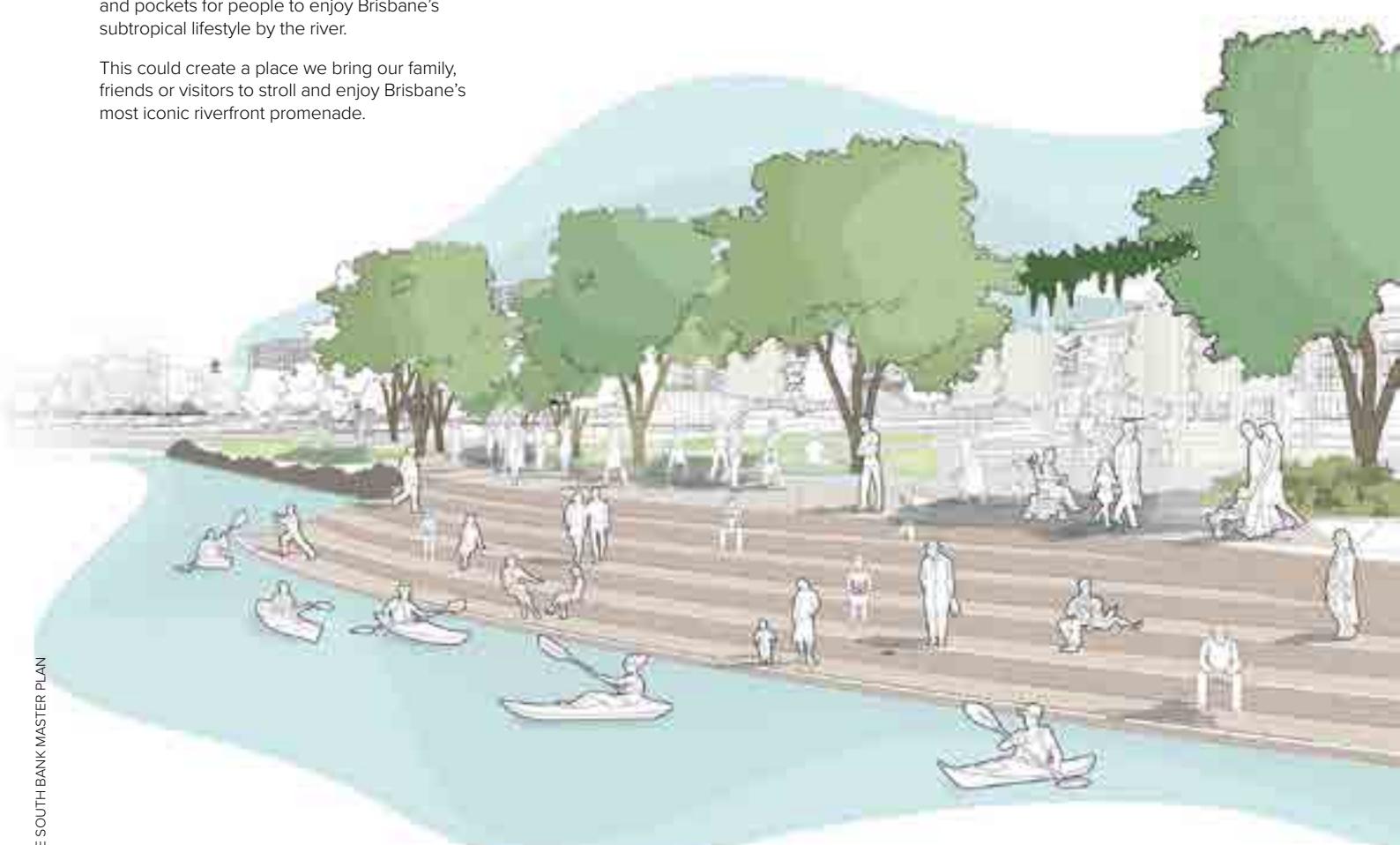
## MORE RELAXED AND NATURAL

During community consultation, people shared a strong desire for different types of river experiences. A clear preference was expressed for a more natural river edge and for places that allow people to stop, relax and linger.

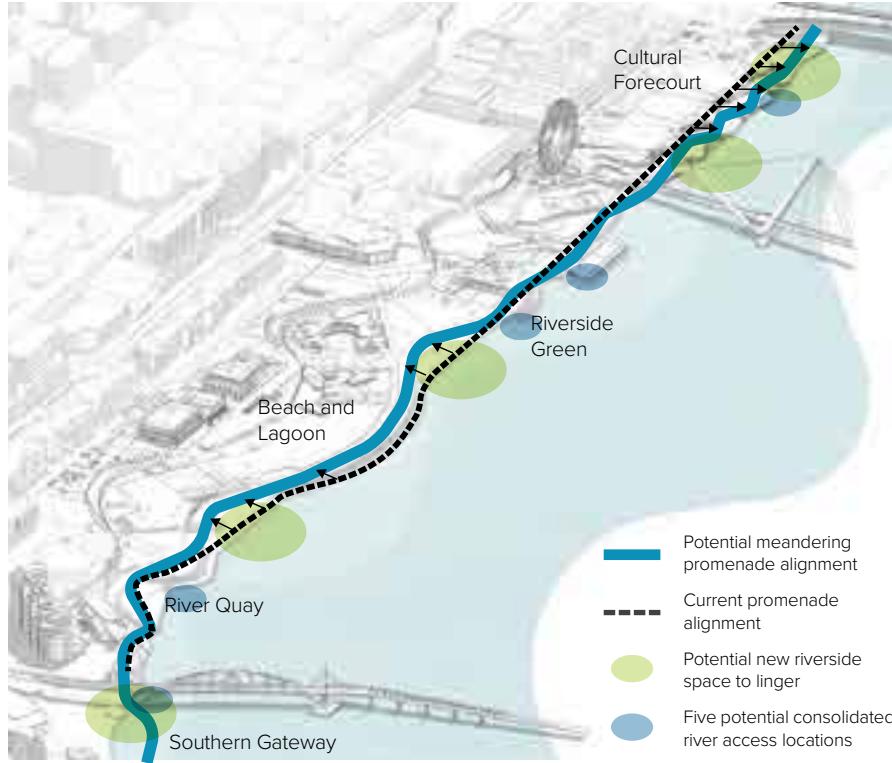
The opportunity to renew and reshape South Bank's river edge could realise these outcomes and provide a globally recognised riverfront experience that is difficult to achieve elsewhere in Brisbane.

A key strategic opportunity of the master plan is to highlight South Bank's waterfront and create a distinctive and engaging experience. This includes exploring a more natural and casual character, areas for events and activities and pockets for people to enjoy Brisbane's subtropical lifestyle by the river.

This could create a place we bring our family, friends or visitors to stroll and enjoy Brisbane's most iconic riverfront promenade.



*Different types of riverfront experiences and opportunities to engage with the river define the future South Bank.*



*Changes to the Clem Jones Promenade alignment could encourage slower movements and create spaces to linger on the riverfront.*

## RIVER ACCESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

To unlock the full potential of public and private river access, the master plan proposes improved infrastructure consolidated in five key locations. A range of in-river structures already exist and are planned, including a new ferry terminal, bridge landings and river access pontoons.

The master plan proposes two new centrally located hubs for private and recreational craft, a berthing point for commercial tour and boat operators near the Dry Dock and a jetty for water taxis and light river craft to drop off near the Cultural Forecourt. These elements will promote access and berthing for private vessels and a launching point that can support broader river-based access between the city and Moreton Bay for locals and tourists.

## IMPROVED EXPERIENCE FOR ALL USERS

Community feedback identified the potential conflict between pedestrians and other users on the Clem Jones Promenade as the number one area for improvement at South Bank.

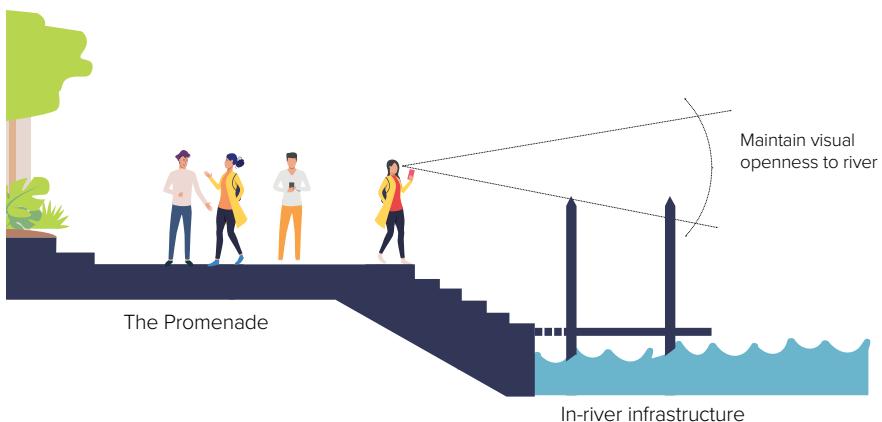
With roughly four million people walking, scooting and cycling along the promenade each year, it's one of the busiest waterfronts in the city.

The promenade has always been and always will be, a place for everyone. A strategic priority for the master plan will be to maintain access for all users while serving their different needs better.

The promenade could follow a more meandering path with slower speeds, so that all users could safely enjoy the riverfront setting and views. Users that are passing through, like cyclists and e-scooter riders, could be provided the option of a faster, more convenient, parallel and segregated route along Grey Street.

## Currently river infrastructure occupies 10-12% of the overall South Bank river frontage.

*(Source: South Bank Corporation)*



*River-edge infrastructure could be consolidated to minimise visual impact and maintain a sense of openness.*

# Future actions

1

## SLOW MOVEMENT ALONG THE PROMENADE

Create a more meandering alignment along the river's edge to help slow through-movement, reduce user conflicts and resolve pinch points. Establish an alternate active transport route on Grey Street for commuter cyclists and e-scooters.

2

## COMPLETE THE PROMENADE

Complete the promenade's missing link for pedestrians and recreational cyclists, with a potential over-river link from River Quay to the Kangaroo Point Cliff Walk. Widen the pinch point at the Cultural Forecourt to allow for safer movement and lingering, activated with cafes and restaurants.

3

## A NATURAL RIVER EDGE

Explore opportunities to diversify and soften the treatment of the river's edge along the promenade, and create a greener river experience with tree planting, increased shade and pockets of lawn. Riparian planting at key locations would provide habitat for native species and promote urban biodiversity.

4

## SEE THE RIVER

Create visual openings and long views to the river from the precinct's lateral streets that will add to an open river experience and make wayfinding easier. Explore opening up views between Stanley Street Plaza and the lagoon.

## Legend

- Meandering slowed promenade
- Promenade extension
- Victoria Bridge and riverfront connection
- Open linear views to river
- Activated use to riverfront
- Naturalised and green river's edge
- River to Bay river transport hub
- River access hub (personal watercraft)
- Integrated CityCat terminal
- River engagement zones
- Temporary event stage on the river
- Water taxi



# 5

## TOUCH THE RIVER

Provide opportunities at key locations along the promenade for visitors to playfully interact with the river, bringing people closer to the river's edge.

# 6

## CELEBRATE THE RIVER

Explore temporary event stages on the river for live entertainment. Introduce greater levels of activity along the riverfront, including food and beverage offerings and informal spaces where people can sit, linger and enjoy the waterfront.

# 7

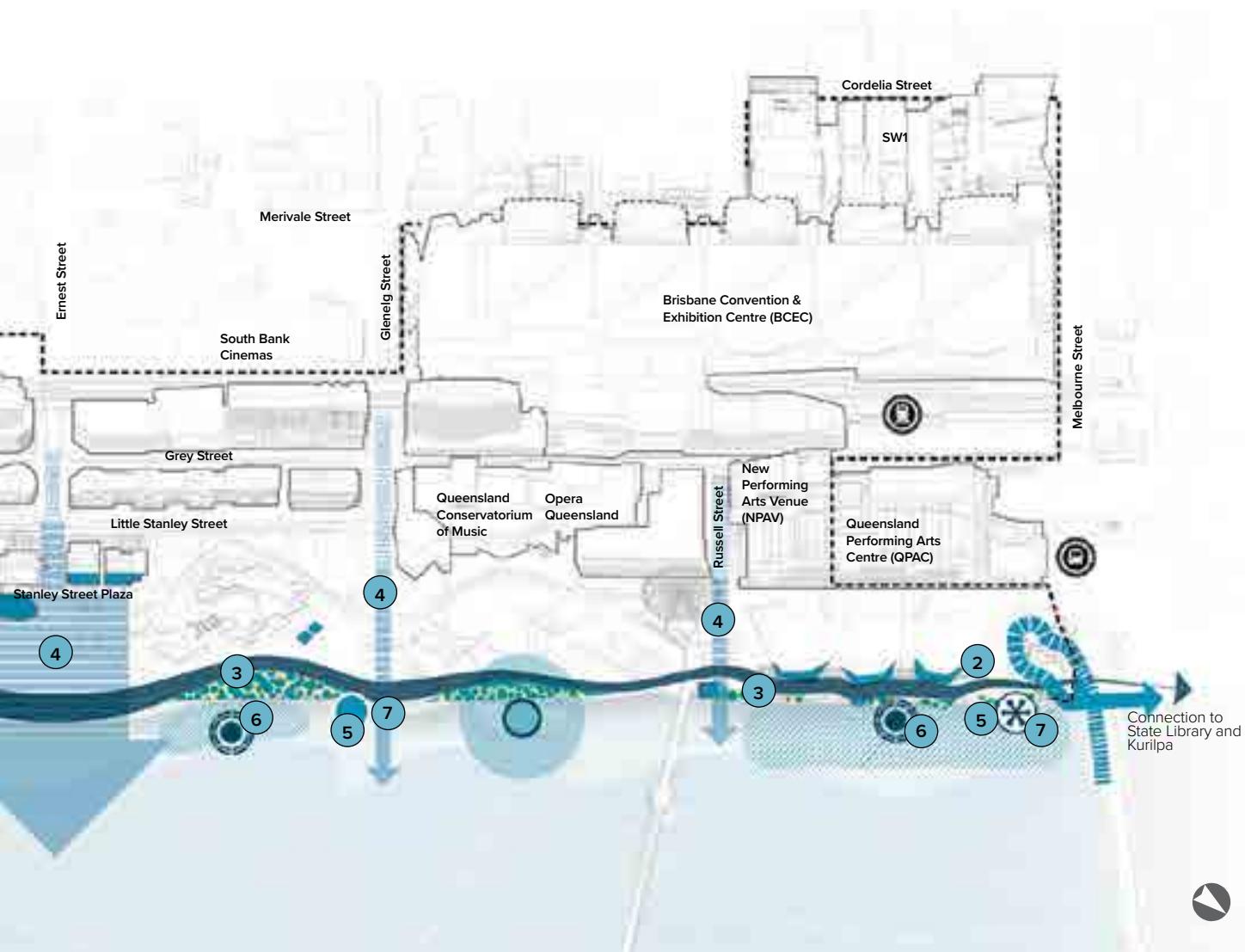
## TRAVEL THE RIVER

Consolidate and create opportunities for water-based transport to explore and connect the river and bay, including new public pontoons for commercial tour boats and recreational vessels. Integrate the ferry terminal with the upgraded promenade providing ample space for gathering and queuing and minimising impacts to other promenade users.

# 8

## NATURAL SYSTEMS

Support the potential improvements of the Southern Gateway as an improved tourism, culture and heritage destination, and one that looks to regenerate aquatic biodiversity.





3

# Prioritising people

This strategy focuses on how people move through and around the precinct and improving the quality of this experience.

**To make South Bank a people-focused destination rather than a thoroughfare.**

We would achieve this by working with key stakeholders and BCC to reposition South Bank's network of streets, laneways and spaces to put people first, creating comfortable, safe environments where people feel welcome to roam and linger.



**“It’s important to find a way to provide access for cyclists, pedestrians and scooters.”**

Community feedback 2020



## Core elements of the strategy

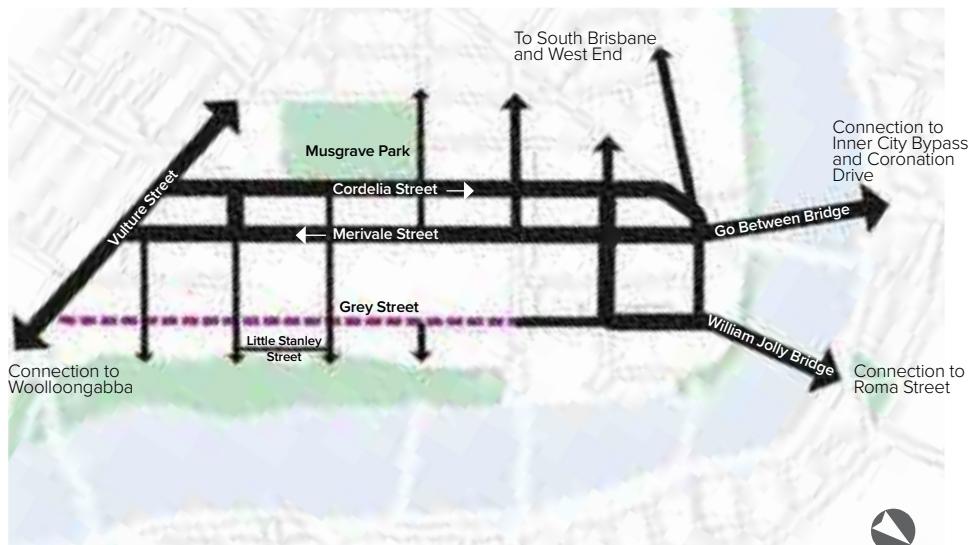
### A SAFER AND MORE WELCOMING STREET NETWORK

South Bank is already one of Brisbane's most people-focused precincts. It sets Brisbane's sustainable travel benchmark, with 77 per cent of trips to the precinct made by active and public transport. This is measurably higher than the Greater Brisbane average of 21 per cent. Once they step outside South Bank, people quickly encounter a far more vehicle-dominated environment.

At present, Grey Street's traffic volume is currently at the upper limit of the guideline traffic volume for a district road, and is predicted to exceed the guideline in the near future. This volume of vehicular traffic erodes the quality of people's experience and puts pressure on local road infrastructure. As the demand on South Bank's streets grows, it's important to take a smart, deliberate and specific approach to the role each street plays in the broader precinct.

This strategy will create destination-based streets that are walkable and welcoming. To successfully achieve this, we will maintain local access on South Bank streets, but convert some road and parking areas into space for pedestrians and more green landscaping, and encourage traffic to move more slowly. We will establish prioritised crossings for people and more dedicated space for people to park their bicycles, personal mobility devices and delivery-bikes.

South Bank Corporation is committed to reviewing the master plan every five years. This is in support of ongoing innovation and evolution aligned to improvements and rebalancing road network priorities, and responding to customer demands in travel including public transport access.

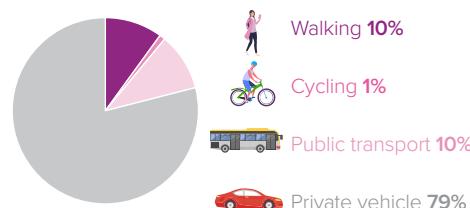


Reinforcing the traffic network to create more appealing and welcoming spaces for people.

(Source: SBC, based on BCC road hierarchy, 2020)

- Arterial road
- District road
- Neighbourhood road
- Slow traffic (destinational street)

### WIDER BRISBANE



**Public and active transport mode split - South Bank is a sustainable travel benchmark**  
(Source: TMR, How Queensland Travels, 2017)

### SOUTH BANK (PARKLANDS)



## REPOSITIONING THE ACTIVE TRANSPORT NETWORK

South Bank is a popular precinct for people to walk and cycle and there are high volumes of active transport users moving through the space every day.

More than four million people a year now use Clem Jones Promenade. The share of active transport users in inner Brisbane who cycle has increased by a factor of more than 10 since South Bank was established 30 years ago. However, the supporting infrastructure has largely not changed to keep pace with growing demand.

This strategy will grow the network of logical, convenient, attractive and safe pedestrian and cycling experiences throughout South Bank.

Community feedback highlights there are concerns about conflicts on the promenade between fast-moving cyclists, e-scooter riders and slower-moving pedestrians. It is a key strategy for the master plan to increase this active transport network while improving safety for all users. This will mean maintaining but encouraging slower movement along the promenade and creating a convenient alternate route for faster-moving commuters.

Grey Street will play a critical role in contributing to an expanded inner-city cycle and active transport network. While an overall 16 per cent of trips at South Bank are by bike, they only make up one per cent of trips on Grey Street, suggesting current cycling conditions are less than optimal.

Introducing a dedicated and attractive bikeway on Grey Street will transform it into a new breed of 'destination street' in Brisbane, while alleviating conflicts on the promenade. Protecting the bikeway from traffic and slowing the street will expand Grey Street's appeal to a broader range of cyclists and enable a wider range of trip types, connecting local neighbourhoods to South Bank and surrounding destinations.

## Typical user types

(Source: Adapted from Rachel Smith, *Cycling super highways*, 2008)



**SUPER COMMUTERS**  
Bold and fearless



**CASUAL COMMUTER**  
Confident and enthused



**DELIVERY**  
Multiple stops



**GROUP/FAMILY**  
Slow and relaxed



**DAY TRIPPER/TOURIST**  
Slow, relaxed and distracted



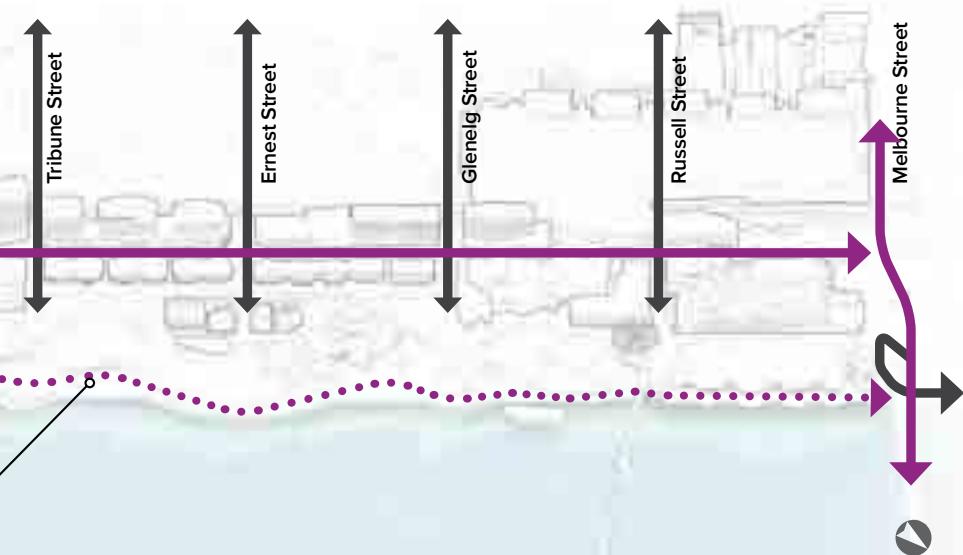
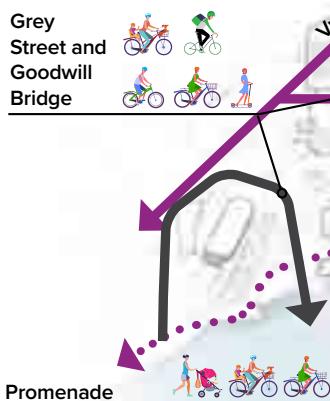
**ELECTRIC**  
Adventurous



**PEDESTRIAN**  
Slow, relaxed and distracted

**For every \$1 spent on cycling infrastructure there is a potential \$5 benefit returned to the economy.**

(Source: TMR, *Queensland State of Cycling Report*, 2019)



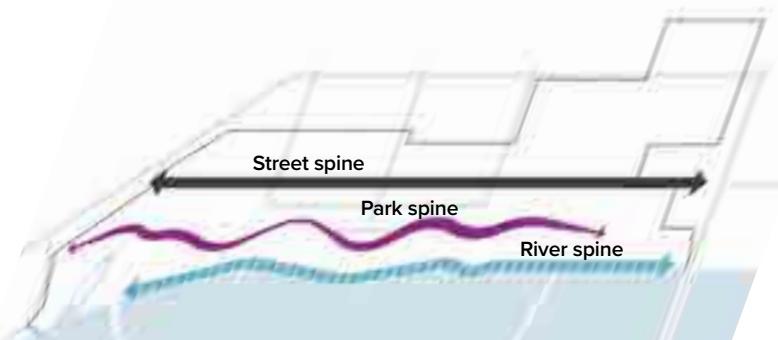
## UNLOCKING SIDE STREET CONNECTIONS

South Bank's structure evolved around a three-spine concept of strong, precinct-wide connections. Twenty years on and these connections are well and truly established:

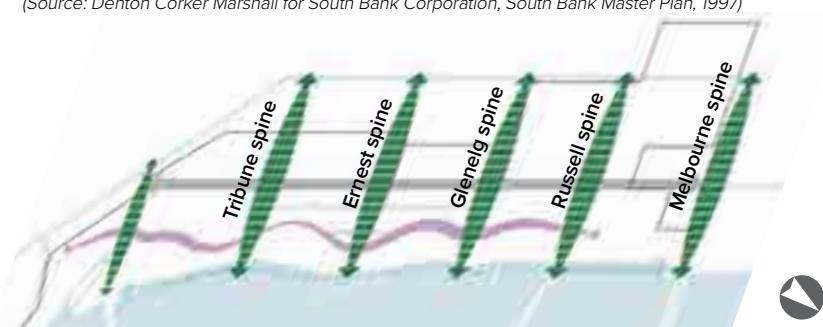
- river spine – Clem Jones Promenade
- park spine – The Arbour
- urban spine – Grey Street.

