

## **Attachment C**

**City South Public Domain Plan**



# City South





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

## Executive Summary

The City South is located in an area of the city that is going through and anticipating unprecedented change and development. The NSW Government is planning to develop Central Station as part of the innovation precinct, 'Tech Central'. The precinct will support tech start up, scale ups and innovation ecosystem partners. A major new public place at Central is a critical part of the re-envisioning of this area of the city. High quality open space and streets with high pedestrian amenity will help to attract and retain talent in the new precinct and support the younger demographic including university students. Better cycling amenity will also be necessary to support the tech sector workers accessing jobs, and economic life, as passengers and for deliveries and servicing.

City South is also a key growth area of central Sydney as part of the City's draft Central Sydney Strategy's review of planning controls. The public domain in this area is heavily used during the day and at night by workers, visitors and residents. The streets and public open spaces in the area need to be reinvigorated to reflect the ambition to reposition it as a key growth area for jobs, innovation and collaboration. Informed by the principles and directions set out in Sustainable Sydney 2030 and Public Space Public Life 2007 and 2020. The Plan further develops the idea

of a pedestrianised George Street linked by three squares at Circular Quay, Town Hall and Central.

The proposals are not fully developed or resolved designs but are intended to illustrate potential design principles to particular streets and spaces within the precinct to stimulate conversation and engagement with stakeholders about the future direction of the area.



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## **Introduction**



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prepared by

CITY DESIGN  
City of Sydney

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# Introduction

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Sydney  
**Madang**  
Restaurant

**MADANG**

SYDNEY



BLUE NEST

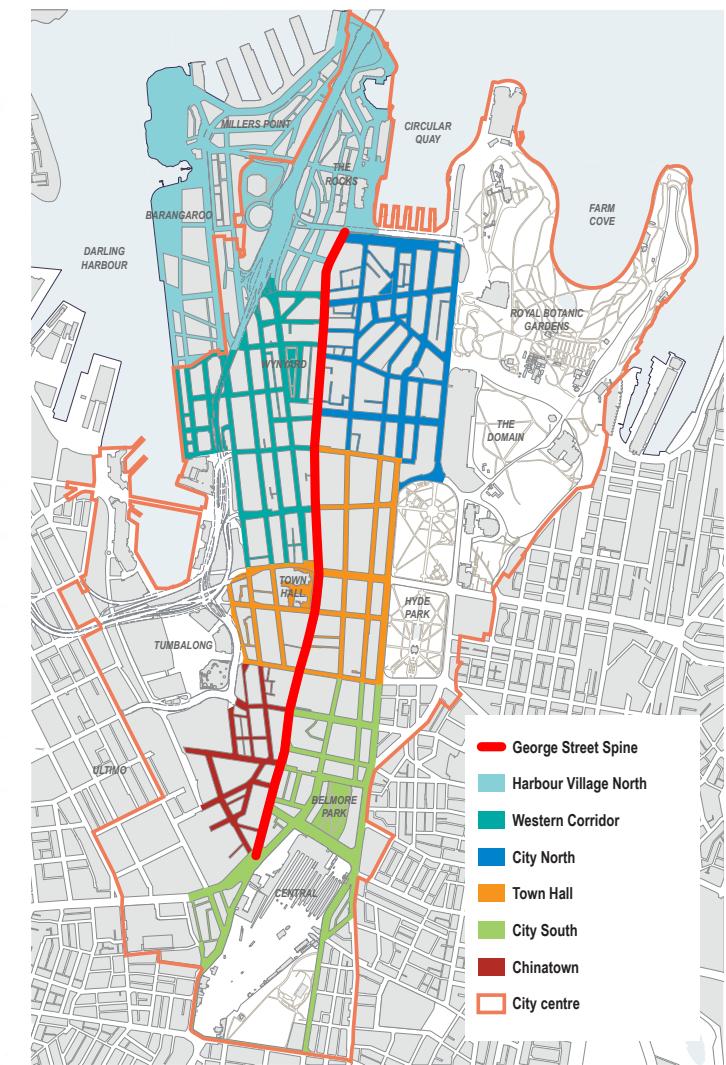
LEVEL 3



## Study Area

The City South is bounded by Liverpool Street to the north, Cleveland Street to the south, George / Broadway to the west and Elizabeth / Chalmers Street to the east. Belmore Park and Prince Alfred Parks are located within the precinct and provide vital amenity for the precinct, which has limited access to open space.