Currently, one third of South Bank's visitors live within five kilometres of the precinct. Creating more comfortable, appealing and connected routes into South Bank will encourage people within local catchments to walk more, use public transport and make South Bank an everyday destination.

This strategy will focus on strengthening the connections and also link them with growing residential communities in South Brisbane and West End.



The 1997 master plan's three-spine concept  
(Source: Denton Corker Marshall for South Bank Corporation, South Bank Master Plan, 1997)



The side streets of Tribune, Ernest, Glenelg, Russell and Melbourne are the key corridors that will help foster better visual and physical connectivity, weaving South Bank more fully into the local context.

## REBALANCING STREETS AS PLACES

The visual and physical appeal of South Bank's streets is fundamental to enhancing the precinct's economic vitality. Investing in their transformation from streets into lively places that prioritise pedestrians will strengthen their appeal.

Glenelg, Grey, Little Stanley and Russell streets could become connecting threads that draw people through experiences and intensify creative expression in the public areas. Achieving the master plan's vision for the streets in South Bank will involve ideas to catalyse change and longer-term initiatives to deliver on their economic and public space potential.

This, in combination with broader moves that will explore reinforcing the wider precinct's hierarchy of vehicular and cycle traffic, offers opportunities for entrepreneurs and community arts organisations to experiment with street events, art installations and other activities, adding further atmosphere and public appeal.

**Walking,  
cycling and  
public realm  
improvements  
can increase  
retail sales by  
up to 30%**

(Source: Lawlor for Just Economics, The Pedestrian Pound, 2013).

Rebalancing streets as places will mean that we need to work available kerb and setdown spaces harder. Flex zones along the key streets provide high levels of service and efficiently optimise space.



# Future actions

1

## ESTABLISH ACTIVE TRANSPORT CONNECTION ON GREY STREET

Introduce a new bi-directional active transport link along Grey Street, which joins cyclists seamlessly to the city cycle network, including Goodwill Bridge, Veloway 1 bikeway, Woolloongabba bikeway and Melbourne Street. The Grey Street bikeway will support new, convenient and safe trips by bicycle and provide an alternative to the promenade.

2

## TRANSFORM STREETS INTO PLACES

Expand South Bank's people-focused experience into the streets. Transform Grey Street into a cool and green world-class street with an enhanced atmosphere for walking, leisure and retail. Consolidate road and kerb space, while maintaining all street network functions.

3

## MERGE THE PARK INTO THE STREETS

Reposition Little Stanley Street as a people-focused 'park street' and shared space by closing it to general traffic between Tribune and Ernest streets, with access for service vehicles maintained. This will expand the parkland experience, drawing more greenery and a sense of play into the surrounding streets, spaces and buildings.

4

## AMPLIFY NEIGHBOURING STREET CONNECTIONS

Connect South Brisbane and West End by strengthening and enhancing street and public transport connections. Create comfortable, greener, cooler, more walkable street environments; add more wayfinding, lighting and public art; and make access to and from public transport safer, more logical and navigable.

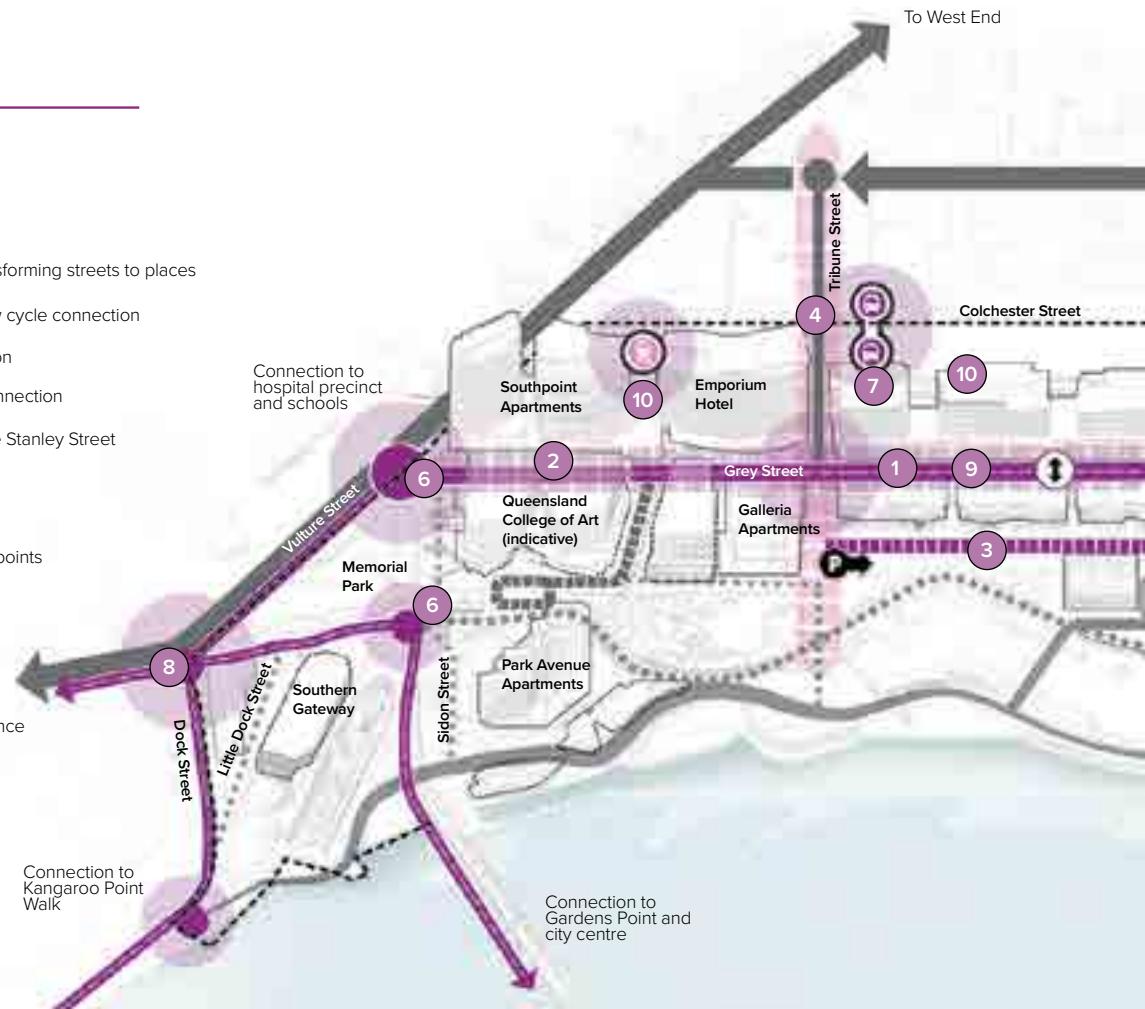
5

## CONNECT THE CULTURAL FORECOURT TO VICTORIA BRIDGE

Transform the arrival experience to South Bank from the CBD by creating a pedestrian plaza connecting Victoria Bridge, the Cultural Forecourt, QPAC and the river edge, integrating the heritage abutment as a feature. This will improve pedestrian journeys at the gateway to South Bank and the Cultural Centre.

## Legend

- Arterial road
- Neighbourhood road
- Shared zone
- Expanded public realm – transforming streets to places
- ◀ Riverfront pedestrian and slow cycle connection
- Parkland pedestrian connection
- Dedicated active transport connection
- Pedestrianised portion of Little Stanley Street
- ✚ Removal of roundabout
- Indicative mid-block crossing points
- P Parking access
- Upgraded arrival point
- Upgraded pedestrian experience
- Busway station
- Rail station



# 6

## IMPROVE ARRIVAL EXPERIENCE AND SAFETY

Create a slower, safer environment and a memorable visitor experience by introducing a slow speed bicycle and pedestrian plaza connecting Vulture Street to the Goodwill Bridge and removing vehicle traffic from Little Dock Street.

# 7

## INTEGRATED NETWORK

Work with key stakeholders to integrate the network including Translink, Transport for Brisbane, accessibility reference groups, walking, cycling, and mobility user groups, special interest and needs groups, and the wider public.

# 8

## LINK TO STANLEY STREET

Expand space for pedestrians at South Bank's Vulture Street threshold to create a more seamless, safe and convenient connection for visitors from the Queensland Children's Hospital, Mater Hospital and the Gabba. This will make it easier for patients and families to enjoy South Bank's natural spaces, supporting their healing and recovery.

# 9

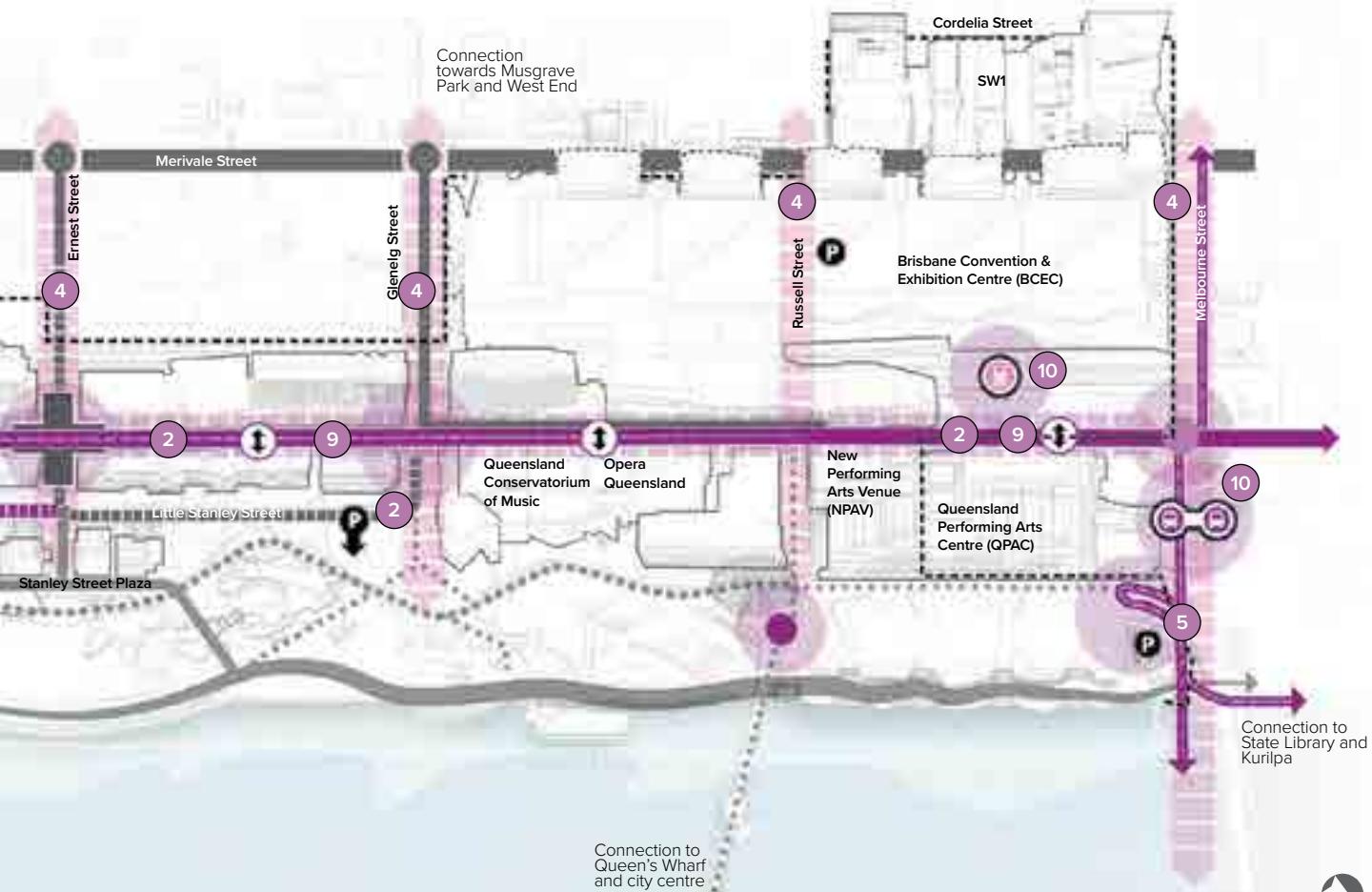
## FLEX ZONE SERVICING AND PARKING

Introduce on-street multipurpose flex-zones that could allow for a mix of short-term parking, ride hailing and loading. This could meet the needs of visitors, residents, retailers, tenancies and institutions like QPAC, the BCEC and Griffith University.

# 10

## ENHANCE PUBLIC TRANSPORT EXPERIENCE

Enhance arrival experiences at public transport hubs including South Brisbane and South Bank railway stations, South Bank bus station, and the Cultural Centre bus station for improved safety, legibility and comfort.



A blurred background image of a park area with several palm trees and a modern, light-colored building with large windows and a glass door. The overall color palette is green and earthy.

4

# Expanding the subtropical landscape

This strategy focuses on growing South Bank's role as a green, subtropical oasis in the heart of Brisbane that celebrates our climate and unique vegetation.

**Extend the parkland's subtropical character creating the 'coolest' place in Brisbane.**

We would achieve this by increasing the extent and quality of greenery, landscape appeal and biodiversity across South Bank.

**“ Green space is important for people but it’s also important for the health of the city and ecosystems. ”**

*Survey respondent 2022*



## Core elements of the strategy

### INTEGRATED GREEN SPACE

As our population grows, pressure on publicly accessible green spaces will grow. South Bank's parkland is already experiencing increasing use with higher volumes of visitors than many other famous parks worldwide.

A connected and high-quality green network is important to meeting the needs of the wider Brisbane community and South Bank will be a large and centrally located element in the emerging network.

As well as boosting South Bank's capacity to meet demands for green space and recreation facilities across the inner city, this strategy will help connect the precinct with Brisbane's wider green network. It will also consider native landscaping informed by local Traditional Owners. The distinctive qualities of South Bank will be developed to complement other parks and spaces so that the network satisfies the community's full range of recreational and open space needs.

### CELEBRATING OUR SUBTROPICAL CLIMATE AND LANDSCAPE

Brisbane's subtropical climate is a defining feature of our city and region. Crisp winters and shimmering summers give us an average of 2800 hours of sunlight a year.

South Bank has always played an important role in defining what a subtropical landscape means for Brisbane. For many of us, it is the place where we experience and celebrate the benefits and beauties of our distinctive climate. Community feedback reflects these sentiments and identified South Bank's green and natural environment as one of its most-loved features.



*Brisbane green frame: South Bank is a central feature in the city's open space network.*

This strategy will make South Bank's landscape more distinctively subtropical. Key initiatives will be to 're-wild' pockets of the parkland, reintroduce biodiversity and landscape qualities that existed before urban development and celebrate native plant species, including their relevance in First Nations culture.

Green is a key colour that differentiates Brisbane. The prominence of views to and from South Bank, and the shady green 'curtain' set against the river, is a defining image of the city. Amplifying and growing the overall volume and proportion of greenery will reinforce this quality, benefitting South Bank and Brisbane's identity as a subtropical, lifestyle city.

## EXPANDING THE PARKLAND EXPERIENCE

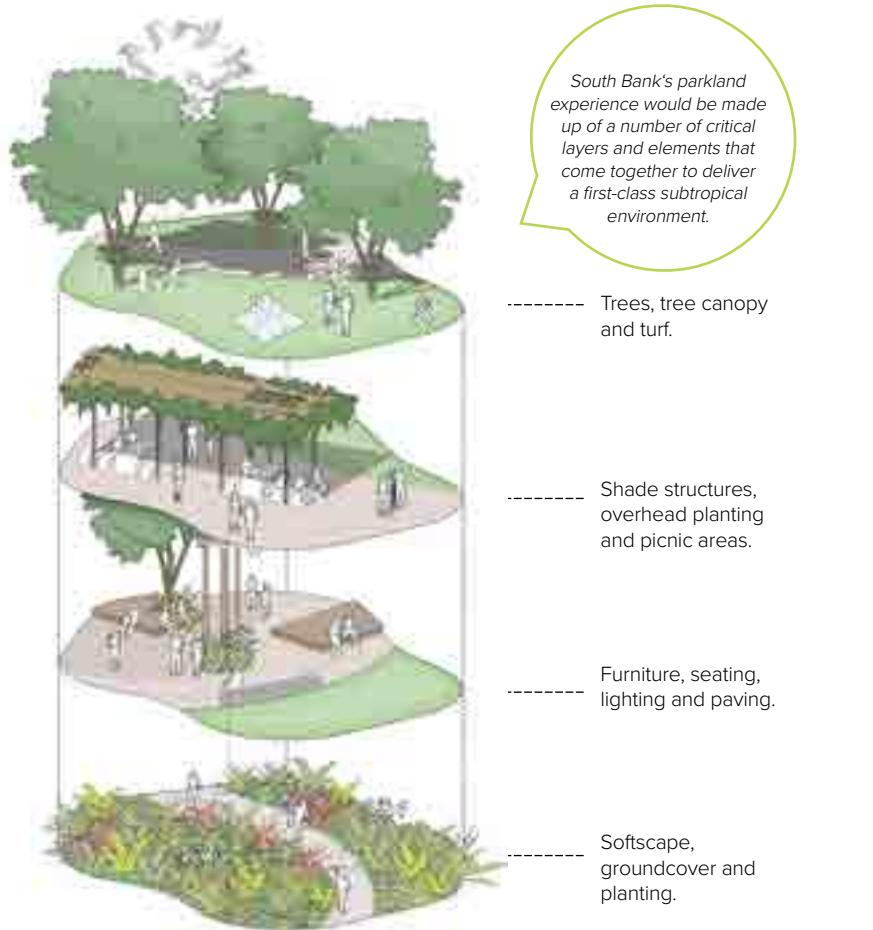
A key to the wider city's future success will be in expanding the recreational green experience and increasing sanctuary spaces within South Bank.

Our focus will be to extend the greenery of the parkland into every available space. This will include reconfiguring infrastructure and devising smarter solutions for integrating greenery over, around and within the broader precinct and streets, blurring the boundaries between indoors and out and between the parklands and the broader precinct.

The master plan aims to expand this experience into the surrounding streets and laneways to grow the precinct's subtropical footprint, making South Bank cooler in the summer months.

We envisage a distinctively subtropical urban environment where typical South Bank streets and spaces will be a natural extension of the parklands experience, where greenery merges with kerbs, street furniture, around and into buildings themselves.

A key strategy of the master plan would be expanding the green experience into the surrounding streets and urban fabric.



*South Bank's parkland experience would be made up of a number of critical layers and elements that come together to deliver a first-class subtropical environment.*

----- Trees, tree canopy and turf.

----- Shade structures, overhead planting and picnic areas.

----- Furniture, seating, lighting and paving.

----- Softscape, groundcover and planting.



## INNER-CITY SANCTUARY

South Bank has always been a place of natural respite in the centre of the city. This role will become increasingly important with shifts towards higher-density urban living and faster-paced lifestyles.

While people love South Bank's vibrancy, they also value its open spaces and natural qualities – features that will continue to be an important source of respite, recreation and connection for their physical and mental wellbeing.

The master plan will grow these qualities to provide spaces that offer a sense of sanctuary for people to reflect, refresh and regenerate.



*A key strategy of the master plan is delivering the next generation of open spaces, including passive and unprogrammed spaces for relaxation and communing with nature.*

## 'COOLEST' PRECINCT IN BRISBANE

Brisbane's subtropical climate is one of its greatest assets, but can bring humid, hot summers, with maximum daily temperatures rising above 35°C. Even with South Bank's position by the river and its enviable breezes, some days can be uncomfortably hot and may discourage people from walking, cycling and other activities.

Heat maps of South Bank show the parklands as being cooler than the surrounding neighbourhoods, streets and hard-paved areas, where surface temperatures can reach in excess of 45°C. With temperatures anticipated to rise due to climate change, a key priority for the master plan is to make the streets and spaces in the precinct as comfortable as possible. Introducing more shade will also help to keep everyone more comfortable and skin safe.

Key urban cooling initiatives proposed include:

- increasing the extent of shade and tree canopy cover around the lagoon, Cultural Forecourt and large lawn areas
- increasing the density and extent of rainforest in the parklands
- integrating water features supported by the precinct's rainwater harvesting infrastructure
- creating new water features
- increasing the area of green landscape in paved areas
- using materials and surface colours that absorb less heat
- planting arrangements that maintain breezes into the precinct
- integrating changeable awnings and shade cover
- exploring the use of misting systems
- exploring roof and façade cooling and green walls.

## Combination of tree canopy and natural turf results in 5-10 degree air temperature reduction in urban parks.

*(Source CRC, Guide to Urban Cooling Strategies, 2017)*



**+45°**

**TEMPERATURES ARE RECORDED IN PARTS OF SOUTH BANK'S STREETS AND URBAN AREAS ON EXTREME HEAT DAYS**

# Future actions

1

## INCREASE OPEN SPACE

Create new public and green space at South Bank, including on Little Stanley and Grey streets, at the Cultural Forecourt and the Southern Gateway. Potentially reclaim the areas of parklands currently occupied by the Piazza, Riverside Terrace and Flowstate for greenery and public space.

2

## EXPAND THE RAINFOREST 'GREEN CURTAIN'

Expand the extent of dense planting and the rainforest 'green curtain' along the river's edge. Plant and establish large trees and native palm species to increase canopy cover, shading, biodiversity and habitat value. Increase the range of native plants, including bush food and medicinal species, while raising public knowledge about these species.

Consultation and integration of local First Nations knowledge will be prioritised as part of this future action.

3

## ENHANCE URBAN COOLING

Increase the extent of tree cover and ground-level planting to create a cooler urban experience. Incorporate new water elements and explore misting and other measures to actively cool the precinct.

4

## GREEN THE STREETS

Establish a green grid by expanding the parkland experience into the streets and between buildings. Create a shared zone along Little Stanley Street that blurs parkland with the urban environment and incorporate more trees and greenery into Grey Street and neighbouring streets.

Work with precinct partners such as BCC and South Bank TAFE to adopt the growing the green vision.

## Legend

-  Greening and shading the streets
-  Sanctuary spaces including rewilding and expanded rainforest
-  Expanded and upgraded public realm
-  Park to river subtropical connections
-  Green riverfront spaces
-  Memorial Park connection
-  Little Stanley 'Park Street'
-  Urban cooling / breezeways
-  Retain and inhabit spaces beneath the Arbour



# 5

## CREATE GREEN AND SHADED GATHERING SPACES

Create a formal, green entry at the northern gateway to South Bank by increasing green planting and tree canopy shade to make the Cultural Forecourt more comfortable year-round.

# 6

## PROVIDE UNPROGRAMMED SANCTUARY SPACES

Create pockets of quiet sanctuary space near Tribune Street and at Rainforest Green to complement the more active parts of the parklands.

# 7

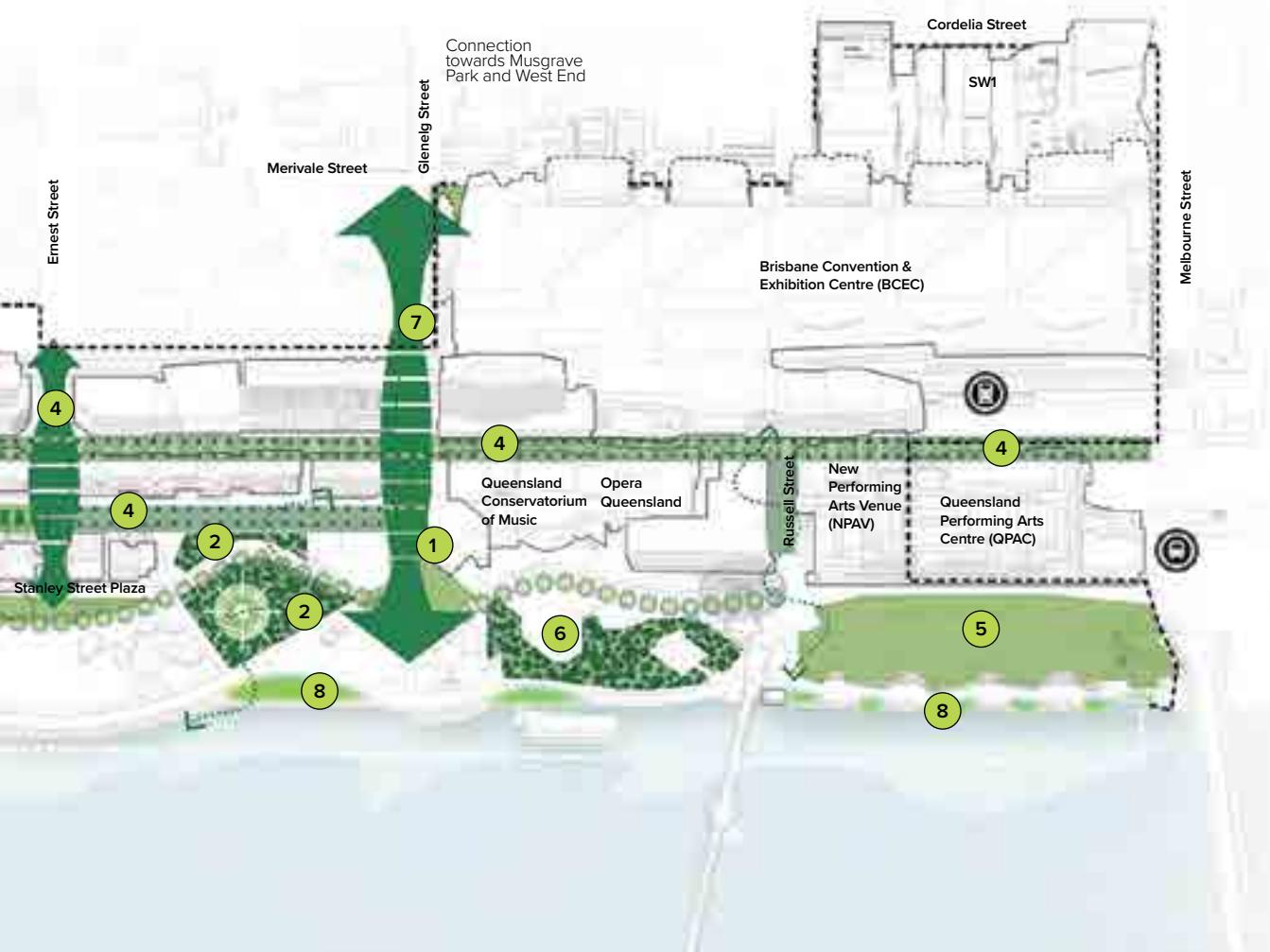
## CREATE A SUBTROPICAL CONNECTION

Amplify the subtropical and green qualities of Glenelg Street from the river towards Musgrave Park and the river. This, combined with a renewed focus on cultural expression in the public space, will transform this connection into one of Brisbane's most interesting streets.

# 8

## CREATE GREEN RIVERFRONT SPACES

Diversify and soften the water's edge treatment along the promenade to create a greener river experience with tree planting, shade, pockets of lawn and riparian planting at key locations to provide habitat for native species.





5

# Lifting destinational appeal

This strategy focuses on keeping South Bank as one of Brisbane's most inviting places to visit, offering a range of activities that appeal to locals and visitors.

**Protect the precinct's most-loved attractions and add new enticing destinations.**

We would achieve this by protecting the precinct's icons, while enriching existing experiences and adding new ones for everyone to enjoy.



**“It’s getting old so it needs to be kept up to date without losing its South Bank feel.”**

Community feedback 2020



## Core elements of the strategy

### REMAINING ICONIC: STRENGTHENING OUR CITY IMAGE

South Bank has been one of Brisbane's favourite places for 30 years. Its prime riverfront position, diverse experiences and distinctive atmosphere have fuelled its ongoing success.

While South Bank holds a special place in Brisbane's heart, its main destinations – like the promenade, beach, lagoon, retail and dining – are ageing. Ongoing renewal and revitalisation remain important for the precinct to be an attractive place to visit, and to keep

pace with evolving trends, ensuring South Bank continues to engage and delight visitors well into the future.

The beach with its lagoon views and city backdrop is an iconic part of our city's global image and brand; a proven and enduring part of the Brisbane experience. The aquatic experience itself is a highly valued part of South Bank and part of our culture of living in a subtropical city.

The master plan provides an opportunity to reinforce the precinct's role along with its network of destinations in the context of creating a more interesting and diverse Brisbane landscape.



## EXPANDING THE APPEAL: CREATING NEW ICONS

South Bank's evolution highlights the opportunities to reimagine and expand the range of destinations and experiences it offers. Many of today's visitors pass through South Bank without fully appreciating just how much there is on offer.

This strategy focuses not only on opportunities to sustain and refresh existing destinations, but on creating new and more diverse points of interest that would broaden South Bank's appeal and define the experience for future generations.

The master plan supports opportunities for exciting new experiences, like an elevated 'Gondwana rainforest treetop walk', converting Stanley Street Plaza into a lagoon and beachfront location and supporting the Southern Gateway to evolve as a more accessible, contemporary destination.

Targeted improvements to the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre will enhance its relationship with the surrounding neighbourhood. A new entry on Melbourne Street, an upgraded entry on Glenelg Street and an activated mixed-use development around its Merivale Street frontage would assist it to remain one of the nation's best convention facilities.

Unlocking South Bank's full destinational opportunity warrants reviewing the role of some existing assets that have the potential to be improved. Facilities such as the Piazza, the Riverside Terrace and lagoon-side pavilions could ultimately be reimagined to better capitalise on their location and future-proof the precinct's performance.

## Keeping South Bank iconic

### THE NEW EXPERIENCES



Expanded play

Islands



Elevated walkway

Waterfall



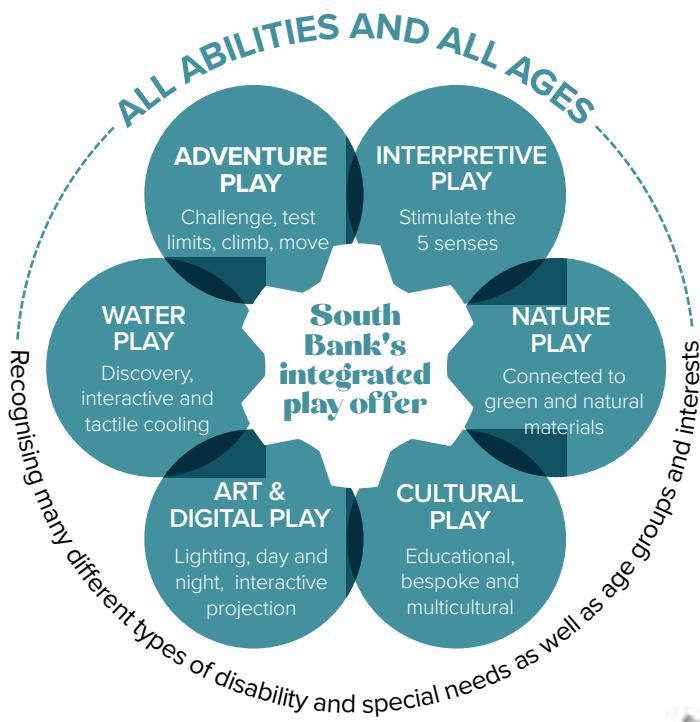
Improved beach



## BRINGING WATER PLAY AND ADVENTURE PLAY TOGETHER

South Bank's location and variety is a strong drawcard for families, with a range of playscapes and Aquativity spaces contributing to this appeal. There is an opportunity for play to become an even greater attractor.

A key move of the master plan is the potential to 'accentuate' play as a central attraction, by combining a range of play elements, including all-abilities, into one centrally positioned location within the parklands.



Water play remains a key feature and attraction for South Bank and could be combined with adventure, nature and interpretive play.

# Future actions

1

## REFRESH BRISBANE'S BEACH AND LAGOON ICONS

Enhance the overall experience at South Bank's iconic beach and lagoon by creating distinctive water and water play zones that celebrate the best of Queensland. Expand the beach area, which is one of the busiest locations in the parkland during summer.

2

## STANLEY STREET PLAZA 'BEACH STREET'

Open Stanley Street Plaza so it faces directly onto the beach and lagoon, creating a 'beach street' that merges Stanley Street's heritage and contemporary retail experience with South Bank's aquatic experiences, the river and city beyond.

3

## CREATE 'DESTINATION GREY STREET'

Evolve Grey Street into a destination in its own right and unlike any other in Brisbane. Destination Grey Street could be a slowed environment with a generous and shady public space, supported by creative and cultural incubators, mobile retail and informal spaces.

4

## 'SUPERCHARGE' AND CONSOLIDATE PLAY

Bring new and diverse water play, adventure play and all-abilities play together into a world-class offering. This will enhance opportunities to promote learning around local cultural and environmental themes. Together with nature play spaces, it will inspire exploration, imagination and creativity.

5

## ESTABLISH THE 'GONDWANA RAINFOREST TREETOP WALK'

Introduce a new, elevated sensory rainforest treetop walk as a feature destination. The tree walk could build on the existing rainforest, providing a new perspective and a link back to Brisbane's traditional landscape.

## Legend

-  Destination Grey Street
-  Renewed lagoon and beach
-  Stanley Street Plaza opened up
-  Handmade goods market
-  Queensland Conservatorium of Music sleeved development
-  Key point of interest and destination
-  Epicurious Garden expanded
-  Upgraded destination
-  Upgraded entry to BCEC
-  Signature water feature
-  Gondwana rainforest treetop walk



# 6

## ENHANCE THE CULTURAL FORECOURT

Refresh the Cultural Forecourt as a premier event and celebration space. Create memorable day-to-day experiences with an integrated interactive water feature that reflects and celebrates views of QPAC's silhouette and the CBD skyline, with increased tree cover and planting.

# 7

## SOUTHERN GATEWAY

Support the improvement of the Southern Gateway as an integrated maritime, cultural and educational hub – a place where people can learn about the wider river context and our proud maritime history.

# 8

## EXPAND EPICURIOUS GARDEN AND FRESH FOOD MARKETS

Build on the success of Epicurious Garden by expanding it and building awareness and education around food cultivation and wellbeing. Explore a more permanent and regular fresh food market offer in the shared section of Little Stanley Street.

# 9

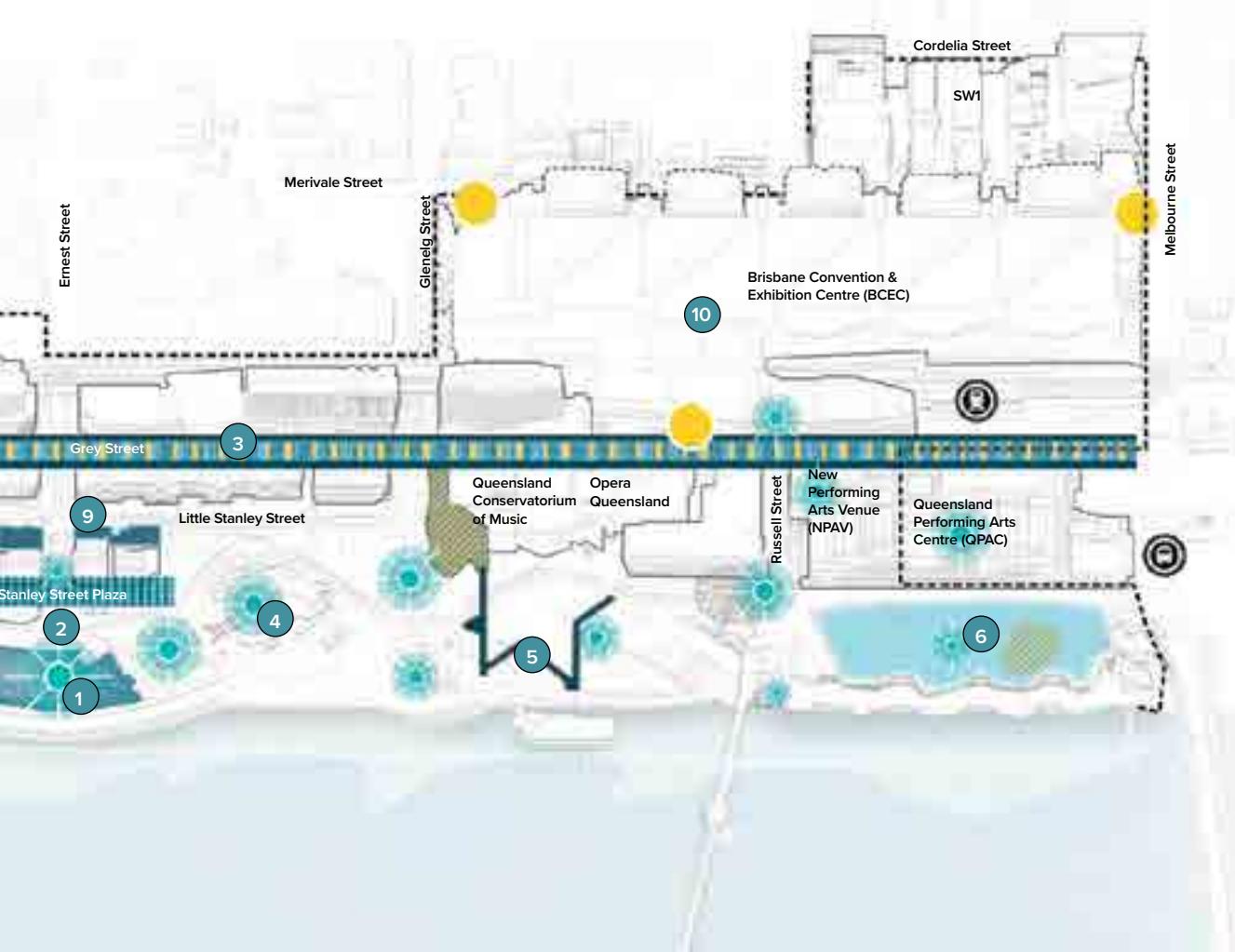
## ENHANCE THE HANDMADE GOODS MARKET

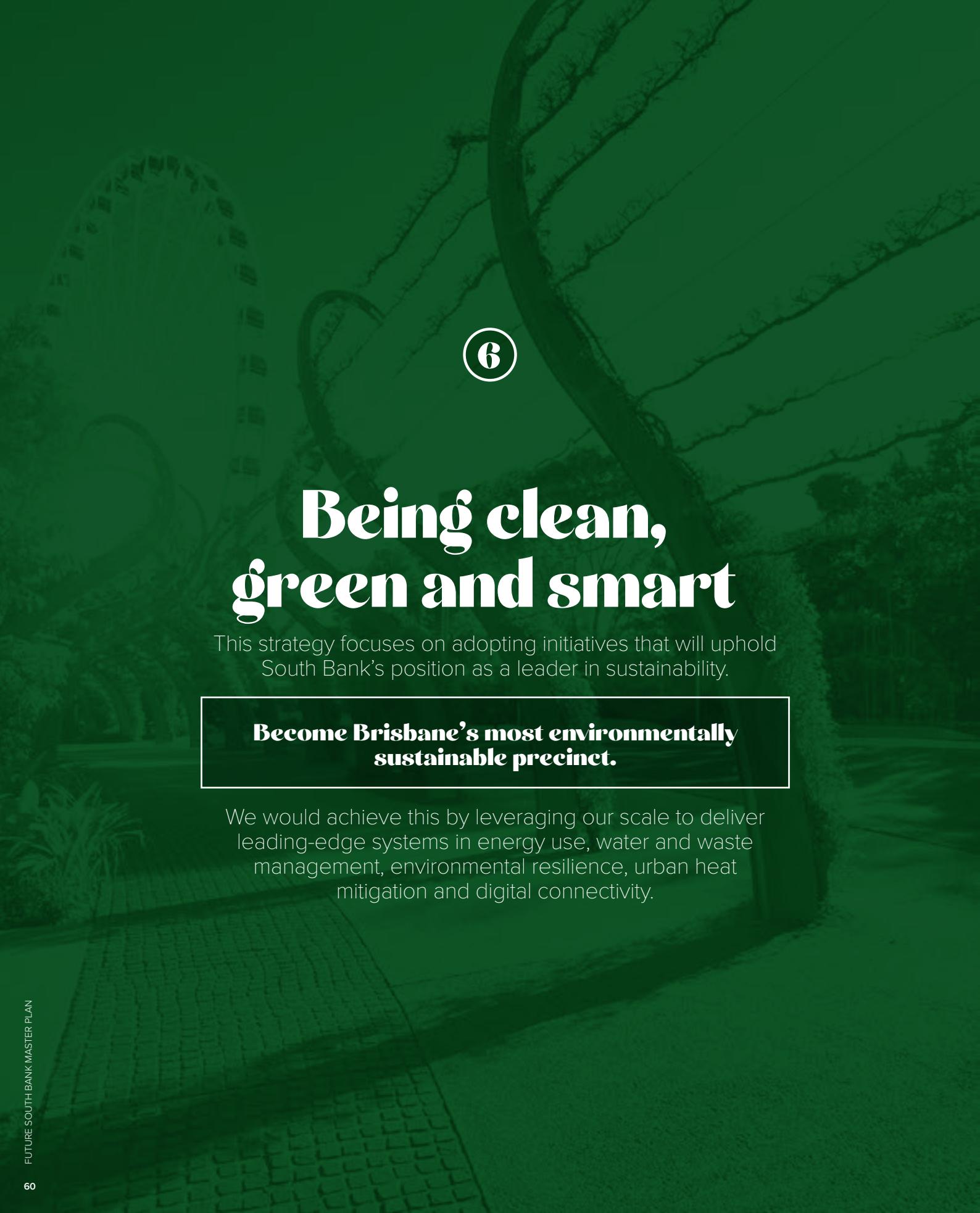
Create a new intimate laneway experience between Little Stanley Street and Stanley Street Plaza using lightweight built structures. This space could house a permanent handmade goods market, delivering a creative retail experience.

# 10

## STRENGTHEN THE CONVENTION CENTRE

Reinforce the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre's status as one of Australia's best convention facilities and further strengthen its role as a key focus for business, tourism, innovation and enterprise.





6

# Being clean, green and smart

This strategy focuses on adopting initiatives that will uphold South Bank's position as a leader in sustainability.

**Become Brisbane's most environmentally sustainable precinct.**

We would achieve this by leveraging our scale to deliver leading-edge systems in energy use, water and waste management, environmental resilience, urban heat mitigation and digital connectivity.



**“Make a positive impact on the city and the country by showing the world how a precinct can be sustainable and vibrant.”**

Community feedback 2020



## Core elements of the strategy

### LEADING BEST PRACTICE IN SUSTAINABILITY

South Bank has long played a leadership role in urban sustainability in Brisbane. This strategy will strengthen that role by focusing on continual improvement and embracing the latest technology for a smarter, more sustainable, human-centred and community-orientated precinct.

Existing initiatives could be improved and expanded, including Rain Bank (our water capture system), extensive renewable and solar power generation and active food waste recycling to supply fertiliser for the parklands.

### A PRECINCT AND PLACE-BASED APPROACH

The scale of South Bank and its operational arrangements can support initiatives often not feasible to implement in other places. The master plan will explore opportunities to harness precinct-wide coordination and operational activities to unlock wastewater treatment and reuse and centralised energy strategies.

The diversity of uses in the precinct and geographic features, such as the Brisbane River, could also be explored for their potential for sustainability initiatives such as in-river tidal power generation and thermal energy management.

### TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

Digital connectivity could be more than the free internet access currently available across South Bank. It could be a seamless digital experience across the precinct and between the precinct and the rest of the city.

The master plan embraces technological change and could develop an integrated and intelligent digital strategy to support seamless connection, including sensors to collect data, a platform to share data and mechanisms to convert the data to useable information.

### COMMITMENT TO CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT

The master plan recognises the ongoing evolution of methods to promote and assess the sustainability of city building, infrastructure, public space and building projects. Rather than adopting any single rating tool or benchmark, our proposal is to adopt the most current and relevant best-practice standards for new projects. The strategy is focused on continual improved performance and leadership across five key platforms:

- **energy and carbon** – greater use of renewables, thermal storage, low carbon technology and micro-grid initiatives to meet annual electricity demand
- **waste and water management** – recycling and material recovery activities
- **climate and resilience** – reducing the urban heat island effect and vulnerability to extreme weather conditions and flooding
- **community wellbeing** – creating expanded community spaces to create social connection and support physical activity, healthy eating and sun safety
- **digital connectivity** – improving digital reach and connectivity by embedding technology across the precinct.



*Wayfinding beacons that embed information and communications technologies (ICT) could be a feature of the precinct providing digital connectivity and dynamic and/or interactive wayfinding.*

# Future actions

1

## SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Encourage sustainable travel by providing more pedestrian space, cycle facilities and electric charging stations. Make access to public transport easy, clear and safe. Provide cool, green links throughout the precinct that support walking, cycling and community access.

2

## RECYCLE AND HARVEST WATER

Design and plan green open spaces to manage stormwater, improve water quality and support Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD). Explore expanding the current stormwater harvesting capacity to move towards net zero water use for irrigation and non-potable water, incorporating a water grid for collecting, storing and sharing water across the precinct. Explore opportunities to reduce water use.

3

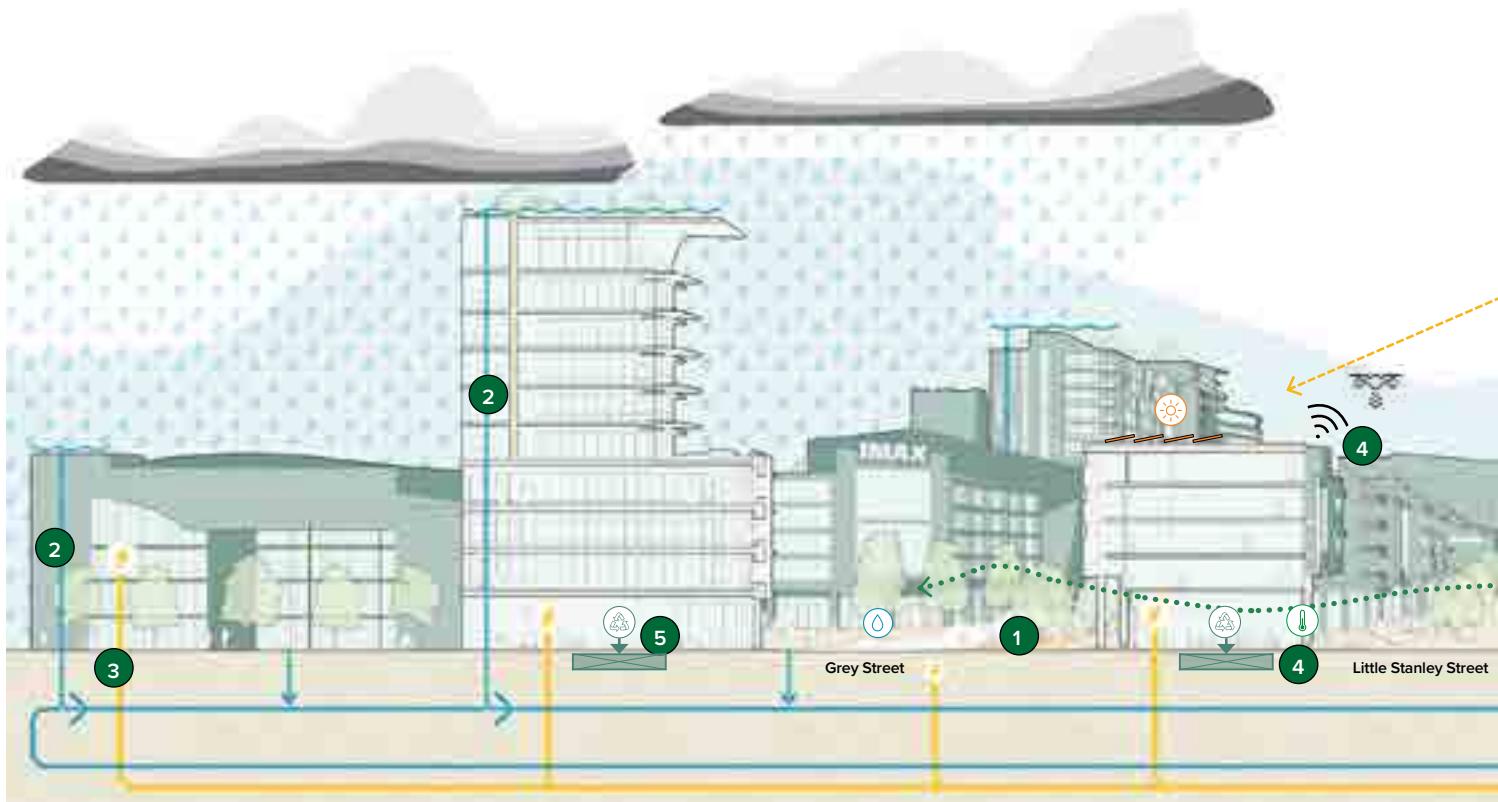
## RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MICRO-GRID CAPABILITIES

Explore South Bank's micro-grid capabilities and investigate thermal storage initiatives. One potential area is river-based hydro power as a source of renewable energy production.