*left* Study area  
*right* City Centre Precincts



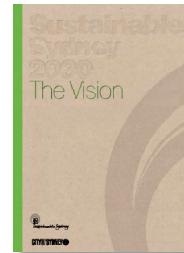
# City Centre Public Domain Planning

The City Centre Public Domain Plan has been divided into key precincts for which detailed feasibility and public domain improvement proposals are being developed. To date, the City has undertaken public domain plans for Chinatown, Harbour Village North, George Street and City North. The City South Public Domain Plan is the next in a series of detailed plans that analyse and recommend the scope, location and extent of public domain improvements over the short, medium and long term, contributing to the overall city transformation.

This Plan should be read in conjunction with the plans for the surrounding precincts, in particular George Street, Chinatown and Town Hall.

*right* **City South Public Domain Plan inputs and outputs**

## STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

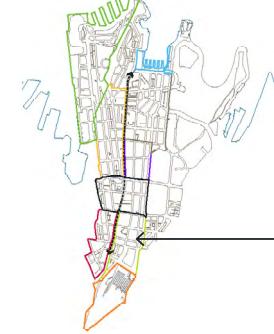


Sydney 2030

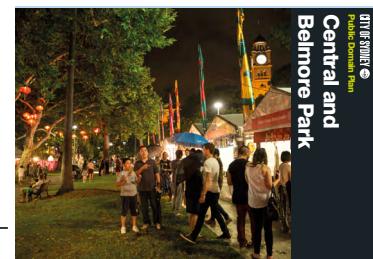


Public Spaces Public Life Study 2020

## PUBLIC DOMAIN PLANS



City Centre Public Domain Plan

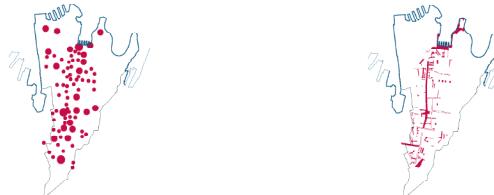


City South Central and Belmore Park Public Domain Plan

## PROJECTS



- Pedestrian Improvements
- Lighting
- Footpath Materials
- Street Furniture
- Public Art
- Greening Sydney
- Wayfinding Pedestrian System
- Environmental Sustainability



Overlay Projects



Place Specific Projects

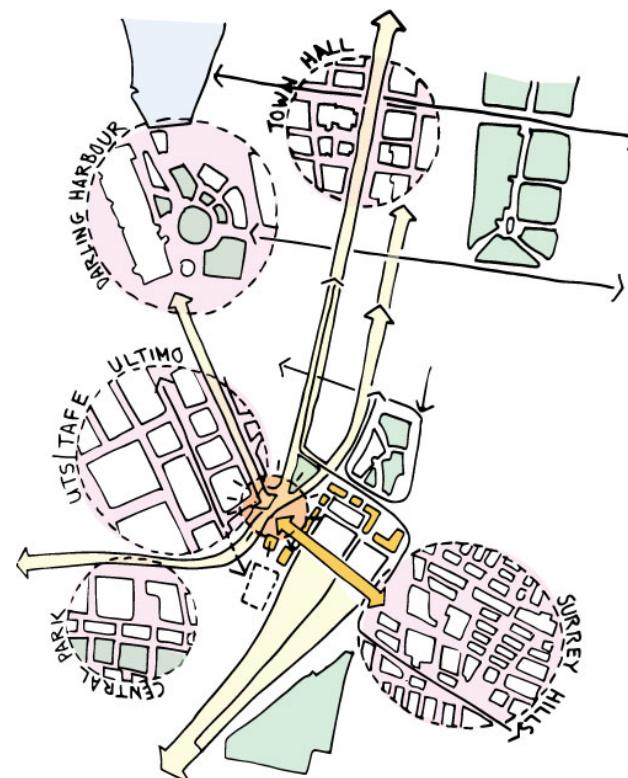
- Public Space Improvement Program
- Laneways Improvement Program
- Cycleway Implementation Program
- Urban Renewal