4

## DIGITAL INTELLIGENCE

Embed technology across the precinct using digital connectivity, dynamic and/or interactive wayfinding elements. Introduce a digitally enabled system including sensors to capture and relay data on precinct environmental performance, a platform to share data and mechanisms to convert the data to useable information.



# 5

## INNOVATIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

Demonstrate circular economy principles in action at South Bank and engage with locals and visitors to shift behaviours around waste and how they use and reuse resources.

Initiatives could include a food waste management system that will further convert food waste into fertiliser and nutrients for the local parklands; and precinct-wide, solar-powered rubbish and recycling bins with integrated smart sensor waste platforms.

# 6

## MAINTAIN STATE-OF-THE-ART FILTRATION

Introduce ongoing enhancement to the pool filtration systems to improve efficiency and water quality, reduce operational and life cycle costs and do so within a smaller footprint.

# 7

## ENHANCE EPICURIOUS GARDEN

Deliver an expanded Epicurious Garden experience as part of creating a healthy precinct where people are nourished both mentally and physically. Work with partners to build awareness and knowledge about food cultivation, reducing food waste and improving wellbeing.

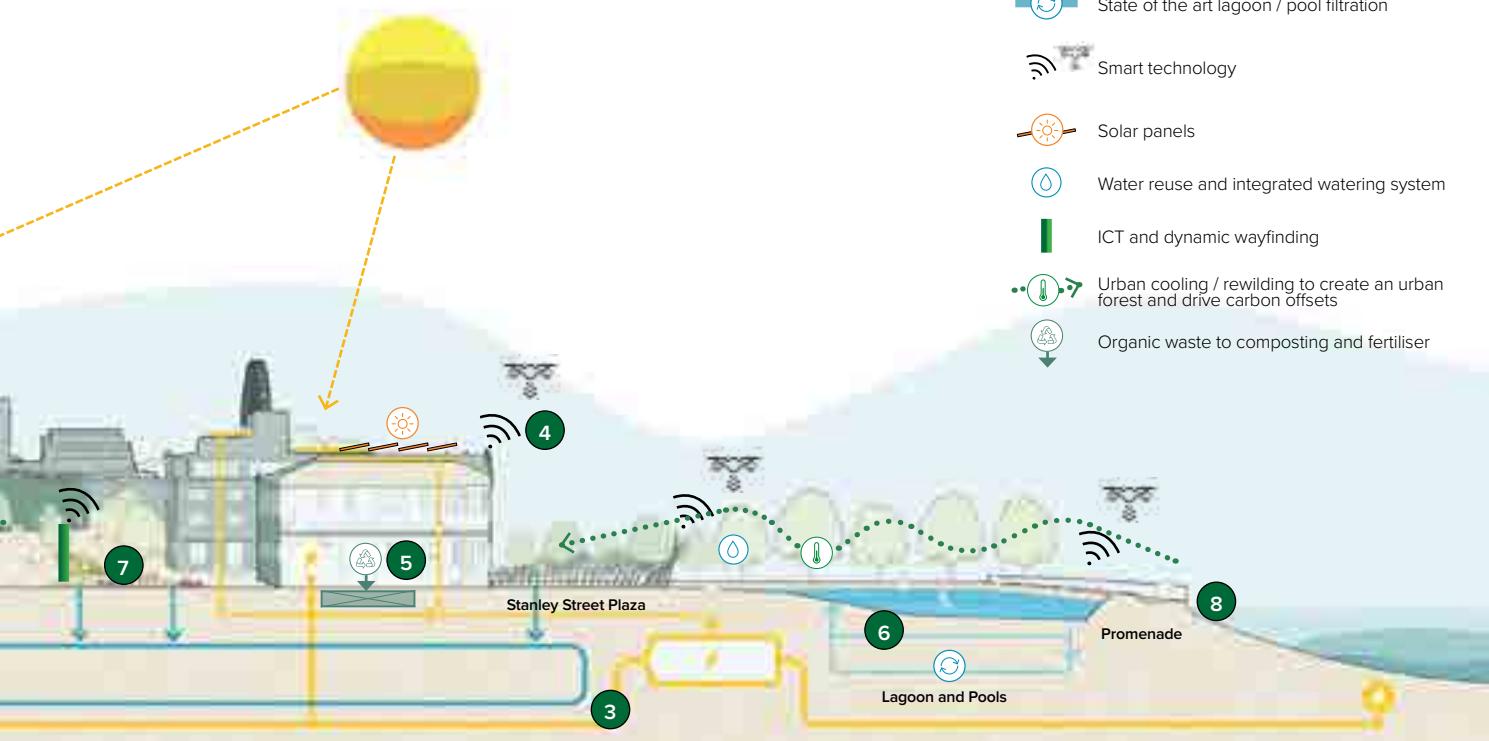
# 8

## IMPROVE FLOOD RESILIENCE

Consolidate river infrastructure and investigate relocating in-river promenade structure onto land to make South Bank's river edge more resilient to flooding. Use robust materials and locations to reduce the risks of impact on significant parkland infrastructure.

## Legend

-  Storm and rainwater harvesting
-  Renewable energy including micro grid, hydro and solar electricity generation
-  State of the art lagoon / pool filtration
-  Smart technology
-  Solar panels
-  Water reuse and integrated watering system
-  ICT and dynamic wayfinding
-  Urban cooling / rewilding to create an urban forest and drive carbon offsets
-  Organic waste to composting and fertiliser



⑦

# Expressing and experiencing our culture

This strategy is about renewing South Bank's place as a focal point in Brisbane's formal and informal cultural economy.

**Become Brisbane's hub of creativity and culture.**

We would achieve this by celebrating our city's stories and showcasing local First Nations culture and traditions.

**“There is an enormous opportunity to expand on First Nations cultural recognition, awareness and experience within the Parklands.”**

*Industry stakeholder, 2022*



## Core elements of the strategy

### CULTURE AND CREATIVITY AS A GLOBAL ATTRACTOR

South Bank lies amid Queensland's foremost cultural and creative institutions. The collection of assets, institutions and creative capital is globally significant and is a key drawcard for visitors to the precinct and the city.

The world's great cities all capitalise on the ability of art and culture to excite our emotional responses and resonate with us as human beings.

New York City's High Line park attracts five million visitors each year, offering a diversity of experiences and incorporating elements of cultural ecology into its design.

In Chicago, Millennium Park contributes significantly to the city's economy, with a similarly diverse cultural offering that's uniquely executed. Cities like these tell their stories in ways that reach out to the world.

In this context, South Bank can evolve to offer much more than its neighbouring cultural institutions do alone and make greater contributions to fostering Brisbane's creative and cultural economy.

This strategy will make culture and creativity a vital part of the entire precinct – something people can feel and experience, discover and take part in every day, enhancing South Bank's position as a globally significant attraction.

### CELEBRATING BRISBANE'S STORIES

South Bank is uniquely positioned to bring the histories and narrative of our city to life, giving us the chance to celebrate South Brisbane's important historic role in our city's transport, shipping, commercial, industrial and cultural development.

Beyond the existing cultural institutions, South Bank is a natural steward of Brisbane's stories and the place for celebrating them, creating a strong hub for this narrative of the city and the state.

Local and international visitors alike highly value integrated, place-based experiences. Recognising a true connection to place starts with growing an understanding of First Nations concepts of connection to country.

South Bank has an enduring significance for First Nations people. A key strategy of the master plan is to acknowledge, reflect and express Indigenous culture in multiple ways. In particular, this will include using First Nations narratives to inform design conversations and outcomes, in all aspects of the precinct.

### CREATING EVEN MORE CULTURAL CAPITAL

South Bank is fortunate to neighbour many of the state's pre-eminent arts, cultural and educational institutions and can benefit from integrating and partnering further with them. South Bank offers an enhanced opportunity to extend this culture into an outdoor setting that takes advantage of our climate.

A key strategy of the master plan is to grow Brisbane's cultural and creative economy by using existing infrastructure to support creative industries, education and collaboration and produce new creative and cultural expressions.

South Bank provides an opportunity to explore the wider precinct as a cultural and creative industry cluster with innovative models to curate and commercialise local creative production.

### Programmed platform



### Built platform



*Anatomy of South Bank's proposed cultural response.*

## CULTURAL AND CREATIVE SPINES

South Brisbane houses the bulk of Brisbane's cultural infrastructure. It is however under-represented in creative industry spin-offs and other benefits. A key strategy for the master plan is for South Bank to become a leading cultural and creative precinct, providing opportunities for incubator-style support.

To this end, Grey Street could form a creative corridor, linking the Queensland College of Art and South Bank TAFE to the Queensland Cultural Centre. By making use of underperforming spaces, and providing pop-up spaces in the public areas along Grey Street, South Bank could encourage cultural opportunities and attract creative people and businesses to the precinct.

This will bring a change of atmosphere and vibrancy, directed at encouraging creative enterprise, artisans and artists' studios, private galleries, maker spaces and creative hubs to establish themselves in the precinct.

Glenelg Street's east–west corridor has a strong historical and modern-day significance for First Nations people.

A key strategy will be to formalise Glenelg Street as a subtropical cultural corridor extending towards West End and Musgrave Park from the river.

By working with BCC and local First Nations artists, this corridor could bring First Nations knowledge and stories to life while forming a comfortable, green link between these culturally significant destinations.

## RUSSELL STREET DIGITAL WALK

Russell Street is a key corridor connecting the city centre, Queen's Wharf, the Queensland Performing Arts Centre complex including their new performing arts venue, the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre and beyond to West End.

The public space along Russell Street beneath the convention centre presents an opportunity to reposition the connection as a dynamic and programmed digital art experience. Potentially using art and digital lighting to inspire joy, wonder, laughter, surprise and contemplation would help make the most of the undercroft journey and provide a canvas for cultural expression.



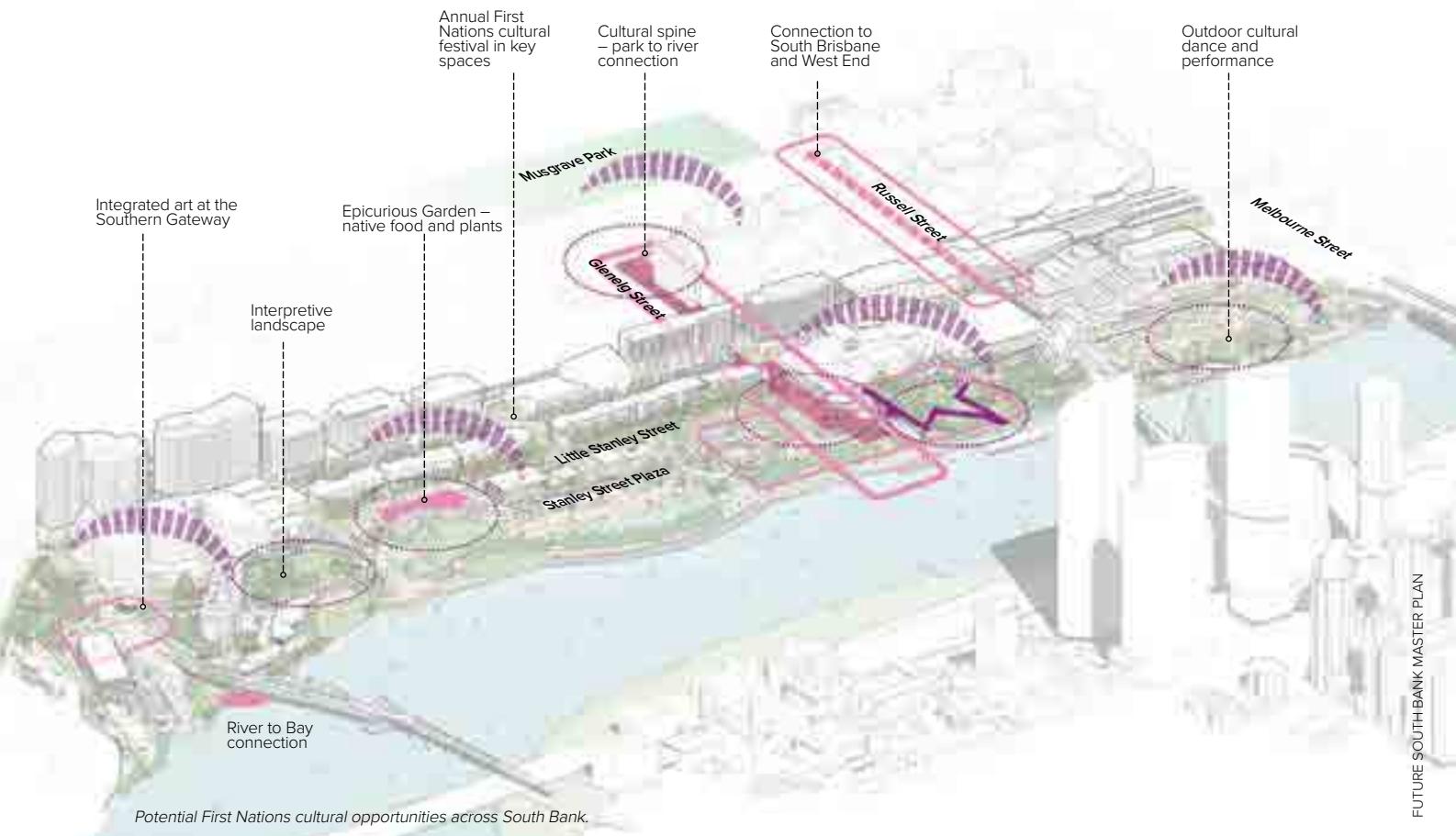
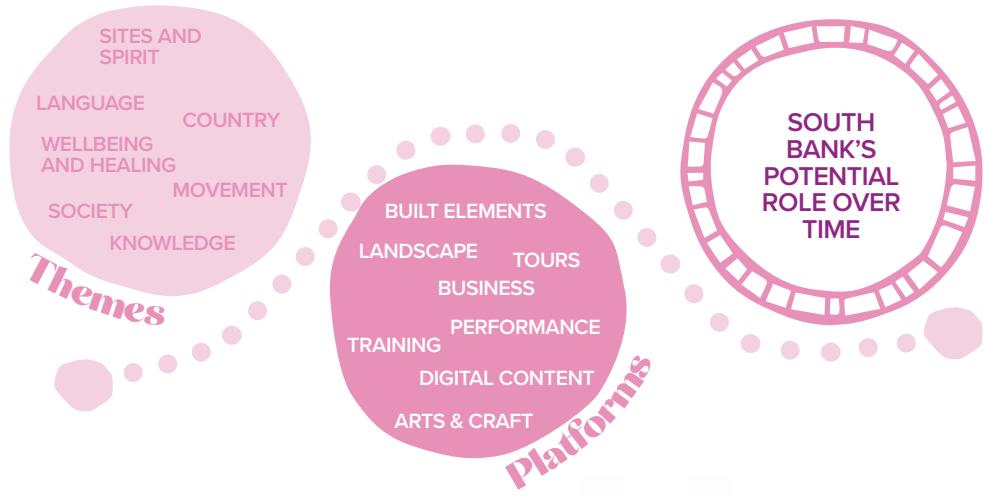
## FIRST NATIONS CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

An emerging framework for First Nations engagement and expression across South Bank includes a commitment to:

- making South Bank more inclusive and welcoming
- raising awareness about First Nations traditions, history, stories and significant places
- initiating change locally
- exploring a range of programs and initiatives across South Bank.

As part of this strategy, the framework proposes a range of potential initiatives including built elements and landscape as well as programmatic aspects. These could include performances, tours and arts and crafts that showcase and celebrate First Nations culture and traditions as a central part of the South Bank experience.

## First Nations opportunity framework



Potential First Nations cultural opportunities across South Bank.

# Future actions

1

## CREATE CITY EVENTS SPACES

Provide a range of event spaces to showcase local and global creative talent. Enhance the Cultural Forecourt as a premier event space.

Explore new lawn areas for small to medium-sized events, such as a tilted, north-facing lawn providing an unparalleled city backdrop and new river edge lawns for celebrations and gatherings, including a new lawn next to the Goodwill Bridge.

2

## ESTABLISH A CULTURAL CORRIDOR ALONG GLENELG STREET

Explore new ways to express First Nations culture through art, public space and planting along the Glenelg Street corridor. Explore showcasing art along the roadway as a continuous canvas.

3

## INCUBATE CULTURE AND CREATIVE PRODUCTION

Create a handmade goods market and pop-up tenancies along Grey Street to attract creative, niche enterprises, with supporting artisan spaces and infrastructure for creative production. Explore a program of dynamic, short-term artist and creative residencies. Promote South Bank as a cultural and creative industry cluster using innovative models to curate and commercialise local creative production.

4

## ESTABLISH THE RUSSELL STREET DIGITAL WALK

Introduce an artist-led programmable digital art and media experience to an improved Russell Street pedestrian connection under the Brisbane Exhibition & Convention Centre, extending to a green link into the heart of West End.

## Legend

-  Enhanced Cultural Forecourt
-  Handmade goods and market spine (Little Stanley Street)
-  Cultural spine (Glenelg Street)
-  Digital art walk (Russell Street)
-  Creative spine (Grey Street)
-  Heritage building / structure to be retained
-  Existing cultural or creative facility to be better integrated into the precinct
-  New cultural destination
-  Cultural incubators



# 5

## DELIVER A SUITE OF FIRST NATIONS CULTURAL INITIATIVES

Introduce a range of First Nations art, performance, events and festivals across the precinct to celebrate past, present and future culture and stories of connection to country.

# 6

## RE-ENVISAGE THE SOUTHERN GATEWAY

Realise the social and cultural history embodied by the Southern Gateway site to enhance its destinational appeal and contribution to the precinct and city. Explore opportunities for a seafood restaurant and small market and other complementary uses.

# 7

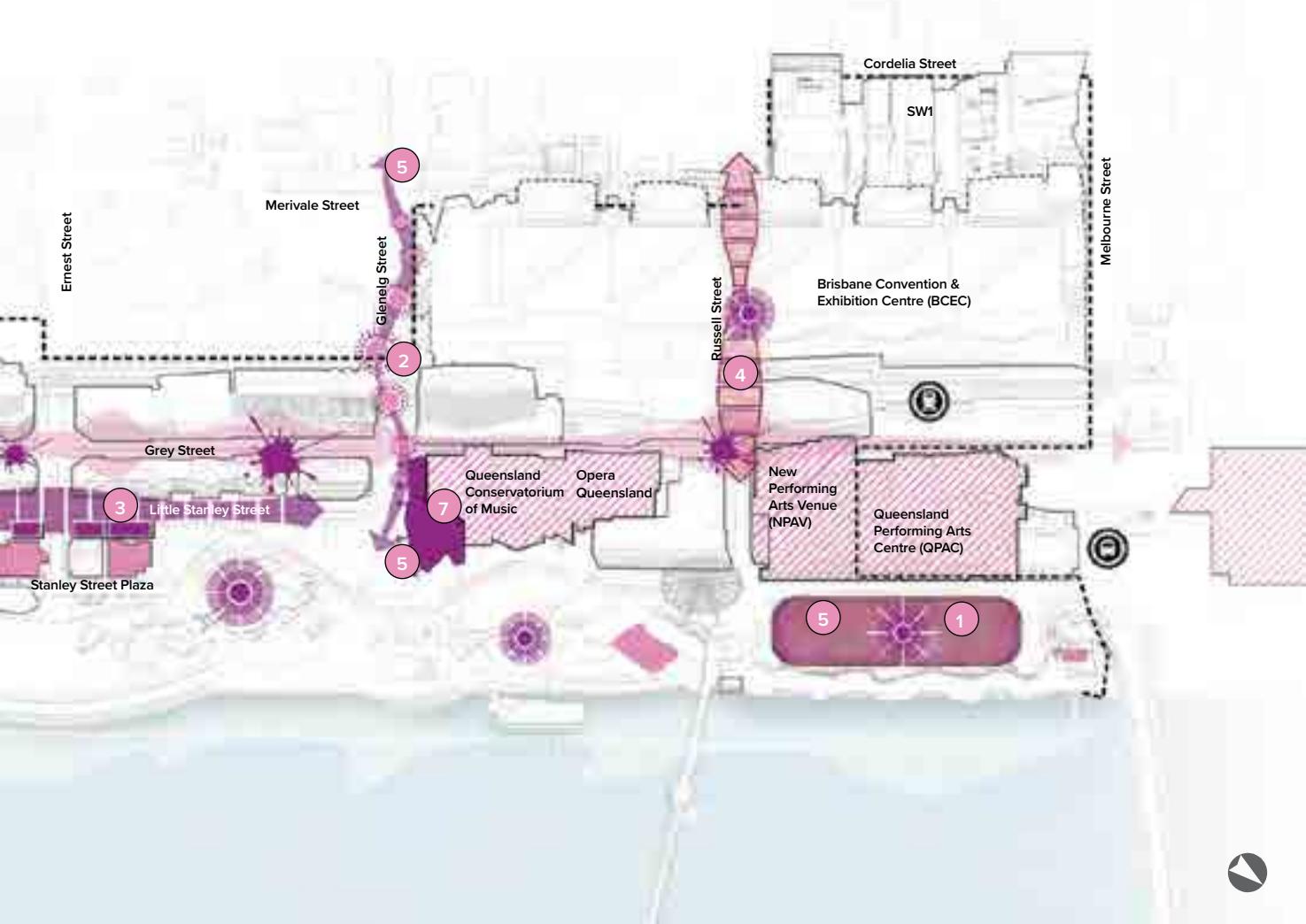
## EXPLORE COMMUNITY CULTURAL AND CREATIVE CENTRE

Explore opportunities for a new signature development adjacent to the Queensland Conservatorium. This could house a range of possible cultural uses, such as a dance studio, cultural centre, ground-level community spaces or a creative interactive centre.

# 8

## INTEGRATE MEMORIAL PARK AND EXPLORE AN ENHANCED WAR MEMORIAL

Recognise and enrich the significance of Memorial Park, commemorating Queenslanders' involvement in the Second World War (WWII), by exploring a small WWII Memorial Museum carved into the side of the Memorial Park hill and integrating Memorial Park with the precinct.





# Energising the experience

This strategy is about amplifying the South Bank experience by making it more vibrant, attractive and memorable.

**It's the place to be, year-round, day and night.**

We would achieve this by creating a network of experiences, including formal and informal events, along with renewed clusters of retail, food and beverage offerings.



**“More entertainment to engage younger demographics.”**

Community feedback 2020



## Core elements of the strategy

### DESTINATIONAL EXPERIENCES

South Bank's green, natural, north-facing riverfront makes it a popular and distinct place to visit, where locals and tourists mix together to experience Brisbane's casual and authentic outdoor lifestyle.

The arbour, beach, riverfront and views to the CBD are icons of South Bank, making it one of the most frequently photographed places in Brisbane, featured in news feeds and social media of locals and visitors alike.

The master plan will seek to protect and improve these elements and the experiences people have grown to love, while introducing new and improved experiences to broaden the appeal and relevance of the precinct for future generations.

Key initiatives could include the treetop walk, enhancing the Cultural Forecourt for outdoor events, a permanent handmade goods market, free all-ages nature and water play and outdoor art and cultural experiences.

Expectations and trends of tourists and visitors are constantly evolving. Over the last decade there has been a shift towards experiences that are creative, original and authentic.