## Repositioning Central

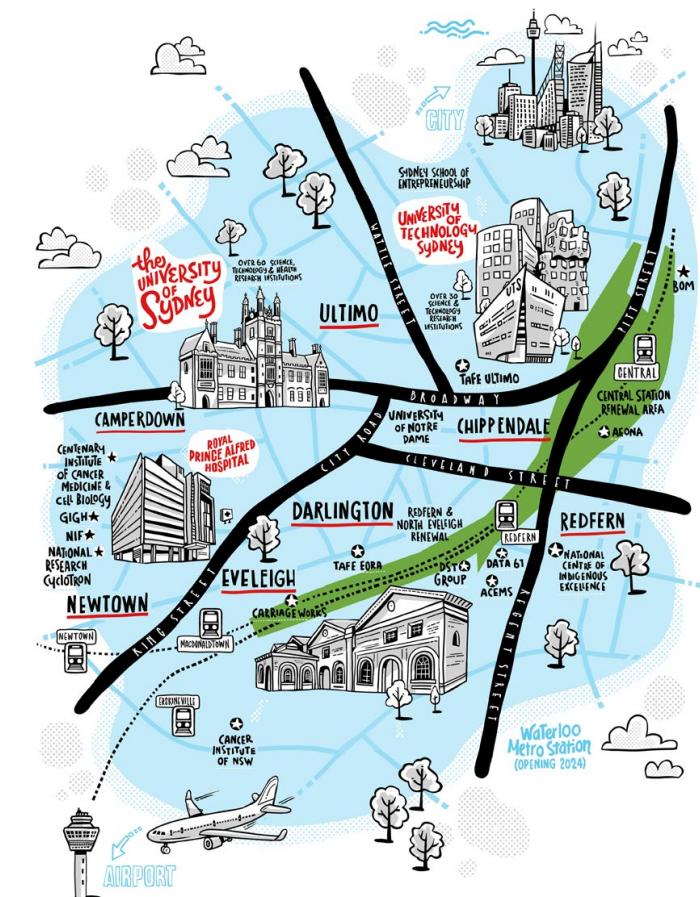
Central Station is the focus of significant urban renewal and transport infrastructure development by the NSW Government. It presents opportunities to reconsider existing streets and spaces and the creation of a new public space, Central Square as part of an integrated public domain network.

The Greater Sydney Commission is also progressing the coordination of planning for Tech Central which, in addition to the City South study area, encompasses a wider area including Broadway, Camperdown Innovation precinct, North and South Eveleigh and Surry Hills creative district. With multiple project stakeholders, land ownership and overlapping areas of interest, it is evident that further co-ordination between agencies and the City is required to ensure a connected, cohesive public domain over a broader southern city area.

The City South Public Domain Plan is an informing document for advocacy and stakeholder consultation on recommended project priorities, as well as input into the development a broader public domain co-ordination plan that includes Tech Central. The public domain co-ordination plan will guide the future development of Tech Central, including the renewal of Central Station and the creation of Central Square.



**Connected precincts with Central Square as the focal point** (Hassell Studio)



**Tech Central - Prospective precinct**  
(NSW Government)

# Objective

The need for the Plan has arisen to:

- develop a holistic, co-ordinated plan that considers and responds to the upcoming renewal of Central Station and the development of 'Tech Central'
- consider new potentials for city streets with the completion of CBD and South East Light Rail, associated review of CBD bus routes, Sydney Metro and other transport changes,
- provide further articulation to Sustainable Sydney 2030 aspirations and project ideas within the precinct;
- provide public domain direction to the many private development projects occurring within the study area.
- provide a plan that can be used for advocacy, stakeholder engagement and community consultation.
- assist in COVID-19 recovery through improvements in the public domain

The intent is that this strategic work will inform major infrastructure, transport or development projects so that the recommended improvements can be taken into consideration through planning negotiations and project delivery. The plan will also guide the City's long term planning and capital works programming.



# Consultation & development of the plan

## Development of the Plan

The City South Public Domain Plan presents a possible way forward to transform the precinct and is tool for consultation and advocacy. Development of the Plan involved collaboration between City staff and external inputs including:

City South - Belmore Park and Central concept designs (Spackman Mossop Michaels and WSP)

Central Square Public Domain Design Study (Hassell Studio)

Central Square Structuring Principles Study (Tonkin Zulika Greer, Spackman Mossop Michaels, Pentalic Advisory)

## 2050 consultation and engagement

The Plan has drawn on the extensive engagement program undertaken for Sustainable Sydney 2050, as well as targeted intercept surveys at Belmore Park.