South Bank is well placed to support formal and informal cultural experiences and provide new and unexpected opportunities to experience culture in a landscape setting and enjoy our climate and outdoor lifestyle.

### A PLACE OF MANY PLACES

South Bank is a place of many places, with a surprising new experience around each corner. There are many reasons for people to visit, including recreation, business, study, arts or culture, events, first dates, or a family day out.

A key aim would be to reinforce these qualities and provide a greater range of choice, appealing to a broader range of people. The strategy will promote clusters of shared uses and activities with distinctive landscape character and accessibility. Together, these will support differentiated experience zones across the precinct.

A big part of South Bank's appeal is the ability for people to engage with and experience all aspects of the precinct without needing to spend money.

The master plan aims to protect and expand these free experiences, while providing opportunities for some paid and curated experiences to broaden the range of things to do for a variety of visitors, including tourists.



Mobile retail pods would enable experimentation, flexibility and discovery within the precinct

## REFRESHING AND EVOLVING THE RETAIL OFFER

South Bank is one of Brisbane's most successful mixed-use precincts. The combination of restaurants and green space is a defining feature of South Bank that the master plan will maintain and enhance.

Community feedback indicated that South Bank's restaurants were one of the things people love most about the precinct, but they also wanted greater diversity and choice.

The master plan proposes maintaining a similar area of restaurants and retail and introducing greater choice at a variety of price points catering for a wider range of locals and visitors.

Some areas of existing retail could be rethought, consolidated and possibly relocated to free up space for more parkland and green areas and to better serve the busy destinations in the precinct, including river edge locations at the Cultural Forecourt and towards the Dry Dock.

A number of improvements for restaurant and retail renewal are supported by the strategy including:

- night-time and pre- and post-show near QPAC
- early morning and breakfast
- gallery and creative industry tenancies
- micro and pop-up tenancies on Grey and Glenelg streets.

## PART OF THE CITY-WIDE EVENT PLATFORM

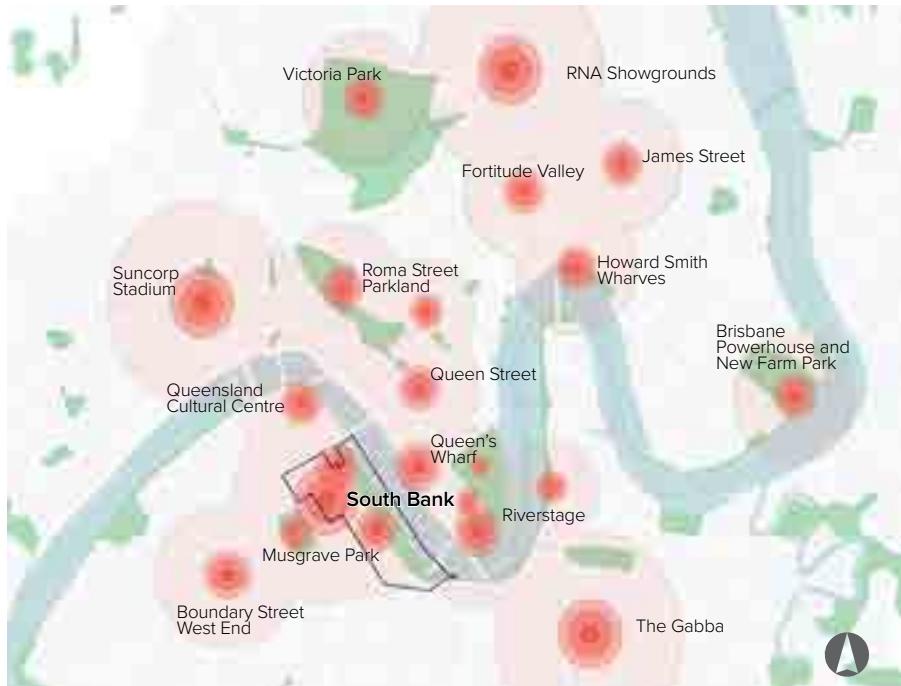
South Bank plays a key role in Brisbane's year-round calendar of events. From community-scale activities to major international festivals, South Bank's diverse spaces cater for a wide range of event-based experiences.

Flanked by the Wheel of Brisbane and Victoria Bridge, the Cultural Forecourt is one of Brisbane's premier event spaces. It also plays a key role in responding to the increasing demand for unique and versatile venues. The Cultural Forecourt, with its spectacular city views, has evolved into one of Brisbane's most popular destinations for major events and festivals.

The Cultural Forecourt was not originally designed for large events and it lacks some of the necessary infrastructure to deliver activities and events. A key strategy of the master plan is to review the forecourt's functional design to enable it to continue operating as a premium event and multi-purpose performance space, while still fulfilling its role as an attractive area for everyday leisure activities.

When not being used for major events, the enhanced Cultural Forecourt will provide spaces for short-term, experimental projects, large- and small-scale temporary art installations and pop-up events.

The master plan includes a range of other signature and flexible spaces that may be used for public and private events of varying scale and type, enhancing South Bank as a platform for targeted events that can be dispersed throughout the precinct.



South Bank plays a key role as part of the city-wide events platform.

## SOUTH BANK EVENTS



Events per annum (2017–18)

**700 EVENTS**  
**1,481,646 TOTAL ATTENDANCE**

## MORNINGS AND EVENINGS

South Bank remains one of Brisbane's favourite destinations, with regular visitor surveys showing high levels of satisfaction.

Analysis of visitor patterns and the amount of time they spend in different parts of South Bank show that some areas are not doing as much as others and could possibly do more to improve visitor experience. Early mornings, later in the evenings and outside of weekends and holidays show much lower-levels of visitation.

A key strategy of the master plan would be to broaden and deepen the precinct's appeal and to provide more morning, family-friendly and evening activity across the parkland.

Potential initiatives could include improving areas like the Cultural Forecourt, Little Stanley Street and Stanley Street Plaza and providing a more targeted event and activity program to extend the range of activities outside the busy weekend and holiday periods.



*Morning activation along Stanley Street Plaza could include breakfast opportunities and morning exercise on the beach.*



*Evening activation along Stanley Street Plaza could include dining and movies on the beach or cultural celebrations.*

# Future actions

## ENERGISE THE RIVERFRONT

Introduce informal and formal waterfront dining. Provide new dining at the Cultural Forecast river's edge, extending day and night experiences for pre- and post-show audiences.

Create a unique lagoon-front dining location at Stanley Street Plaza. Explore opening panoramic city views to the beach, lagoon, river and city by regrading the area in front of Stanley Street Plaza and relocating existing lagoon-edge tenancies.

Flood resilience will be a key driver for the design of the river edge in order to promote public access and enjoyment, while enabling rapid recovery following any major inundation event.

## REFRESH THE EVENTS PROGRAM

Collaborate with precinct partners, including the Brisbane Exhibition & Convention Centre and cultural institutions, to reinvigorate South Bank's events program and showcase the best of the city and its people, stories and cultures.

## ACTIVATE THE SOUTHERN GATEWAY

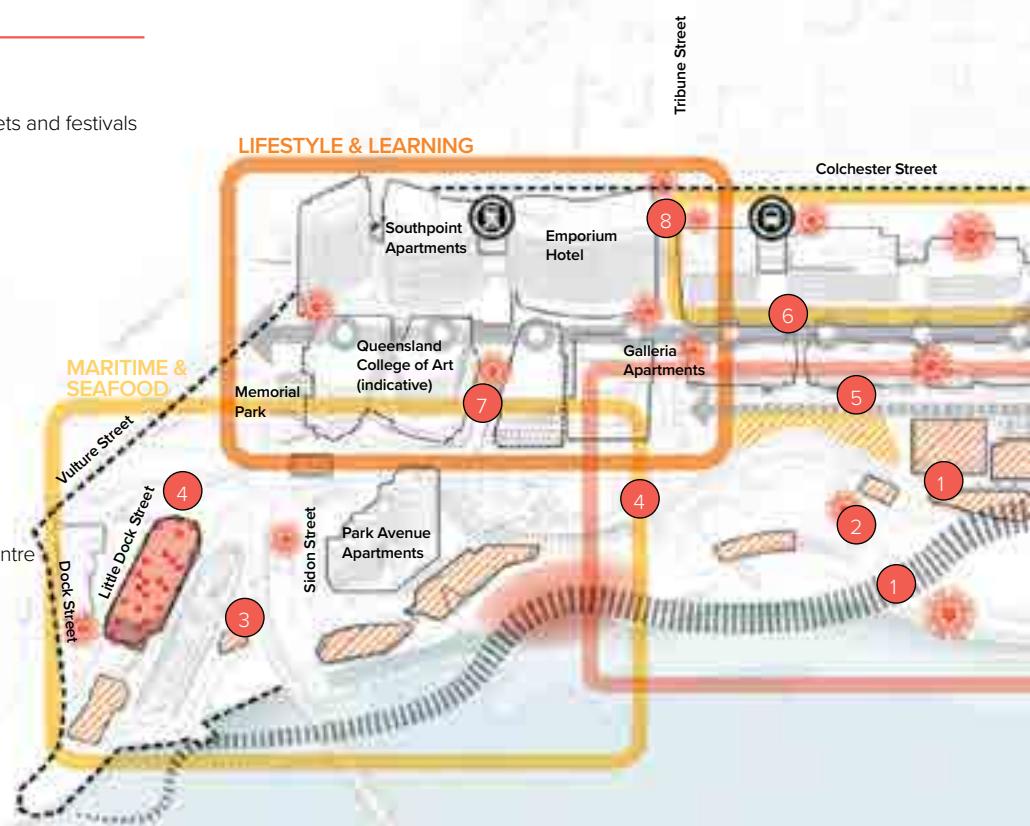
Open up a public riverfront plaza and lawn with opportunities for maritime-focused events and pop-up retail. Explore opportunities for compatible uses of the precinct's heritage buildings that retain and enhance cultural and heritage significance. For example, a local river-based fresh seafood experience.

## MOBILE STREET FOOD PODS

Explore mobile food and beverage pods serviced by a central kitchen. The pods could accommodate a convenient and changeable offering with menus that align with the casual atmosphere, cater for a range of price points and renew the focus on food culture, healthy eating and organic produce.

## Legend

-  Activated Grey Street
-  Activated Little Stanley Street – markets and festivals
-  Riverfront activation
-  Events space
-  Riverfront food and beverage
-  Epicurious dining experience
-  New activated cultural nodes
-  Informal activation, prototyping and experimentation nodes
-  Visitor information and experience centre



## 5

### ESTABLISH A NEW MARKETS AND DINING PRECINCT

Create an intimate laneway environment between Little Stanley Street and Stanley Street Plaza to house a permanent handmade goods market and regular farmers' markets. This would adjoin the expanded Epicurious Garden, which will include native plants and bush tucker, to create a truly unique dining destination.

## 6

### REVITALISE GREY STREET RETAIL

Expand the range of choices on Grey Street to deliver an authentic mixed-use offering that meets the needs of both locals and visitors.

## 7

### ACTIVATE THE SOUTHERN PARKLANDS

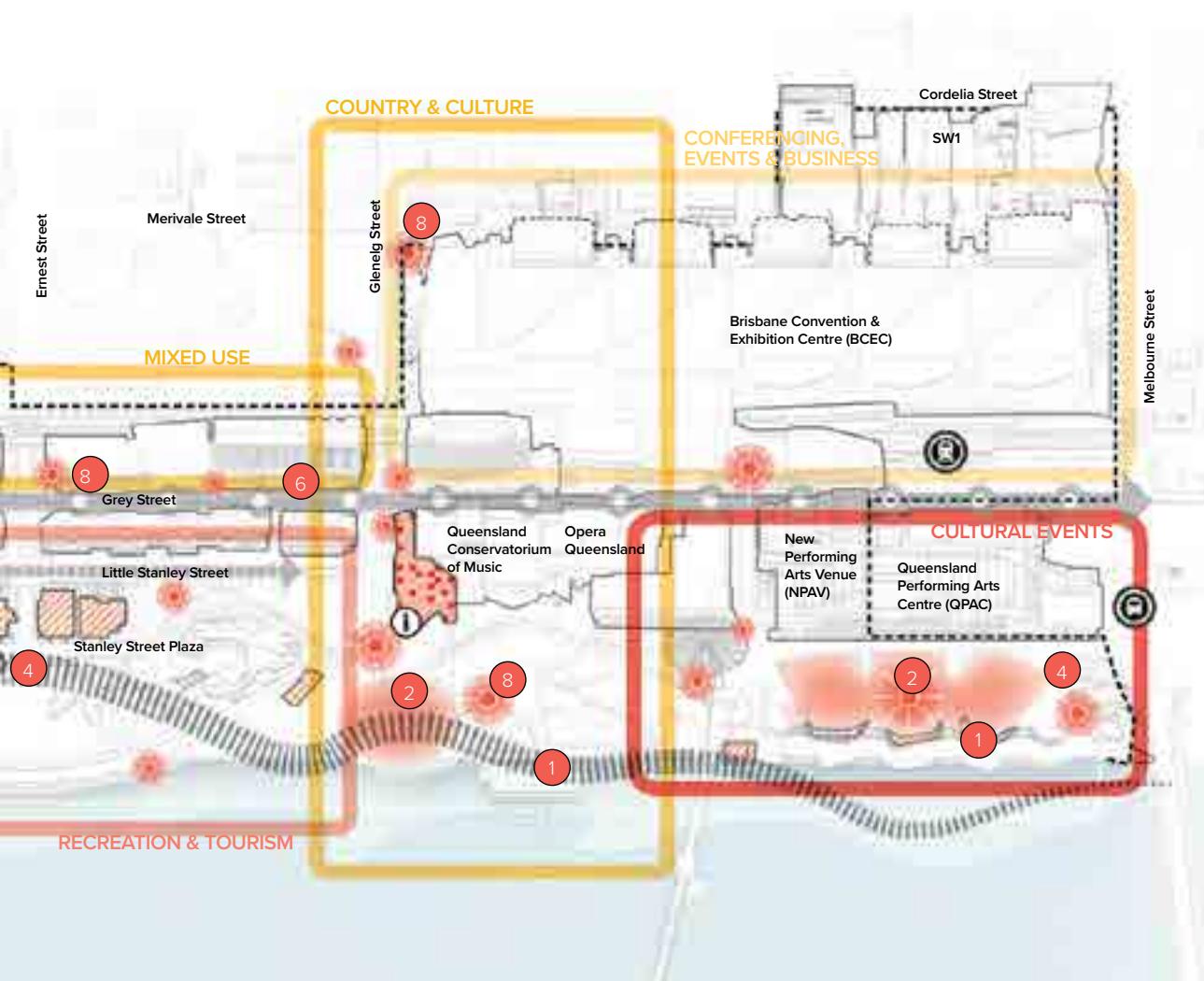
Unlock new areas for publicly accessible open space. Create a better interface with Griffith University by exploring opportunities to enhance the edges and connections through the university campus as part of any changes which may be proposed in the future.

## 8

### EXPLORE PLACE-MAKING ACTIVITIES

Roll out a series of community-oriented creative placemaking and temporary initiatives to activate key spaces across the precinct.

As an early stage of implementing more substantial changes, these activities could include trialling pop-up 'parklets', adding temporary seating, tables and greenery to promote active streets and support local businesses.







Part 03

# Vision ideas

# Guiding change

The vision ideas provide indicative concepts and a blueprint that show how each place and South Bank as a whole, can be optimised in the long-term.

Each idea supports our overarching strategies, ensuring South Bank celebrates our city's culture, climate, community, creativity and commerce.

## VISION IDEAS

STRATEGIES	THE PROMENADE	GREY STREET	LITTLE STANLEY STREET	PARKLAND CORE	GLENELG SPINE	NORTHERN GATEWAY	SOUTHERN GATEWAY
<b>Creating a place for everyone</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<b>Enhancing the river's edge</b>	●			●	●	●	●
<b>Prioritising people</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<b>Expanding the subtropical landscape</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<b>Lifting the destination appeal</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<b>Being clean, green and smart</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<b>Expressing and experiencing our culture</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<b>Energising the experience</b>	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

Alignment of vision ideas with the master plan strategies.



## The Promenade

*“Queensland’s best riverfront experience.”*

South Bank's 1.2km-long Clem Jones Promenade frames the parklands and connects South Bank to the river as well as existing and emerging precincts such as Queen's Wharf, Kangaroo Point, Gardens Point and the Botanic Gardens, the Queensland Cultural Centre and Kurilpa Point.

## Grey Street

*“Turning Grey Street green.”*

Grey Street extends 1.1 kilometres from Vulture Street to Melbourne Street. Currently, the street is dominated by cars making it less appealing for cyclists and pedestrians. This vision idea proposes slowing vehicular traffic, widening footpaths, introducing a protected bikeway, and planting more trees to create Australia's 'coolest' and most vibrant subtropical street.





## Parkland Core

*“Quintessentially Queensland.”*

The Parkland Core of South Bank extends from the Southern Gateway in the south to the Liana Lounge and Wheel of Brisbane in the north. It complements the Little Stanley Street and the Promenade vision ideas. The core houses the bulk of South Bank's recreational assets and is the most recognisable part of South Bank.



## Northern Gateway

*“Where the world meets Brisbane.”*

The Northern Gateway includes the Cultural Forecourt and riverfront promenade. The forecourt was established 30 years ago, and has evolved into one of Brisbane's most well-known event spaces. There is a significant opportunity to take broader advantage of its riverfront setting and landscape.

## Little Stanley Street

*“Parkland to plate.”*

Little Stanley Street extends between Glenelg and Tribune streets and is an important interface between the urban part of South Bank and the parklands. There is potential for Little Stanley Street to play a key role in further blurring the lines between the parkland and the urban parts of South Bank.



## Southern Gateway

*“A world-class river front precinct.”*

The Southern Gateway area comprises the Dry Dock and maritime precinct, Goodwill Bridge, Memorial Park and the Queensland College of Art (QCA) and Griffith Film School. It's currently the least-visited area in South Bank and has enormous potential as a major tourism destination and community precinct.



# The Promenade

QUEENSLAND'S BEST RIVERFRONT  
EXPERIENCE.





Artist impression of an indicative outcome, not final design.

# The Promenade

## AN ENDURING AND SUSTAINABLE LEGACY

The Clem Jones Promenade is one of the city's most well-used river edge experiences. Like all in-river infrastructure, it will have a limited life span and in the coming decades may need to be renewed.

The master plan envisages a sustainable long-term solution that realigns the promenade in a meandering way, pulling it back onto natural ground in certain parts. This would provide an engaging river edge that is more durable, resilient and easier to maintain. It also allows the promenade to accommodate more users at its busiest locations.

## NEW RIVERSIDE LAWNS

Exploring a more meandering alignment could slow down all users and allow for new river lawns and landscape pockets to be established. It could accommodate users who want to move directly along the promenade, as well as those who want to stop, linger and spend time for a more leisurely experience.

A diverse range of edge treatments could let people get closer to and experience the river in different ways. Pontoons, river stairs, stone walls and rocky edges could come together to create a relaxed riverside experience that transforms the edge from a corridor to a destination.

## A CURTAIN OF RIVERFRONT GREENERY

The green curtain of trees along the promenade and pockets of rainforest are much-loved qualities of South Bank that will be retained and expanded. The existing trees along the promenade are contained in suspended planter boxes and are currently artificially sustained, with intensive ongoing care to maintain their health.

The master plan proposes the development of a coordinated long-term strategy to maintain and grow the number of trees and the extent of canopy along the promenade. This could include the planned retention, succession, and potential relocation or replacement of some trees over time to locations that can support healthier long-term growth, resulting in a richer, greener and shadier South Bank river edge.



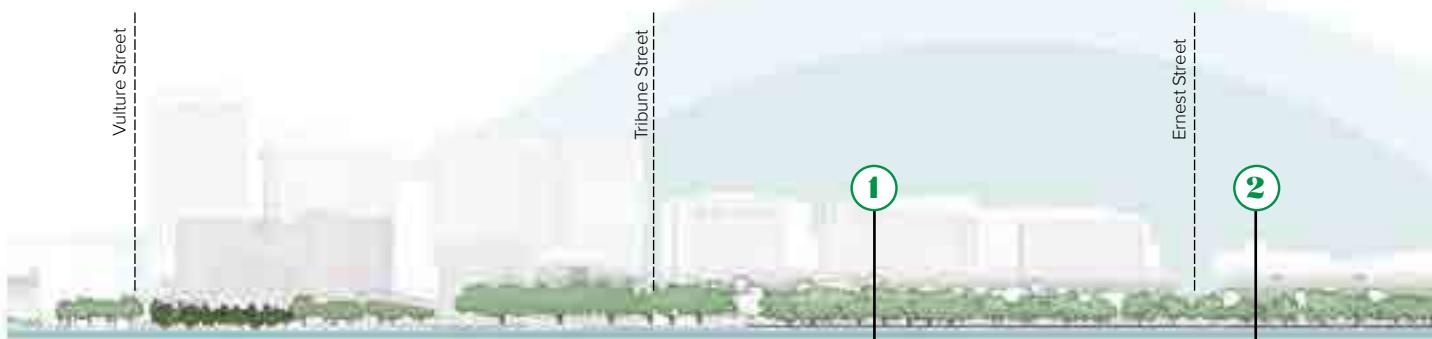
Existing section – Over-water structure with piers



1 Section – Natural edge and revetment wall



2 Section – Stepped revetment wall

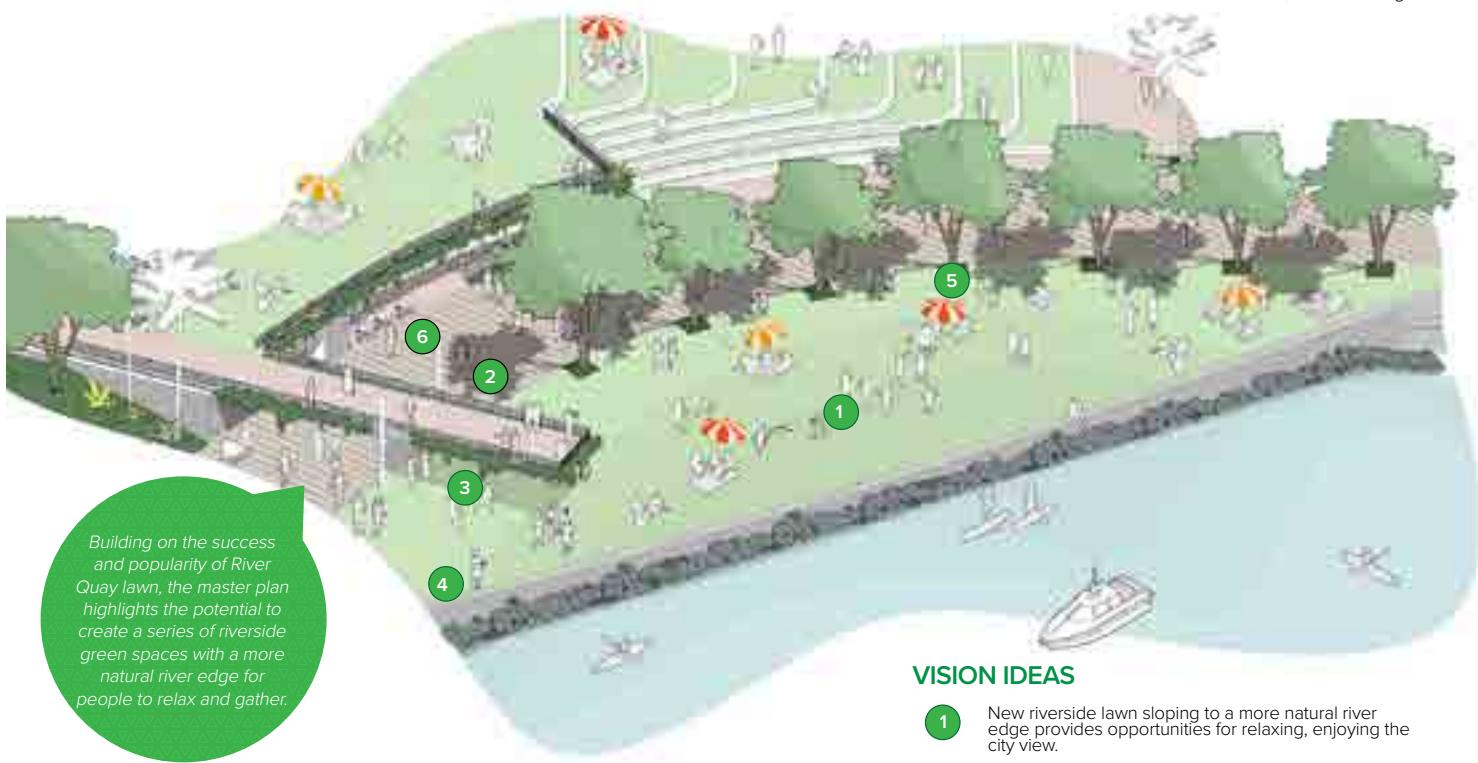


## TYPES OF EXPERIENCES

Southern Gateway	River Quay	River access	Titled lawn	Lagoon and beach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Riverside seafood dining</li> <li>Lawn space for relaxing</li> <li>River-edge boardwalk</li> <li>River-to-Bay transport</li> <li>Small-scale riverfront kiosks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Riverside dining</li> <li>Riverside events</li> <li>Riverside lawn</li> <li>Informal gathering</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>River recreation hub</li> <li>Public jetty and berthing</li> <li>Stepped river edge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Riverside lawn</li> <li>Food and beverage</li> <li>Natural river edge</li> <li>Informal gathering</li> <li>Riverside events</li> <li>Picnic and BBQs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stepped river edge</li> <li>Riverfront promenade experience</li> <li>Seating and gathering</li> <li>Temporary river stage and events</li> </ul>

Precinct-wide riverfront elevation identifies the zones of river engagement and activation

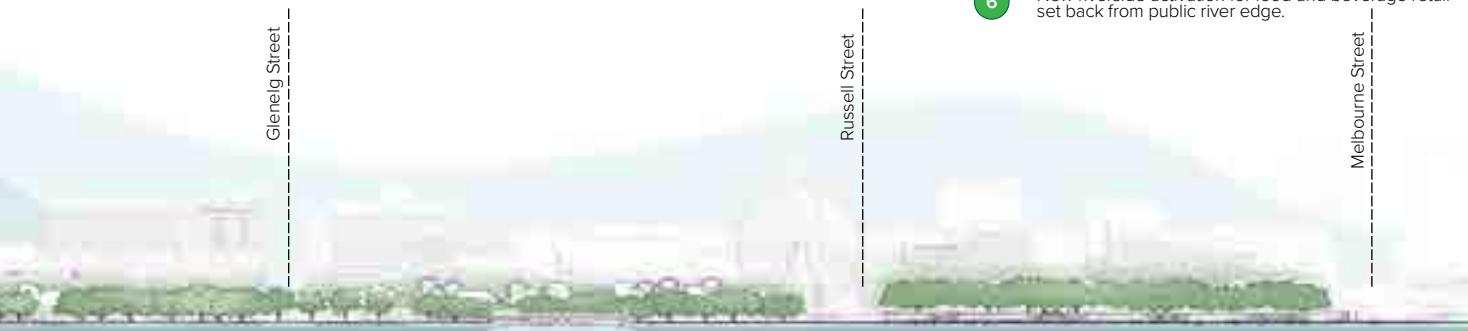
Indicative illustration of new riverfront lawn, not final design.