Key themes identified in the engagement activities revealed that people wanted:

- A city for people
- A city that moves
- An environmentally responsive city
- A lively, cultural and creative city
- A city with a future focused economy

## Community and stakeholder consultation

The Plan is a conversation starter with the local community, businesses and key stakeholders including government agencies that the City has to work with to deliver public domain benefits.

## Key themes - Sydney 2050 consultation findings



## Sydney 2050 High School Summit

High school students participated in workshops to discuss issues affecting the city and its future. Findings include:

83% of participants wanted to be able to get anywhere you like on public transport, walking or by bike riding; 81% said they wanted a city with parks, trees and lots of nature; 72% want the City to be a creative place where people have fun; 77% wanted a city where lots of different cultures live happily together.



## Sydney 2050 Mandarin Community Session

The community present were most excited about environmental and transport initiatives with reoccurring themes around making Sydney more liveable and better for families and the aging population.



2

## Vision and Guiding Principles



## Sydney 2030

Sustainable Sydney 2030 is the vision document that guides the City's efforts to improve the way communities live, work and play.

The City South Public Domain Plan will help meet the City meet 9 of the strategic directions identified in Sydney 2030:

**Direction 1 - A Globally Competitive and Innovative City:** the Plan promotes a public domain quality agenda that supports the city centre that is competitive, attracts investment, and ensures ongoing liveability.

**Direction 2 - A Leading Environmental Performer:** the Plan supports the City's environmental actions in particular increasing space available for tree canopy.

**Direction 3 - Integrated Transport for a Connected City:** the Plan supports efficient public transport and facilitates the transfer of modes through better public domain outcomes.

**Direction 4 - A City for Walking and Cycling:** the Plan promotes a rethink of street space allocation to promote better conditions for walking and cycling.

**Direction 5 - A Lively and Engaging City Centre:** the Plan advocates for a welcoming public domain that encourages people to stay and enjoy as well as measures that support a diverse 24 hr city economy.

**Direction 6 - Resilient and inclusive local communities:** the Plan considers the diversity of users of the precinct and will consult with them to ensure that the public domain and open spaces are inclusive.

**Direction 7 - A Cultural and Creative City:** the Plan promotes the importance of a diverse cultural offer and public art for city identity and encourage people to come to the city for leisure beyond work and business activities.

**Direction 9 - Sustainable Development, Renewal and Design:** the Plan advocates built development and public domain to be exemplars of sustainability.

**Direction 10 - Implementation through Effective Governance and Partnerships:**

State government and the private sector collaboration will be needed to implement the Plan's recommendations as most require a rethink of road space allocation and traffic management managed by State agencies.