**Average dwell time at River Quay is the highest in the parklands at 74 minutes; almost half an hour longer than the average of 46 minutes at other parkland locations.**

#### VISION IDEAS

- 1 New riverside lawn sloping to a more natural river edge provides opportunities for relaxing, enjoying the city view.
- 2 Clem Jones Promenade is pulled back from the river's edge to create a meandering river's edge experience.
- 3 Elevated lookout provides vantage and new views of the city centre and river.
- 4 Diversified river's edge allows for the introduction of riparian planting of native species to create a softer edge.
- 5 Expanded green curtain of large fig trees to create shade and visual amenity.
- 6 New riverside activation for food and beverage retail set back from public river edge.



#### Riverside Green

- Stepped river edge
- Riverside lawn
- Seating and gathering
- Temporary river stage and events
- Picnic and BBQs

#### Riverside rainforest

- Stepped river edge
- Seating and gathering
- Temporary river stage and events
- River transport (CityCat and ferry service)

#### Cultural Forecourt

- Riverside dining
- Water taxi (to be explored)
- Temporary river stage and events

# Destination Grey Street

TURNING GREY STREET GREEN.



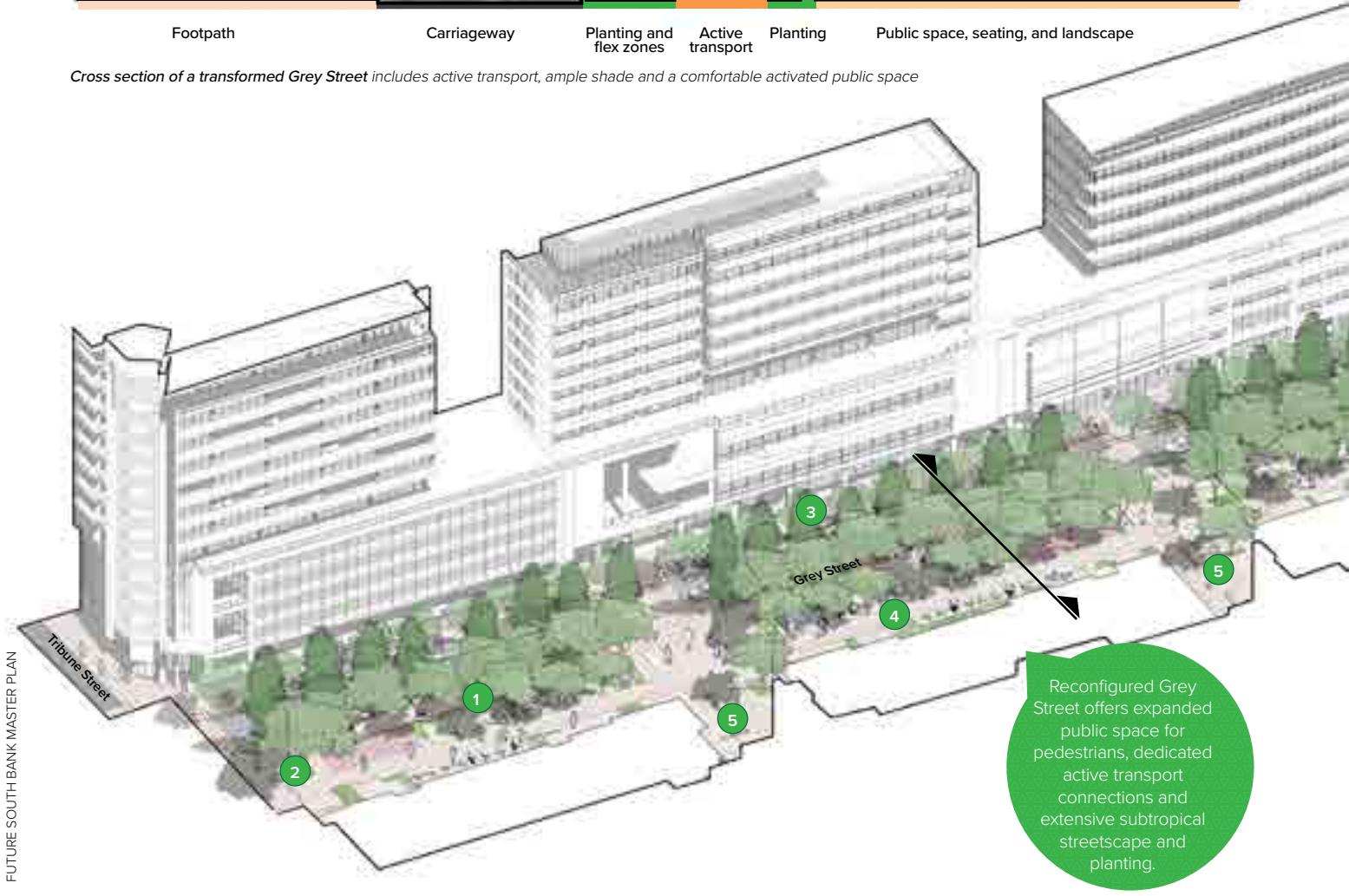


Artist impression of an indicative outcome, not final design.

# Destination Grey Street



*Cross section of a transformed Grey Street includes active transport, ample shade and a comfortable activated public space*



## A PEOPLE-FIRST APPROACH

The aspiration is for Grey Street to become world class. While the street has evolved alongside South Bank, it has the potential to be enhanced. There are opportunities to improve the pedestrian experience and better manage the impacts of through traffic.

The master plan highlights an opportunity to realign traffic lanes from the parklands side to a dual carriageway on the West End side. This would double footpath area and establish a dedicated active transport connection.

It would also unlock space for enhanced street furniture and pedestrian lighting, increased tree planting and soft landscaping, expanded outdoor dining areas and new informal seating areas.



### VISION IDEAS

- 1 Flex zones provide accessible parking, servicing, delivery and set down at regular intervals.
- 2 Dedicated bi-directional active travel lanes with integrated wayfinding and cycle facilities.
- 3 Existing median Kauri pines retained where possible to define Grey Street's green spine.
- 4 Expanded outdoor dining opportunities framed by subtropical landscape.
- 5 Mid-block crossings connecting through to the Parklands.
- 6 Pop-up and micro retail opportunities.
- 7 Plaza space with expanded informal and formal seating areas.

## A DEDICATED ACTIVE TRAVEL CONNECTION

The master plan highlights the opportunity to greatly improve the quality of cycle infrastructure on Grey Street. A segregated bi-directional cycle link could be established to integrate seamlessly with the emerging network of new cycle connections in the inner city. This connection would be one of the safest and most attractive to the broadest range of users.

Further design investigations are currently underway in collaboration with DTMR and BCC to test technical considerations for the realisation of this vision idea.

## MAINTAINING ACCESS AND FUNCTIONALITY

The improved cycling route requires some car parking bays and loading arrangements to be reconsidered. The master plan seeks to minimise these effects, by potentially distributing flex-zones, timed parking, passenger and coach loading and drop-off zones along the length of the street to maintain access and relocating lower-priority functions to nearby locations.

An agile servicing strategy could support efficient operation of shops and occasional servicing needs of local office, education and residential buildings. The concept creates a slower-vehicle environment along Grey Street, while maintaining vehicular access and operational and servicing requirements at all addresses.

## DISTINCTIVE SUBTROPICAL BOULEVARD

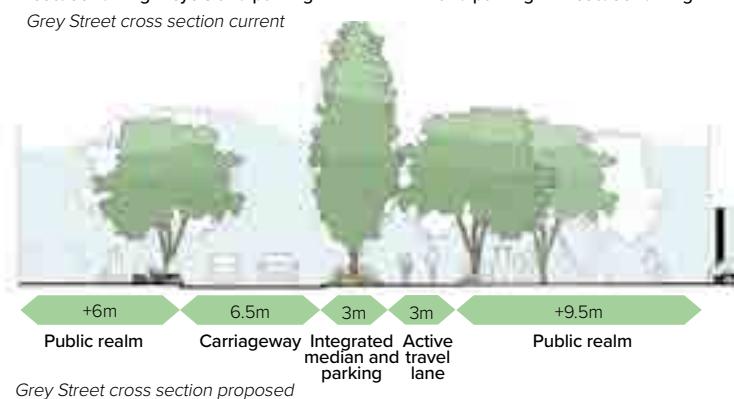
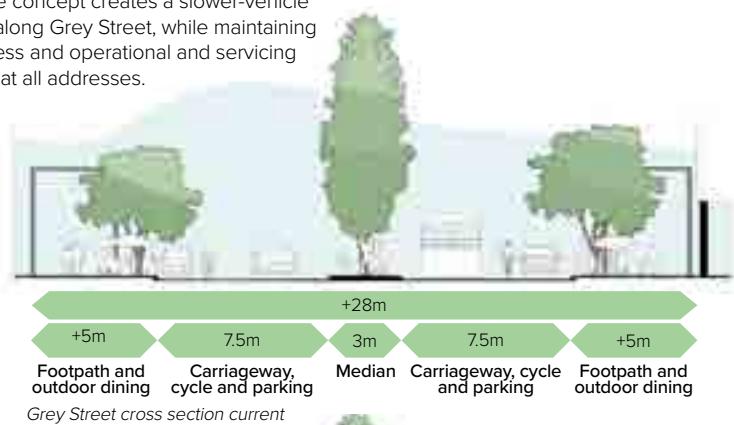
Grey Street will become Australia's greenest subtropical boulevard, extending the parkland experience into the urban parts of the precinct.

The existing trellis shade structure could be replaced with street tree planting, retaining most of the existing median Kauri pines where possible and pockets of ground-level planting. Expanded seating and ground cover would make it a cool, comfortable and appealing destination.

## BRISBANE'S CULTURAL AND CREATIVE CENTRE

The street could be evolved to incorporate exciting new areas for pop-up retail and dining outlets, public art and cultural displays and new creative incubator spaces.

Achieving the vision will involve opportunities to embrace cultural and creative enterprise, providing a new arena for Brisbane's informal creative economy to expand between the formal cultural and creative institutions that call Grey Street home.



# Little Stanley Street

PARKLAND TO PLATE.





Artist impression of an indicative outcome, not final design.

# Little Stanley Street

## THE 'PARK STREET'

The master plan reimagines Little Stanley Street as a more people-friendly place that extends the parkland into the adjoining urban precinct. Little Stanley Street could transform easily into a pedestrian-only space for events and markets, while supporting slower-moving traffic where and when it is needed.

The area between Tribune and Ernest streets could be closed to traffic to create an area of new open space rich with subtropical landscape, edible gardens and gathering spaces.

## MAINTAINING ACCESS

Between Glenelg and Ernest streets, Little Stanley Street could be converted into a one-way street. This would make it safer for pedestrians while still accommodating vehicles, loading, pick-up and drop-off and short-term parking.

The proposed design includes flex-zones supporting time-limited parking, loading and servicing access and providing for people with disabilities.

Managed access would be maintained to the 'Park Street' portion of Little Stanley Street, including space to allow vehicle movement, loading and service access to tenancies and markets.

## DINING AND MARKET PRECINCT

Little Stanley Street could be renewed as an authentic setting for South Bank's dining and market uses. The Epicurious Garden could be relocated and expanded adjacent to the street, complementing food production, preparation and consumption to create an opportunity to experience the 'parkland-to-plate' connection.

Narrowed lanes could allow for expanded trading zones and outdoor dining. Generous footpaths may feature a new, consistent pavement finish, clearly define space for pedestrians and for outdoor dining.

## HANDMADE GOODS MARKET

A new permanent, covered home for the Young Designer Markets and other craft markets could be located at the junction of Little Stanley and Ernest streets.

Positioned at one of the main arrival points to the beach and lagoon, the market would place creativity at the heart of South Bank and the nexus between the parkland and the urban precinct. It would provide an exciting creative hub to support a growing local handmade goods community and a place where people can come together to develop creative projects in a collaborative landscape setting.

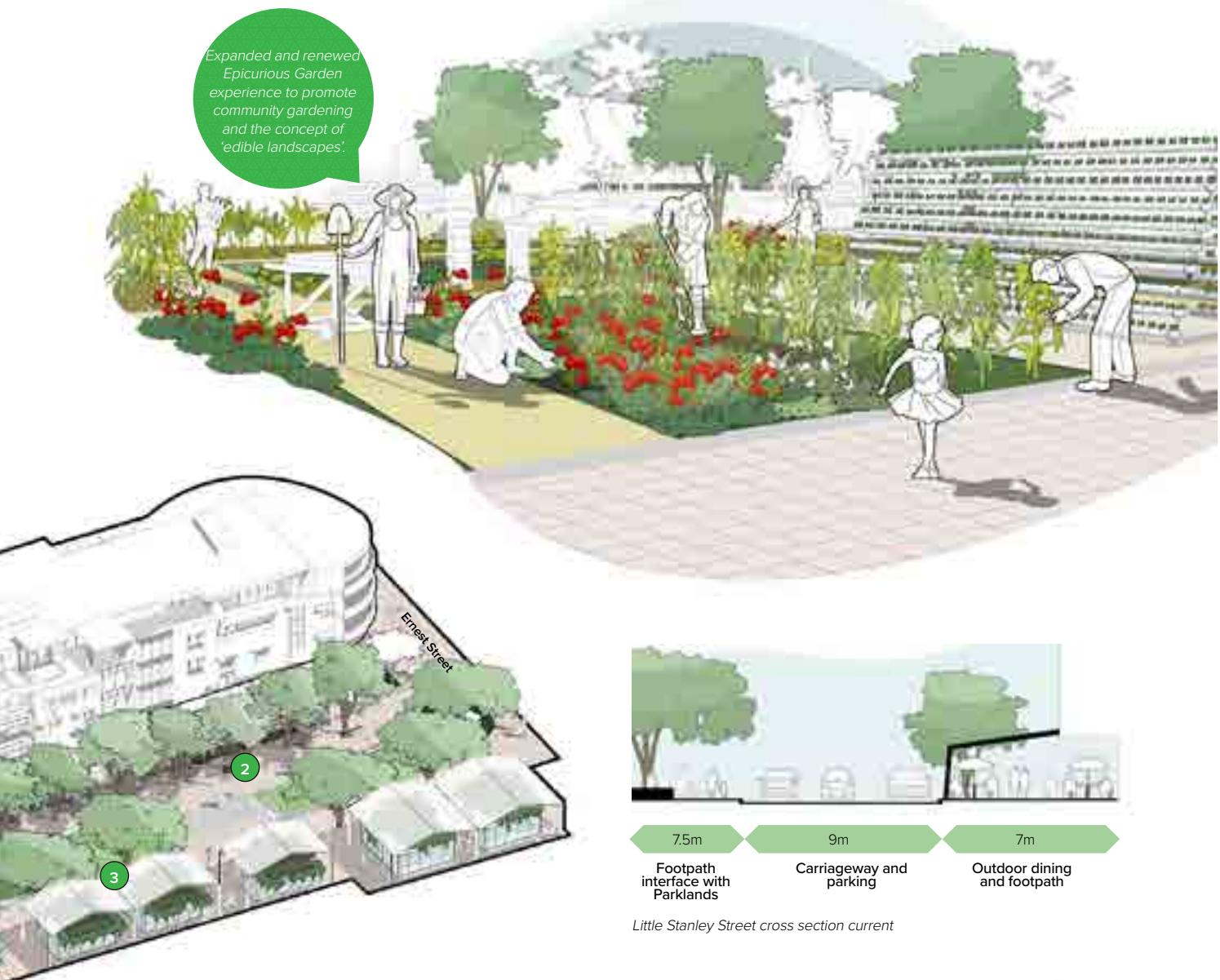
## PLAYFUL SUBTROPICAL LANDSCAPE

Between Tribune and Ernest streets, the 'Park Street' could create a one-of-a-kind public space that brings together elements of play and landscape, with a seamless visual connection to the adjacent parklands.

A new line of trees would be planted to define a shady pedestrian boulevard that extends across the length of Little Stanley Street.

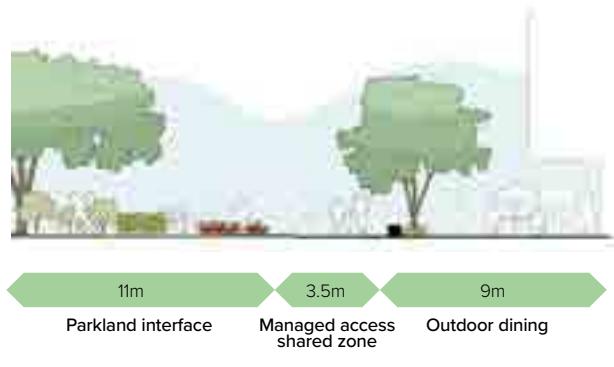
The multi-layered and playful spaces together with public art installations would amplify the Little Stanley Street experience for both day and night. The design includes improved lighting to support a vibrant night-time economy.





## VISION IDEAS

- 1 Relocated and expanded Epicurious Garden experience.
- 2 Pop-up parklet with seating.
- 3 Handmade goods market and incubator spaces for creative industries.
- 4 Enhanced and activated parkland laneways.
- 5 Retained street trees and enhanced subtropical landscape.
- 6 Expanded outdoor dining areas to existing food and beverage tenancies.



# Parkland Core

QUINTESSENTIALLY QUEENSLAND.





Artist impression of an indicative outcome, not final design.

# Parkland Core

## OUR GREEN HEART

Positioned between Grey Street and the Brisbane River, the Parkland Core is the lush, green heart of South Bank centred around the globally iconic beach and swimming lagoon.

The combination of recreation, activation, nature and heritage come together here like nowhere else in Brisbane.

## MORE GREEN SPACE TO LOVE

The master plan could expand the green and open space area of the parkland and increase the intensity of landscape and planting to reinforce the area's subtropical character, including an increase in tree canopy and green space areas.

Areas of retail and commercial tenancies could be consolidated to create space for new lawns, expanded rainforest landscapes and a more productive Epicurious Garden.

In addition to growing the amount of green, the master plan explores new ways to experience green space. With facilities tucked beneath mounded and tilted landscapes, a Gondwana treetop walk could wind through the established canopy, with elevated viewing structures providing iconic prospects and shaded refuge.

**The master plan provides an opportunity for new ways to experience subtropicality.**

*The Gondwana rainforest treetop walk provides an opportunity for a new sensory experience and way of connecting to the history, stories and biodiversity of South Bank.*

*Integrated all-abilities and ages playscape could be a central feature and destination in the heart of the Parkland Core.*





## EXPANDING THE PLAY EXPERIENCE

The existing playground is well loved and one of the busiest areas of South Bank. The master plan highlights the opportunity to expand and improve the play experience on offer to create a truly remarkable play environment.

It contemplates a refreshing approach to water play, stronger relationships with the lagoon and an integrated best-practice nature play environment at the heart of the parkland.

More open space, lawns, a better lagoon, and a significant increase in the play experience, are central to the master plan's ambition to create a multifunctional destination with broad appeal. The play space would also form part of a network that can host small and large civic events, distinctive to the setting that is South Bank.

**A remarkable signature play environment could be a central feature in the heart of the Parklands.**

## VISION IDEAS

- 1 Misting and digital water wall allows sound and light projection and programmable input as well as an interactive experience. This technology enables an ever-changing and evolving opportunity for art and cultural expression – in effect an evolution of the current Flowstate.
- 2 Tiered playground links levels of play experiences connected by rope pulley, rope climbing, slides and rubber mound.
- 3 Zero-depth water reflection pond allows water to be turned on and off, enabling the space to double up for events and performances and support universal access.
- 4 Play edges are softened to allow for a more organic and natural play experience.
- 5 Structures and planting provide ample shade and solar protection, coupled with extensive seating and areas of respite.
- 6 Play elements connect seamlessly to surround the cultural spine, water play, food and beverage areas and amenities.

## EXPANDING THE WATER EXPERIENCE

The South Bank beach and lagoon are positioned centrally in the parkland and have become one of the most well-known images of Brisbane. The lagoon is reaching 30 years of age and its underlying infrastructure could need renewing in coming years.

The master plan envisages an improved beach and lagoon that extends towards Stanley Street Plaza. A beach-front esplanade could be created where the heritage-listed Allgas Building and Plough Inn become 'waterfront' destinations and overlook the northeast-facing beach towards the city.

The lagoon could include an archipelago of different-sized planted and sand islands that would transition into an enlarged and all-abilities Aquativity water play experience.

## PARKLAND SPACES FOR EVENTS

A key feature of the Parkland Core is the opportunity for multifunctional outdoor spaces that cater for gatherings and events of various sizes and types. These new spaces would take over the role of the former Piazza and allow for events throughout the parkland.

A new north-facing tilted lawn with a vantage over the beach and lagoon could provide a performance and event venue with the city as a backdrop.

## ALTERNATE ACCESS THROUGH QUEENSLAND COLLEGE OF ARTS

The potential long-term redevelopment of the Queensland College of Art could provide a new connection and attractive alternative route for cyclists to Grey Street instead of the river's edge and maintain dedicated access to Park Avenue Apartments and River Quay. Key benefits are reducing potential for conflict between travel modes at the Goodwill Bridge landing.

If a connection is required in advance of QCA redevelopment, a range of alternative options will be explored.