facing page

### One spine three squares

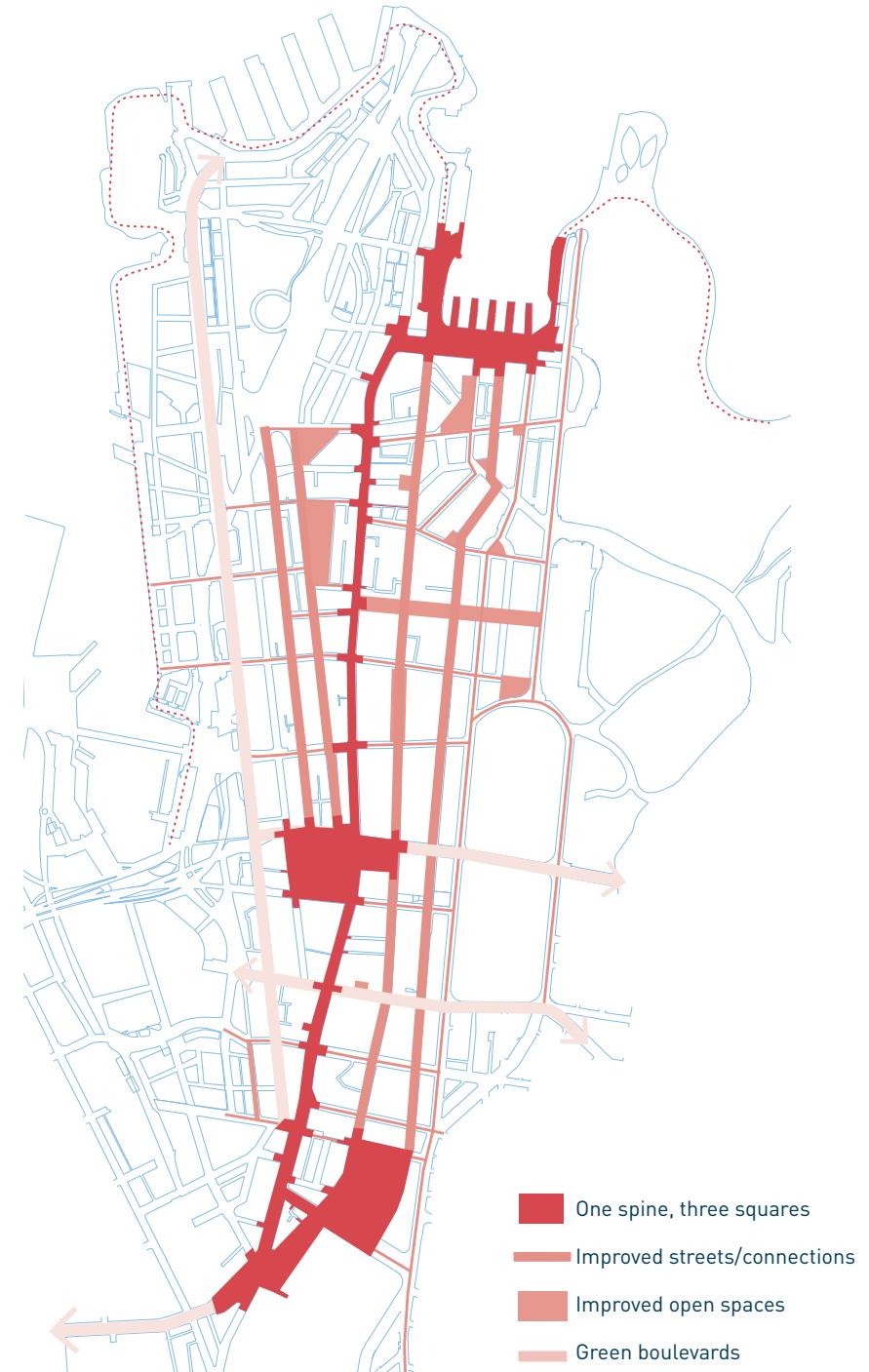
Delivering the 'one spine, three squares' structure of our City is central to Sustainable Sydney 2030. This framework creates a strong, larger, legible and interconnected public space network to support future needs of the City's population and visitors.

With the completion of the George Street spine, the focus now shifts to the squares at Circular Quay, Town Hall and Central.

(Public Spaces Public Life Study 2020)

## Ten strategic directions for Sustainable Sydney

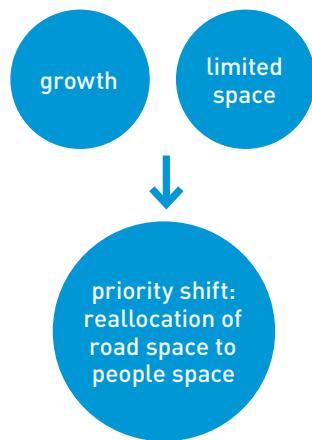
<b>1</b> A globally competitive and innovative city	<b>2</b> A leading environmental performer
<b>3</b> Integrated transport for a connected city	<b>4</b> A city for walking and cycling
<b>5</b> A lively and engaging city centre	
<b>6</b> Resilient and inclusive local communities	<b>7</b> A cultural and creative city
	<b>8</b> Housing for a diverse community
<b>9</b> Sustainable development, renewal and design	<b>10</b> Implementation through effective governance and partnerships



## Public Spaces Public Life Study 2020

### Road space to people space

The Public Space Public Life Study 2020 by Gehl Architects, in collaboration with the City, is a review and benchmark assessment against the previous Public Space Public Life Study which was conducted in 2007. To improve health and wellbeing, making more space for walking, cycling and greening, the city must continue to increase the quantity and quality of well-planned public domain – streets and spaces that are human in scale, sustainable, social, healthy, safe, and lively.



above

### Reallocate road space to people space

right

### Directions for the City in four themes

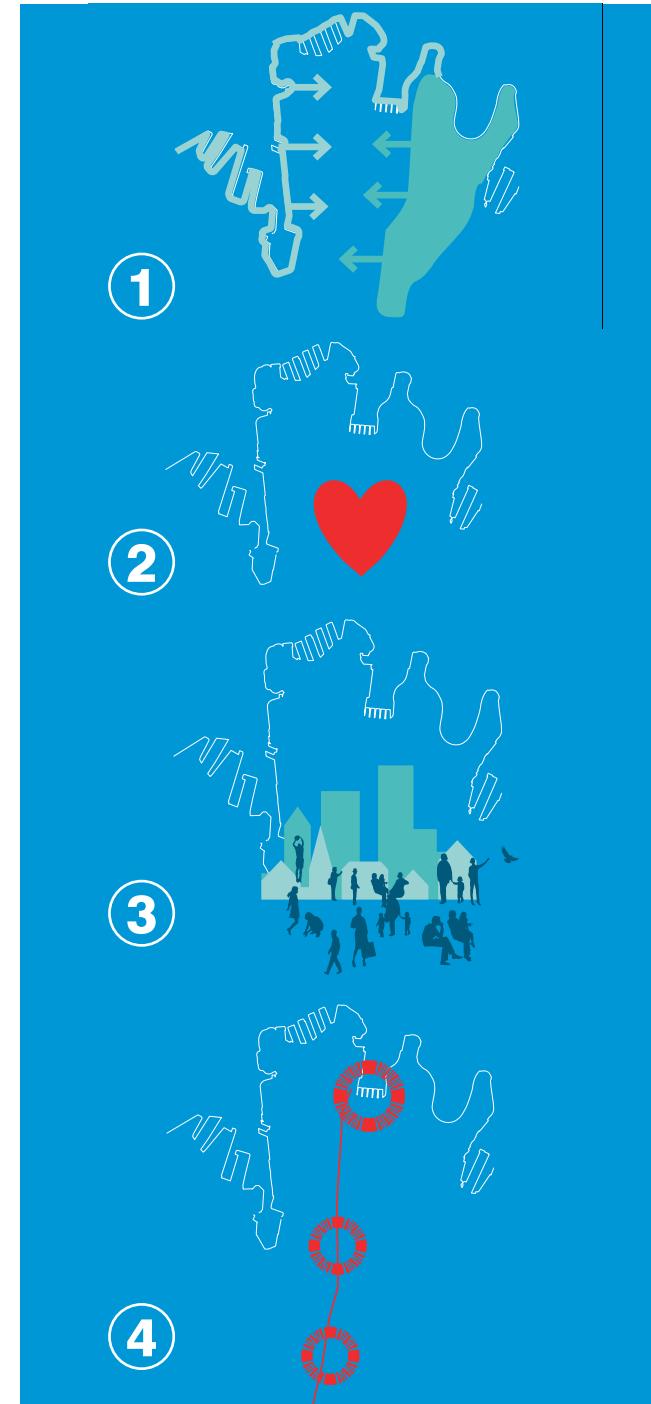
(Public Spaces Public Life Study 2020)

More Space is required for:

- **Walking**
- **Cycling**
- **Socialising**
- **Greening**
- **Health and Wellbeing**

The Study's recommendations are centred on four themes:

- 1. A green and cool city** - continue the City's leadership in environmental sustainability and climate action
- 2. Protected heart** - rethinking mobility and access to win back space for people to walk, cycle and stay as well as for green infrastructure
- 3. A city for all** – ensuring a public realm that is welcoming for all people
- 4. A strong city identity** – capitalise on city amenities and strengthen public realm quality and identity.