## VISION IDEAS

- 1 Retention of the existing arbour structure and Bougainvillea planting.
- 2 Retention of Picnic Island Green.
- 3 New shared zone connection providing access to River Quay and the Park Avenue Apartments.
- 4 Plaza space along Tribune Street axis opens views to the river and includes wayfinding beacons to assist in navigation.
- 5 River access hub for recreation and public berthing.
- 6 Elevated and tilted north-facing lawn with change rooms, toilets and riverside food and beverage kiosks below.
- 7 Elevated lookout.
- 8 A riverside lawn sloping to a more natural river edge.
- 9 Improved beach wrapped around lagoon to provide northern aspect.
- 10 Improved lagoon with state-of-the-art filtration system.
- 11 Improved Clem Jones Promenade.
- 12 Relocated and expanded Epicurious Garden experience.
- 13 A new and expanded area to enjoy South Bank's beach in the city, including the relocation of existing retail and public amenities.
- 14 An archipelago of different-sized planted and sand islands that integrate with an enlarged water play zone.
- 15 Consolidated new and diverse water play, adventure play and all-abilities play within close proximity to food and amenities.
- 16 Rewilding landscape to promote urban cooling and sanctuary spaces.
- 17 Retail and amenities kiosks.
- 18 Riverside Green integrated with minor potential realignment of promenade.
- 19 Plaza space along Glenelg Street spine opens views to the river and includes wayfinding beacons to assist in navigation.
- 20 Potential sleeved development to the Queensland Conservatorium of Music.
- 21 Gondwana rainforest treetop walk.
- 22 Possible public safety and security command centre.



# Glenelg Spine

A CULTURAL CORRIDOR.





Artist impression of an indicative outcome, not final design.

# Glenelg Spine

## CELEBRATING THE RIVER AND ABORIGINAL CULTURE

A major objective of the master plan is to strengthen the connection between South Bank and neighbouring areas with streetscape improvements to the side streets. While all of these connections are important, Glenelg Street has special significance as a direct connection between the river and Musgrave Park.

The master plan envisages Glenelg Street as a key destination to acknowledge the area's Aboriginal and cultural significance. We would seek input from our Aboriginal community to determine how to best respect and reflect the history, culture, art, community and stories of the area in the street.

## AN INTERPRETIVE LANDSCAPE

The streetscape could celebrate the original landscape and landform, including a creek line that meandered from the river towards Musgrave Park and tracings of waterholes that existed where the convention centre stands today. This could be achieved with patterning and surface treatments throughout the public realm.

As a park-to-park link, Glenelg Street could extend the parklands experience with subtropical, dense tree coverage and rich ground-level planting.

## ACTIVATING THE BRISBANE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE

The master plan proposes improving the Glenelg Street entry of the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre to provide a more engaging arrival experience. The vision includes a new entry structure and accessible ground-level foyer, vehicle access and drop-off areas consolidated, footpaths widened and a new large public space at the junction of Merivale and Glenelg streets created to celebrate the large fig trees.

A series of spaces along the Glenelg Street frontage could be transformed to incorporate new opportunities for Aboriginal art, craft and culture and pop-up incubator spaces. These could provide a presence and 'shopfront' for cultural enterprises that complement the business event and tourism function of the convention centre.

## ACTIVATING THE QUEENSLAND CONSERVATORIUM

The master plan vision supports a potential new 'sleeve' development adjoining the Queensland Conservatorium of Music. This could support a complementary or cultural use with an active ground floor to the parklands and more active frontages to Glenelg and Grey streets.

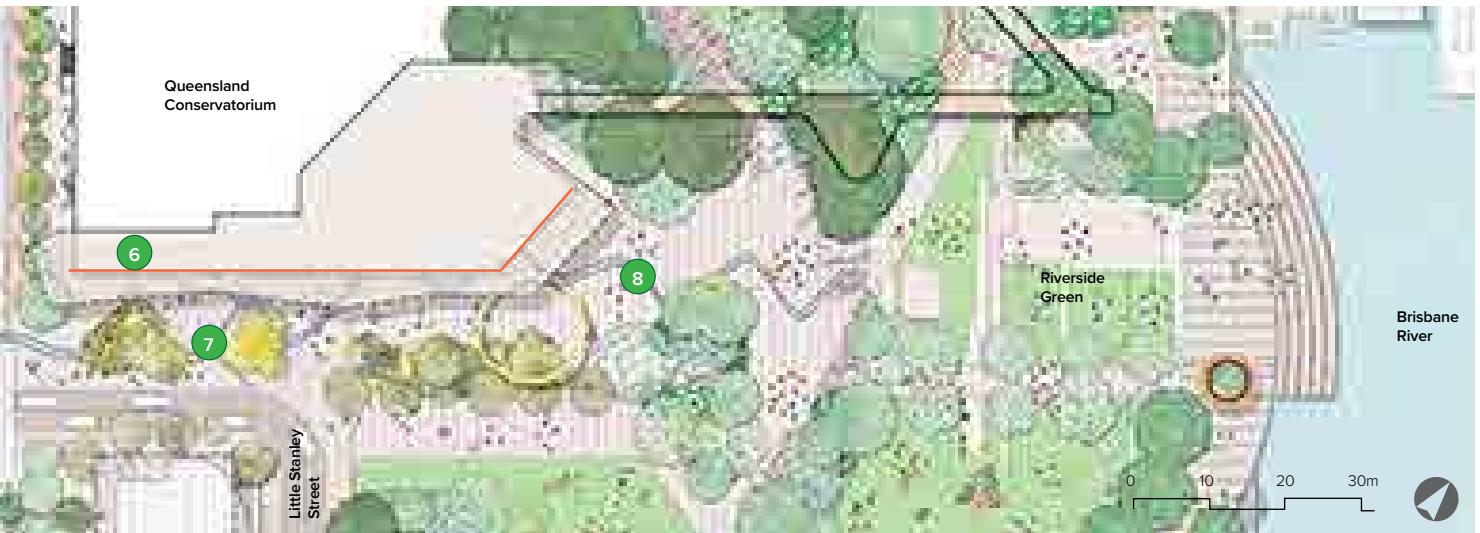
Combined with the renewal of Grey Street and reconsideration of the Piazza, a new public plaza would improve the Glenelg Street entry to the parklands and support sightlines and direct access towards the river's edge.

## VISION IDEAS

- 1 New public plaza with seating, lighting and art at the corner of Merivale and Glenelg streets retains the existing mature figs.
- 2 Cultural incubator and production spaces at ground level.
- 3 Public realm treatment incorporates Aboriginal art and patterning to reflect the stories of place.
- 4 Lighting, digital art and planting in the undercroft of rail and busway structure.
- 5 Upgrades to the public realm at the corner of Glenelg and Grey streets.
- 6 Potential sleeved development to the Queensland Conservatorium of Music adds activation at ground level and frames the spine.
- 7 Public space upgrades including planter beds, landscape and increased tree planting.
- 8 Opened plaza connects the spine to the Riverside Green and the river.



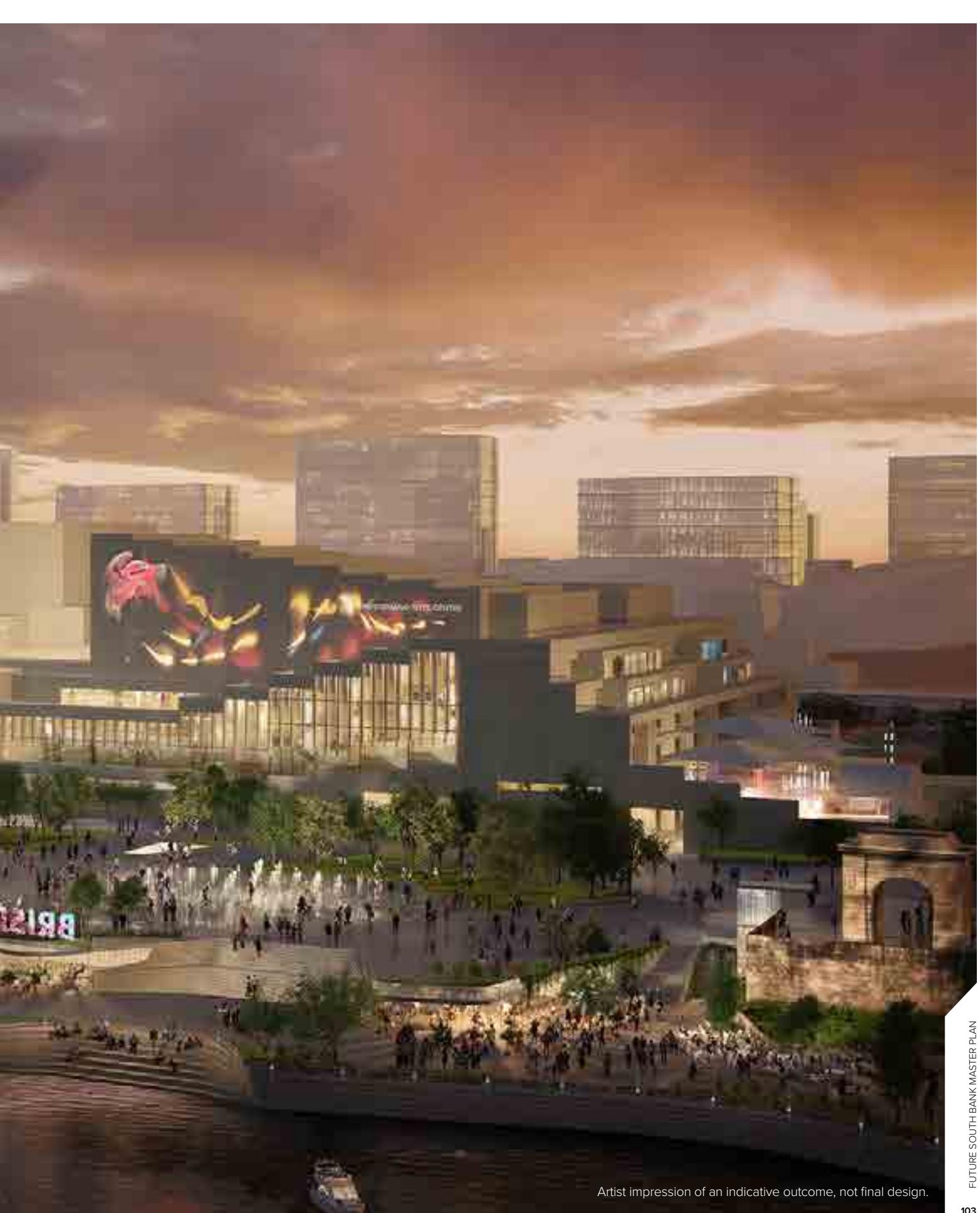
Artist impression of an indicative concept of the Glenelg cultural spine, not final design.



# Northern Gateway

WHERE THE WORLD MEETS BRISBANE.





Artist impression of an indicative outcome, not final design.

# Northern Gateway

## CONNECTING CULTURE TO THE RIVER

The Cultural Forecourt is the natural northern gateway to South Bank and the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC). The large open space is bordered by the river and is a dramatic setting with stunning views to the city skyline. It has become one of Brisbane's most sought-after event locations.

The scale and position of the space, combined with its close integration with Queensland's leading cultural institutions, is not replicated elsewhere in Australia, or the world.

## ENHANCED CULTURAL FORECOURT

This master plan envisages revitalising and reinvigorating the Cultural Forecourt through a series of improvements and upgrades. The vision optimises event setup and delivery, while maintaining the forecourt as an inviting and activated space day to day.

The Cultural Forecourt contributes to the setting of the heritage-listed Queensland Cultural Centre (QCC).

The vision respects the guidance provided by the QCC Conservation Management Plan. It preserves the forecourt's openness so it can continue to frame and celebrate the important east-facing elevation of QPAC. The vision maintains the forecourt's formal ground-plane geometry close to QPAC, before merging to a more fluid design towards the river.

## WELCOMING GATEWAY

A new elevated entry plaza could be established as a key arrival point to South Bank from the Victoria Bridge, the city and the Cultural Centre Station. It would give pedestrians direct access to the forecourt via a generous staircase and lift.

The plaza could be at the same level as the Victoria Bridge and sensitively integrate with the existing heritage-listed former bridge abutment.

The plaza would be positioned above and conceal vehicle access to the QPAC car park, which will be accessed from the Stanley Street tunnel link. The master plan supports a new shared zone and cycle ramp concealed beneath the plaza, while providing a link between the proposed bi-directional cycle lanes on the Victoria Bridge and the river edge while retaining vehicle access to QPAC.

The upper plaza would provide an important unifying landscape that would also eliminate the existing conflict point between vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists, making the arrival experience fully pedestrian focused.



Artist impression of indicative concept of the Northern Gateway and Cultural Forecourt, not final design.

## MULTI-FACETED SPACE AND EXPERIENCE

To support signature cultural events, the existing steps and tiers of the forecourt could be removed to provide the versatility and flexibility required of modern outdoor event spaces. A levelled forecourt is envisaged, bordered with large shade trees designed to protect existing views between QPAC and the river and city centre beyond.

The new purpose-built events space would have flexibility to break into three discrete spaces that could work individually or as a single space for more than 10,000 people, enabling an improved balance of event functions and parkland experiences.

A temporary river stage could be located on the river to host iconic events.

## VISION IDEAS

- 1 Elevated entry plaza creates direct pedestrian access to the forecourt via a generous stair and lift while integrating the heritage-listed former Victoria Bridge abutment.
- 2 Tighten the alignment of the existing Stanley Street loop road with provision for emergency and servicing and shared vehicle access via the Cultural Centre tunnel.
- 3 Access to and from the forecourt and river's edge via a series of cascading stairs and a lift.
- 4 Reflecting pool with possible misting function could become a major attraction and activator of the space.
- 5 Service lane connection provides access to the Cremorne Theatre entry and servicing to the space.

## CONNECTING TO THE CITY CENTRE

The southern end of the forecourt and expanded Russell Plaza could integrate the new Neville Bonner Bridge landing and cater for the increased volumes of pedestrians that will use this connection.

Cascading stairs, integrated landscaping and a gently graded access ramp could connect the Russell Street Plaza with the forecourt. New, high-quality public amenities could be integrated discreetly and concealed below the surface of the space, potentially within the QPAC car park.

## EXPERIENCING THE RIVER'S EDGE

The master plan highlights the opportunity to re-imagine the interface between the Cultural Forecourt and the river. A seamless public space with food and beverage outlets could be tucked under a series of promontories and within coves, to activate the river edge and make the most of the city-facing aspect.

A widened promenade could follow the river's edge in a more organic way, with pockets of greenery that encourage lingering and improve the connection under the Victoria Bridge towards Kurilpa Point.

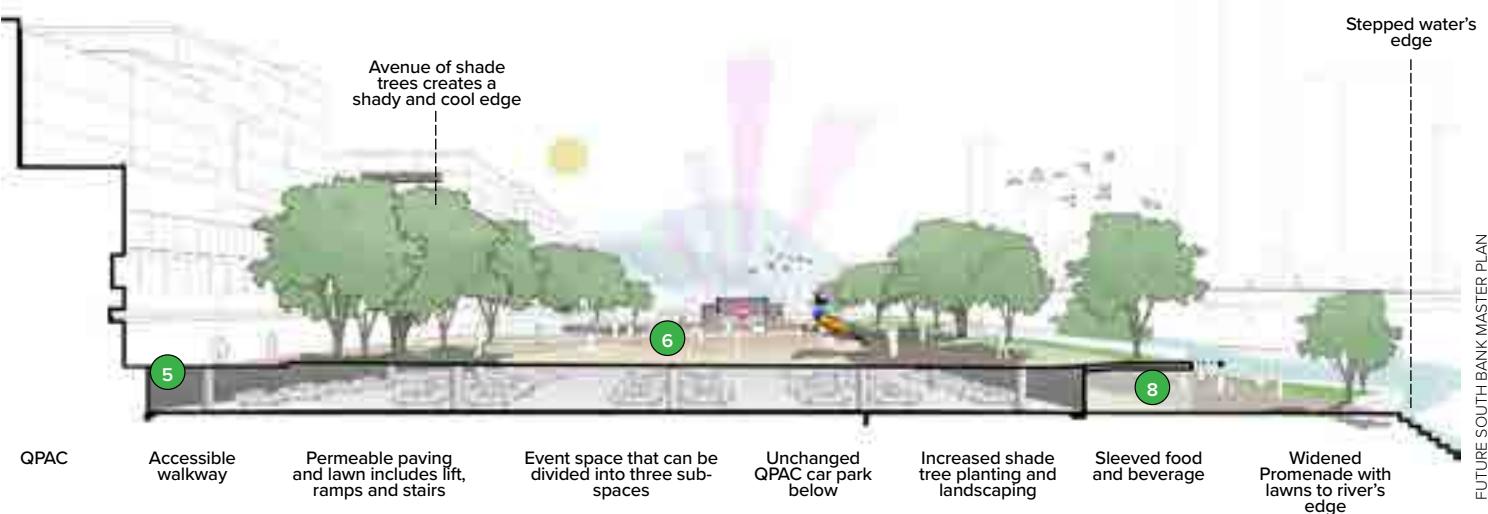
A significant portion of the river edge could provide direct access from the river to the Cultural Forecourt, with a series of cascading stairs and accessible connections for people of all abilities. A water taxi jetty located on the river edge could provide alternative access to events on the Cultural Forecourt and the cultural precinct via the river.

## BRISBANE'S LIVING ROOM

The re-imagined Cultural Forecourt highlights its importance as a gateway space and could improve its ability to host significant cultural events, remove vehicular and pedestrian conflicts and engage users more directly with a river experience.

In achieving these outcomes, the Cultural Forecourt could become much more than a place for occasional events, but also an outdoor riverside living room to be enjoyed by all.

- 6 Main open plaza space with ability to break into three smaller discrete spaces for large and smaller scaled events.
- 7 Riverfront walk offers a widened and organic experience of the river and pockets of greenery.
- 8 Clusters of food and beverage outlets could sit under a series of promontories and within coves making the most of the location and views.
- 9 Water taxi jetty could allow people to arrive at the cultural precinct and events via the river.
- 10 Public amenities could be located in QPAC car park under the Cultural Forecourt.
- 11 Seemless river edge connection to the Queensland Cultural Centre.



Cultural Forecourt indicative cross section.

# Southern Gateway

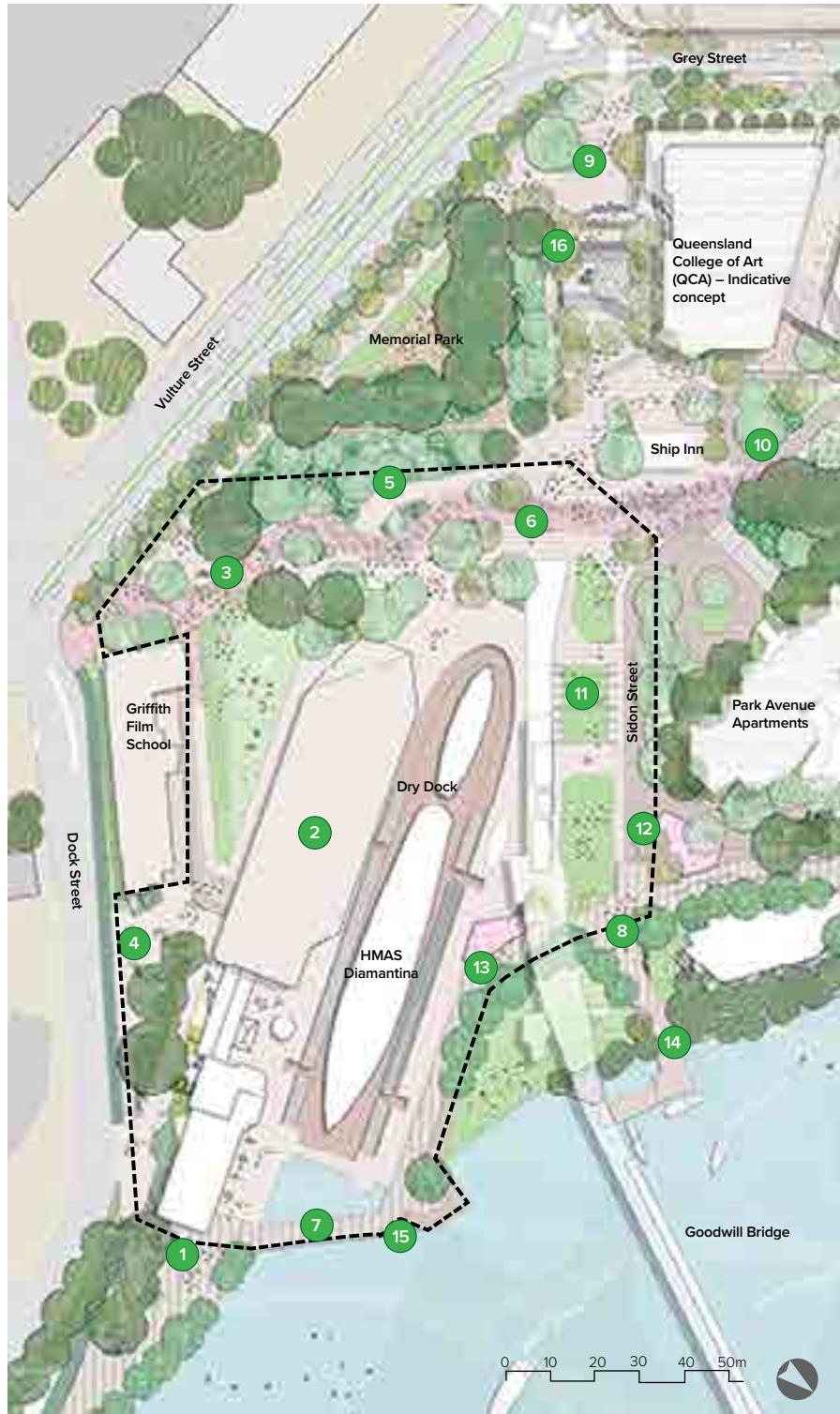
A WORLD-CLASS RIVER FRONT PRECINCT.





Artist impression of an indicative outcome, not final design.

# Southern Gateway



## MUST-VISIT DESTINATION

The Southern Gateway is rich with opportunity, authentic cultural artifacts and retained heritage values. Key opportunities exist to revitalise the existing destinations and transform the Southern Gateway precinct, Memorial Park and riverfront into a cohesive hub.

The master plan reimagines the area as a key nexus in Brisbane's network of new and emerging precincts, with seamless connections to neighbouring destinations.

## VISION IDEAS

- 1 Gateway plaza into South Bank with resolved conflicts and potential waterfront restaurant in adjoining historic buildings.
- 2 Proposed Southern Gateway building and/or complementary use.
- 3 Gateway plaza into South Bank with road proposed to be removed, Arbour maintained with cycle connection to Goodwill Bridge.
- 4 Pedestrian gateway plaza with road potential to be removed.
- 5 War memorial as a potential destination attraction.
- 6 Reconfigured plaza at Goodwill Bridge landing to reduce conflicts and new entry bridge to proposed Southern Gateway building.
- 7 An over-water bridge, or possible widening of the caisson, are options for a continuous promenade.
- 8 River Quay public plaza enlarged with CLS2 Carpenteria as a potential feature.
- 9 Major gateway plaza into South Bank with steps proposed down in lieu of former road.
- 10 Shared zone and turn around for set down and servicing access via connection through QCA (with a range of alternative options to be explored if required prior to the redevelopment of the QCA).
- 11 Possible public space with tiered seating.
- 12 Retained shared zone service connection to River Quay and Park Avenue Apartments.
- 13 Openable fence allows controlled access to the Dry Dock.
- 14 Commercial tour boat jetty in place of the existing jetty and Negan's Secret Pier.
- 15 Exploration of renewable power generation.
- 16 Parkour zone.

— Southern Gateway precinct investigation area.

*Artist impression of an indicative plan of the Southern Gateway illustrates the potential for increased public space and the creation of a world-class experience, not final design.*

## EXPLORE EXTENDING THE PROMENADE TOWARDS KANGAROO POINT

The master plan envisages the extension of the Clem Jones Promenade over the river in front of the Dry Dock to address a key missing link between Kangaroo Point and Kurilpa.

The vision would unify the river experience from River Quay to Kangaroo Point, including the conversion of the historic Machine Shop for adaptive reuse, potentially supporting a local-source seafood restaurant or event space. It would create new ways of public access to the river edge to the river edge, in a way that is both welcoming and flood resilient.

## INCREASING OPEN SPACE

The buildings, museum area and vehicle routes could be reorganised to unlock more than a football field of new accessible public space, including a riverfront lawn beneath the Goodwill Bridge with an aspect towards Captain Cook Bridge and Kangaroo Point Cliffs.

Current access to Park Avenue Apartments and River Quay via Little Dock and Stanley streets will be relocated to a new shared zone access via the Queensland College of Art (QCA) site. A range of alternative options will be explored if the relocated link is needed prior to the possible redevelopment of the QCA site.