*left*

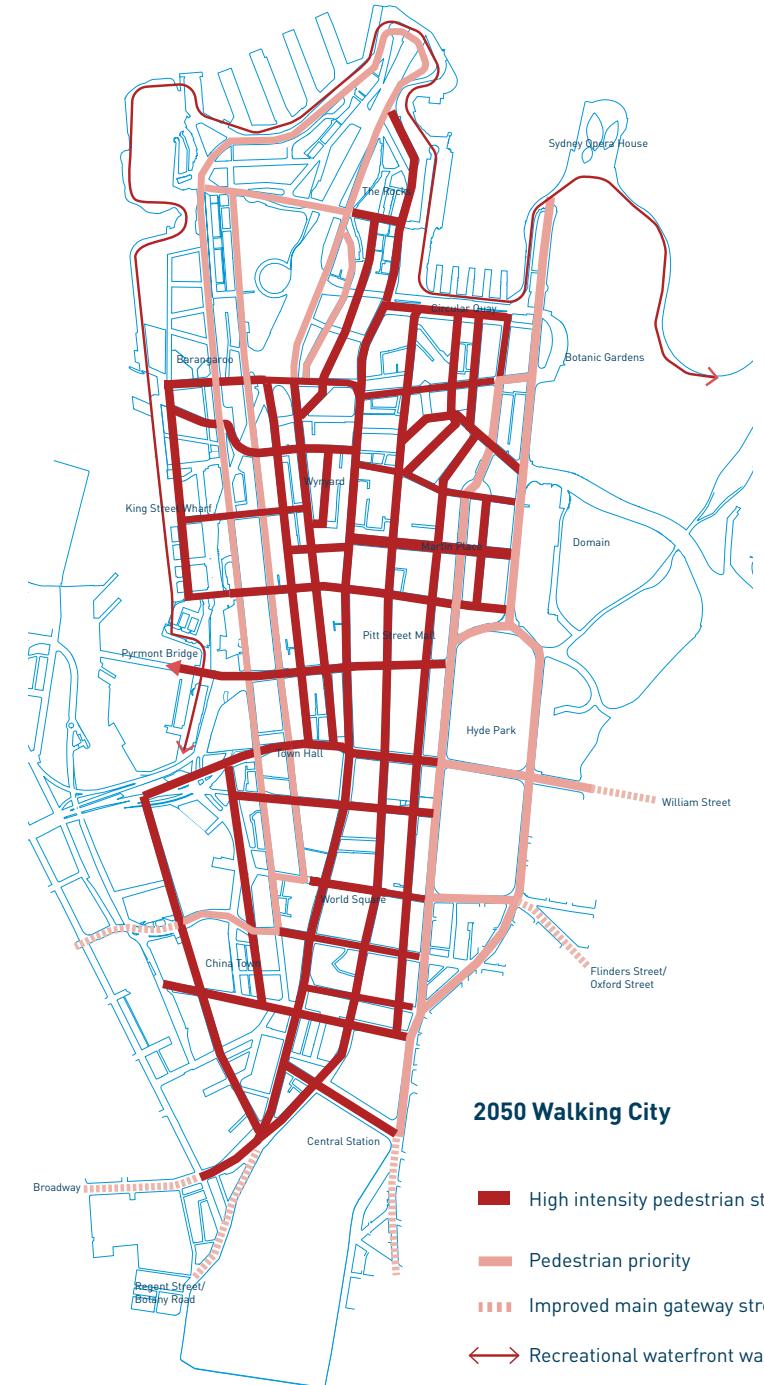
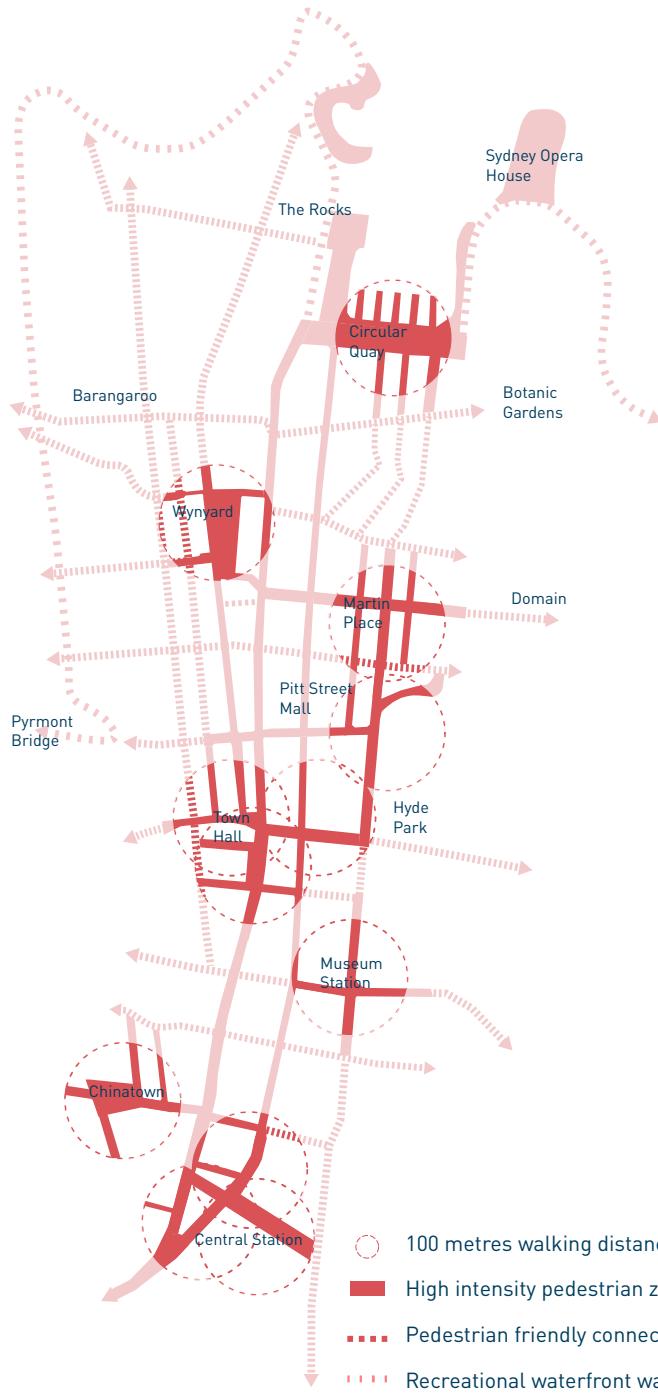
### Pedestrian priority around transport hubs