## LINKING THE RIVER TO MORETON BAY

A commercial jetty could replace the existing jetty and Negan's Secret Pier. The new jetty would be the primary South Bank launching place for tours of the river and to Moreton Bay.

## CELEBRATING CULTURE

The master plan seeks to breathe new life into the Southern Gateway's heritage buildings and places, the most concentrated grouping in Brisbane. This includes seven buildings around the Dry Dock and the Memorial Park.

The master plan supports reflecting Aboriginal history and culture in the Southern Gateway area, with new potential projects to incorporate elements that respectfully acknowledge country and enrich the visitor experience.

## DEFINING THE GATEWAYS

Public area improvements would provide a more welcoming arrival experience, with a series of defined plazas at five entry points: River Quay; Kangaroo Point Cliff walk; Dock Street; Vulture Street at Dock Street; and Vulture Street at Grey Street.

This would improve comfort for pedestrians arriving from the Mater and Queensland Children's Hospital precincts, the Stanley Street walking and cycling connection towards Woolloongabba, and along the river edge to Kangaroo Point.

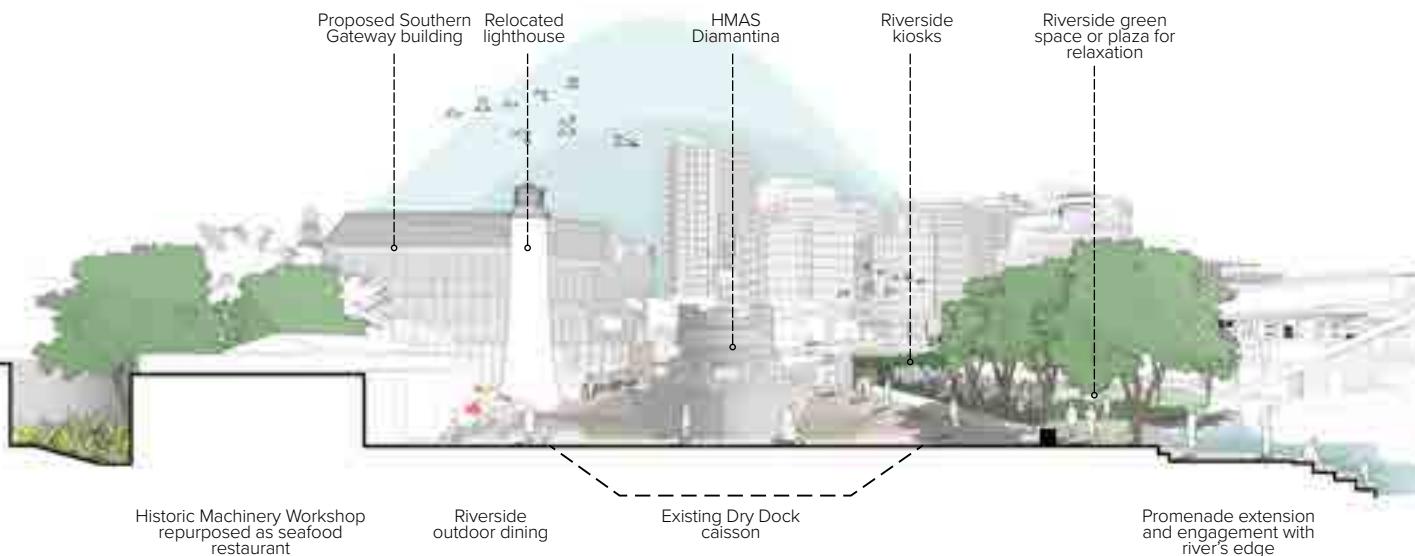
## RENEWING AND EXPANDING THE DESTINATIONS

The master plan outlines a vision for the public spaces and infrastructure of the Southern Gateway. It guides the future-intended form of these sites to support and facilitate investment and appropriate redevelopment and could inform any future review of the Approved Development Plan.

The master plan would support the improvement and sensitively scaled redevelopment of the Southern Gateway including a building to the south of the Dry Dock, creating a stronger connection with existing heritage maritime buildings.

**Queensland College of Art** – The master plan would support the longer-term potential renewal/redevelopment of the Queensland College of Art site to allow improved frontage and access to the parklands and Grey Street and better integration between Southpoint, the railway station and the parkland. A connection through the QCA is required in advance of the site's redevelopment. A range of alternate options will be explored. Future building heights should respect the neighbouring areas.

**Memorial Park and monuments** – The under-utilised gardens of Memorial Park could be enhanced with improved accessibility and activation. Opportunities exist for an enhanced war memorial to be built commemorating Australian, including Aboriginal involvement in war and conflict.







## Part 04

# Next steps

# Next steps

The master plan provides a flexible long-term blueprint to guide the evolution of South Bank. It aims to manage ageing assets and support progressive improvement when needed to ensure South Bank remains a world-class destination.

01

## Place:

### OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Ongoing activities to maintain visitor experience and keep pace with evolving community needs and expectations.

02

## Improvements:

### FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

A suite of possible future improvements that are aligned with the strategies and respond to key community feedback and priorities. They will be supported by a range of social and activation initiatives.

03

## Planning:

### PARTNERSHIP-LED CHANGE

Possible changes to the planning framework have been identified to support the long-term vision and facilitate community feedback as part of the master plan.

04

## Vision:

### LONG-TERM VISION IDEAS

A suite of vision ideas illustrate how South Bank could evolve in the longer term to guide the development and design of future initiatives.

## IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES

The implementation of the master plan will be measured and prudent, supporting the evolution of South Bank guided by five implementation principles:

- **Stageable and scalable** – allow the benefits and costs of individual initiatives to be aligned with evolving needs, including improvement projects and the potential for cost-effective initiatives to test and deliver project benefits sooner.
- **Catalytic impact** – manage ageing assets to support the long-term vision and third-party renewal initiatives.
- **Transformation by degrees** – coordinate activities and investment over time, towards the long-term vision.
- **Collaborative** – refine and potentially deliver future projects in collaboration with the community, key stakeholders and public and private sector partners.
- **Deliberate and distinct** – protect and grow the precinct's appeal with every initiative to actively promote its distinctiveness.

## 01 Place: Operation excellence

South Bank is committed to operational excellence. A range of initiatives will build on the collaborative partnership model to continually improve the contribution South Bank makes to the community, the economy and the environment.

In conjunction with the master plan, the South Bank Corporation Board has identified three overarching commitments that have underpinned the master plan process and should continue to guide its future implementation in order to make South Bank more Lively, Green, and Inclusive.

### OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

The master plan supports a range of operationally focused initiatives that will support the vision and strategies of the master plan. They include:

- accessibility and inclusiveness audit and improvement strategy

- improve wayfinding and signage
- education and play strategy
- whole of precinct retail strategy
- review the South Bank Approved Development Plan
- support next steps required to investigate tenure and lease conditions for the Southern Gatewayprecinct and any road closures
- charter for significant cultural events at the Cultural Forecourt
- intelligent digital and technology strategy
- corporate / social responsibility strategy

- creative culture incubation strategy
- renewable power and micro-grid investigations
- flood risk assessment and resilience analysis
- circular economy master plan to promote the efficient use and reuse of materials and waste
- best practice sustainability strategies including developing measurable targets and a sustainability, dashboard for energy, carbon, waste and water management
- retail curation strategies that explore the creation of memorable dining experiences.

## OUR COMMITMENT IS TO MAKE SOUTH BANK MORE:

# Lively



## CITY DEFINING EVENTS AND ACTIVATION

We are committed to South Bank being the home of city-scale major events and celebrations.

Our commitment for South Bank in the future is to:

- Curate a calendar of annual and special events.
- Deliver 6 new signature annual events including partnerships.
- Support a program of sport focused and live site events in the lead up and during Brisbane 2032.
- Deliver signature lighting and nighttime activation to enliven the city after dark.



## CURATING THE RETAIL AND DINING EXPERIENCE

We are committed to creating and curating a diverse range of dining, leisure and shopping experiences.

Our commitment for South Bank in the future is to:

- Curate retail innovations unique to South Bank.
- Deliver signature dining experiences that bring together our city's iconic tastes and cultures in one place.
- Exploration of collaborations to produce exclusive retail and dining content.
- Promote diversity of offerings to cater for a range of visitors.

# Green



## GROW THE PARKLAND AND GREEN SPACE

Green space will play an increasingly important role in maintaining Brisbane's liveability, wellness and overall sustainability.

Our commitment for South Bank in the future is to:

- increase parkland and green space by more than 8%
- increase trees and canopy cover by more than 20%
- address missing links in the walking and cycling network to improve access to South Bank.



## PROMOTE RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability and climate resilience are critical priorities for Brisbane and South Bank.

Our ambition is to achieve:

- nil-net increase in energy use or carbon emissions
- an average 2° reduction in precinct temperatures
- nil-net increase in organic waste, with expanded organic food waste program across the precinct
- net zero potable water use for irrigation.

# Inclusive



## EMBRACE AND CELEBRATE ABORIGINAL CULTURE

We are committed to respecting and reflecting Aboriginal people and cultures and improving inclusivity, research and collaboration.

Our aim is to:

- establish an Aboriginal Opportunities Framework for procurement, employment and participation
- support community-driven initiatives in partnership with other organisations and institutions
- prepare a local Reconciliation Action Plan for South Bank.



## WELCOMING FOR ALL AGES, ABILITIES AND CULTURES

Our aim is to make every single experience and touchpoint with South Bank inclusive and accessible for all ages, abilities, cultures, social circumstances, and identities.

Our commitment is to:

- Promote playfulness for everyone, regardless of age and ability
- Deliver a universal access and pedestrian priority strategy
- Actively work to make South Bank Brisbane's safest precinct
- Collaborative engagement with local community in placemaking activities.

# 02 | Improvements:

## MASTER PLAN PRIORITY PROJECTS

A series of future projects have been identified that support South Bank's role in Brisbane 2032 and its contribution to the attraction and impact of Brisbane into the future.



1

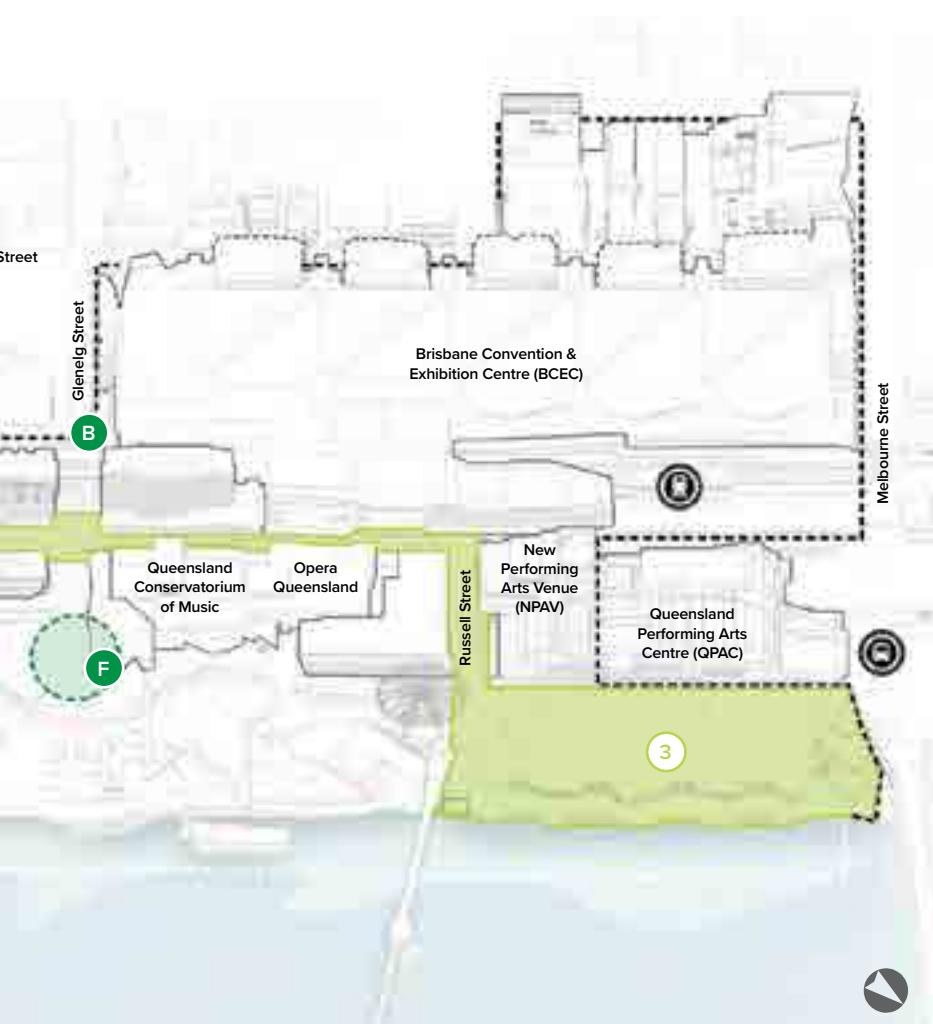
### SOUTHERN GATEWAY

Renew this key 'unfinished' part of the precinct, and connections between inner city places and precincts including Woolloongabba, the Kangaroo Point Cliffs, South Bank and the CBD via several existing and emerging bridge links including the Neville Bonner Bridge and Kangaroo Point Bridge.

2

### GREY STREET

Reconfigure Grey Street to incorporate an alternate bikeway route to the promenade, increase footpath widths, greenery and enhance the appeal and performance of South Bank retail.



# 3

## CULTURAL FORECOURT

Create an iconic gathering place for all Queenslanders, transforming the city's most prominent river edge and event space. It is the natural northern gateway to South Bank and the Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC). The large open space is bordered by the river and is a dramatic setting with stunning views to the city skyline.

### ACTIVATION OPPORTUNITIES

A range of social and activation initiatives could be explored to be implemented in parallel or in advance of other initiatives. They could be used to test, refine, innovate, and incubate the longer-term projects.

The possible initiatives include:

- A. Regular farmers market
- B. Pop-up art and cultural spaces
- C. Native plant and interpretive aboriginal food experiences
- D. Handmade goods market
- E. Lagoon activation / night-time lighting experience
- F. Enhanced activation of the Piazza while the facility is retained to support Brisbane 2032
- G. More events and activities across the precinct.

Note: Timing, scope, staging, and any funding commitment will remain subject to subsequent South Bank Corporation and Queensland Government consideration.

# 03 | Planning:

## PARTNERSHIP-LED CHANGE

South Bank Corporation is committed to positive planning outcomes founded on a partnership approach involving the community, public and private sectors.

### APPROVED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Development within South Bank is controlled by the Approved Development Plan (ADP). Like a city's planning scheme, the ADP guides change within the precinct and is a framework for the assessment of any proposals for new development.

The ADP is prepared by South Bank Corporation with development assessment undertaken in partnership with BCC.

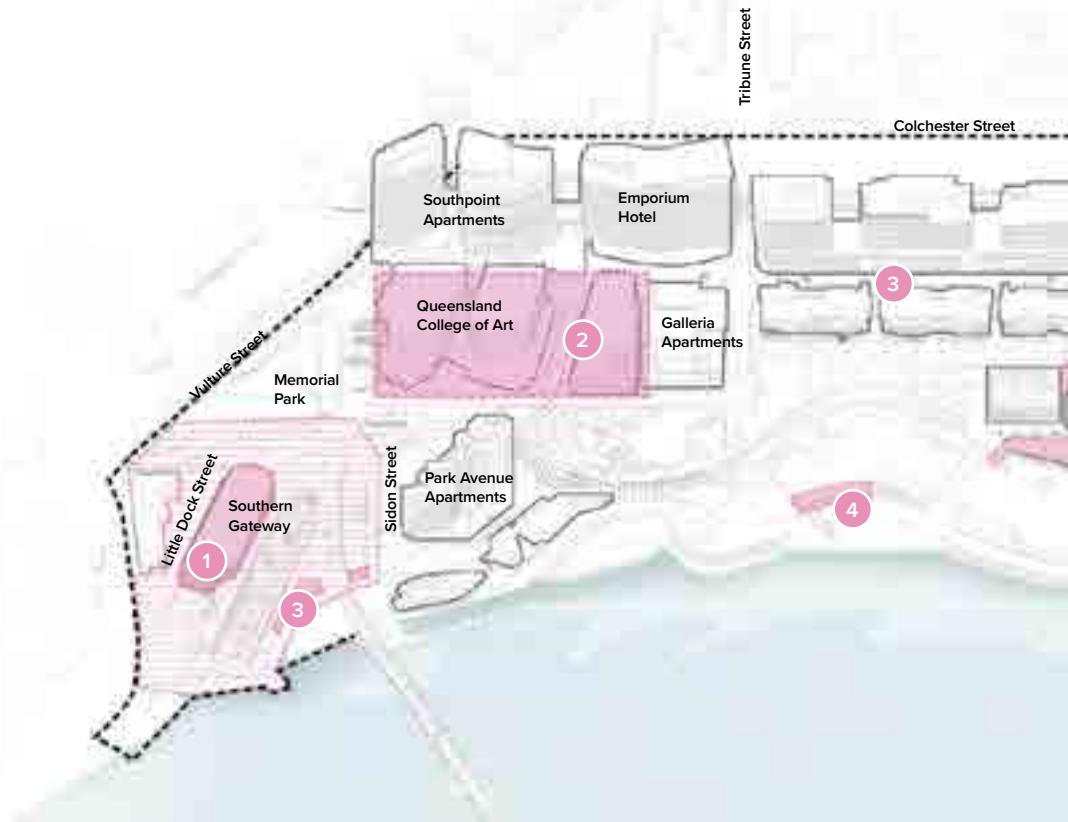
While the master plan will not override the ADP, it provides an opportunity for community feedback and may help to guide any future review of the ADP that may be undertaken.

### ROLE OF THE MASTER PLAN

A key objective of the master plan will be to provide clarity about which sites may be appropriate for renewal, expansion or reconfiguration in the future to support community outcomes and the long-term vision for South Bank.

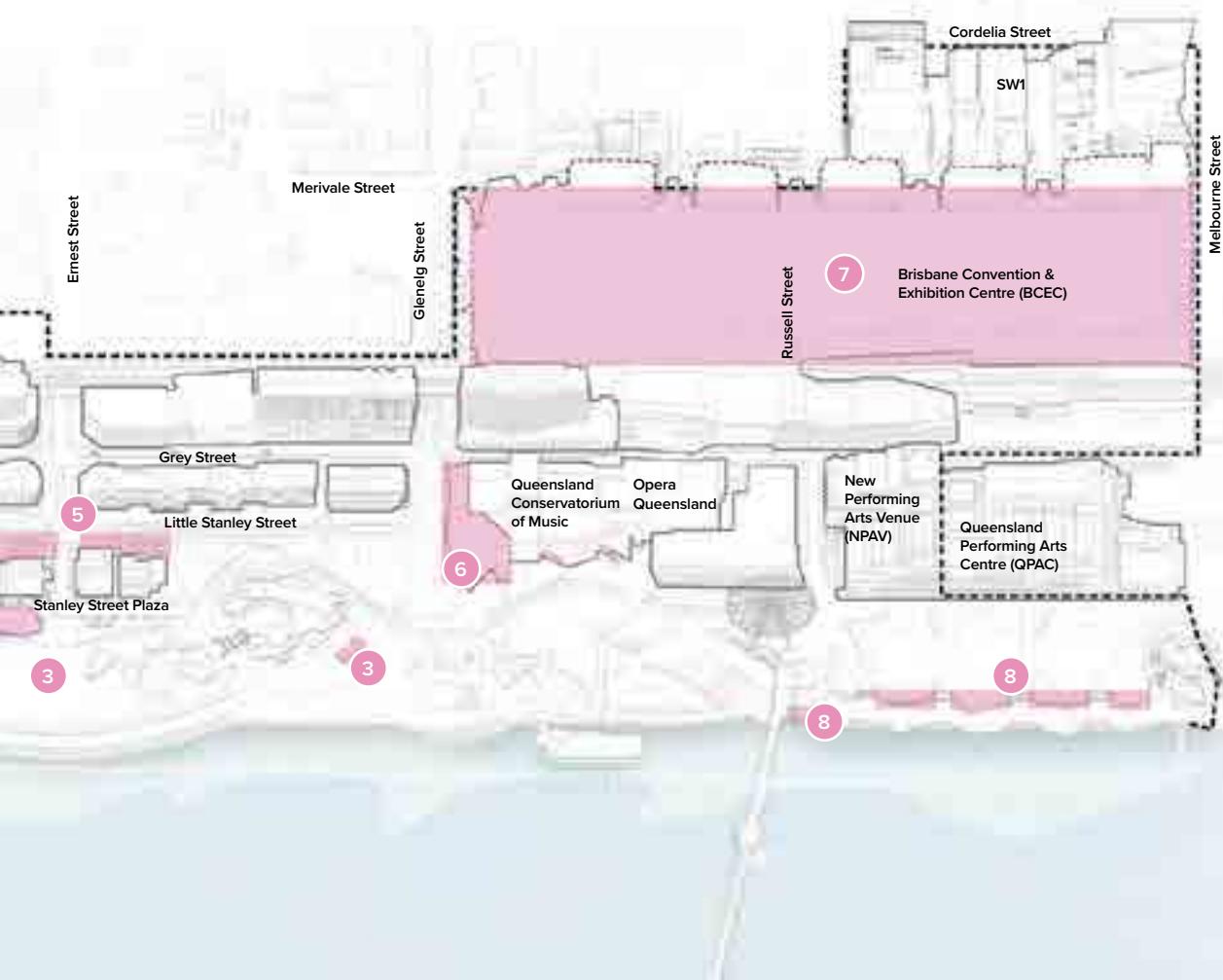
The master plan shows some ideas that would involve possible changes to the planning framework. The building massing shown in the master plan is indicative only and would be subject to further detailed analysis and consultation.

The building heights shown are generally in accordance with the allowable heights of the current ADP. A sensitive approach at the Dry Dock, Southern Gatewayprecinct and Cultural Forecourt is required to ensure future projects respect and protect significant heritage structures and views.



## Legend

1. Southern Gateway precinct
2. Queensland College of Art
3. Parkland kiosks and streetscape pods
4. Retail beneath tilted lawn
5. Handmade goods market
6. Glenelg spine and parkland edges
7. Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre
8. Restaurants along river edge



# Image credits

All images within this document are owned by South Bank Corporation with the exception of the images listed.



Image 1.



Image 2.



Image 3.



Image 4.



Image 5.



Image 6.



Image 7.



Image 8.



Image 9.



Image 10.



Image 11.



Image 12.



Image 13.



Image 14.



Image 15.



Image 16.



Image 17.



Image 18.



Image 19.

**Image 1.** Town Survey Brisbane in 1844 retracted and published in The Sketcher (1915), John Oxley collection. **Image 2.** Aerial sketch of Brisbane illustrated by Conrad Martens (1888), John Oxley collection. **Image 3.** Photograph of South Brisbane wharves (circa 1950), John Oxley collection. **Image 4.** Photograph of Brisbane Central (1970), Robin Barron, queenslandplaces.com.au. **Image 5.** Photograph of Expo '88 (1988), BCC. **Image 6.** Photograph of South Bank Parklands opening (1992), John Oxley Collection. **Image 7.** Photograph of Cloud Gate, Chicago, Francine Scra, Pixabay. **Image 8.** Photograph of Aker Brygge, Norway, Dyroe, Wikimedia Commons. **Image 9.** Photograph of Hunter's Point South Waterfront Park, New York, Albert Vecerka / Esto, courtesy Weiss / Manfredi. **Image 10.** Photograph of Granary Square Steps, London, John Sutton. **Image 11.** Photograph of Brooklyn Bridge Park, New York, Dan Nguyen, Flickr. **Image 12.** Photograph of The Giants, Granville Island, Vancouver, Ted McGrath, Flickr. **Image 13.** Photograph of Prismatica, Quartier des Spectacles, Montreal, Raw Design, Flickr. **Image 14.** Photograph of Your Rainbow Panorama, Aarhus, Denmark, Gordon Leggett, Wikimedia Commons. **Image 15.** Photograph of Puppy and Guggenheim, Bilbao, Ian Turk, Flickr. **Image 16.** Photograph of Riverwalk, Chicago, Michael Muraz. **Image 17.** Photograph of Brisbane Sign South Bank, Tourism and Events Queensland. **Image 18.** Photograph of South Bank rainforest, Tourism and Events Queensland. **Image 19.** Photograph of Riverside Green, South Bank, Scott Burrows Photographer.

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- UQ Aboriginal Environments Research Centre

*South Bank Corporation would like to thank our precinct partners for their contribution and ideas throughout the master planning process, particularly BCC.*



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