As a priority, improve pedestrian amenity and priority around metro stations and public transport hubs.

*right*

### 2050 Walking City

By 2050 the city should be a 'Walking City' with pedestrians prioritised and strong pedestrian priority throughout the city.



3

## Project Context



SYDNEY CENTRAL YHA



DEPT

OFFICE

backpackersworld.com backpackersworld.com



BACKPACKERS

WORLD

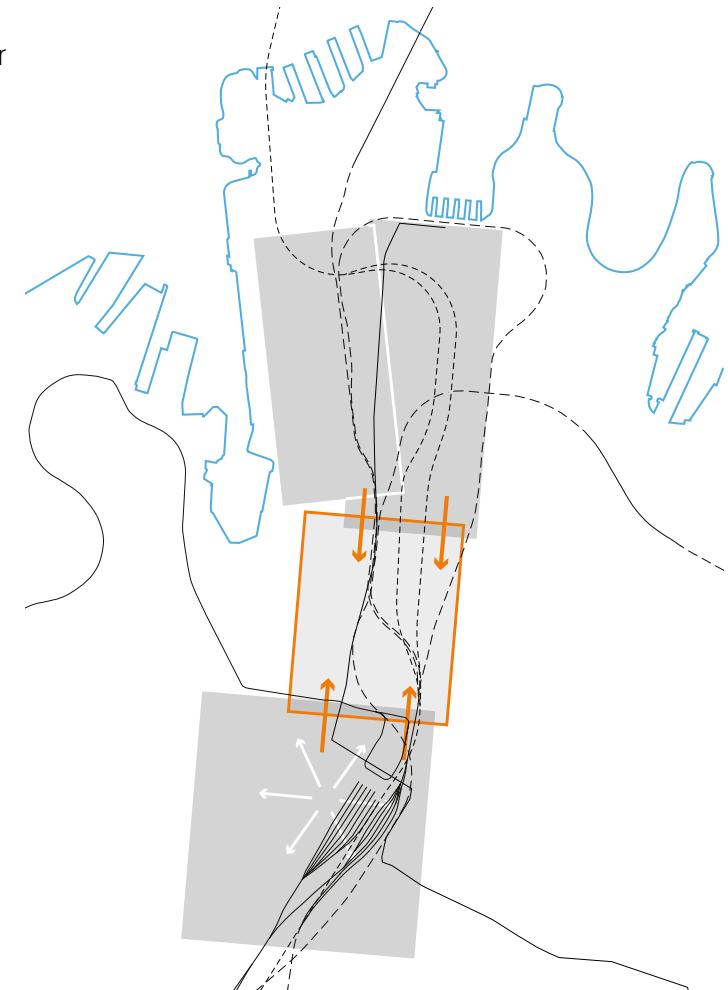
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## Planning for growth in City South

City Plan 2036, the City's Local Strategic Planning Statement 13 priorities and a series of actions to achieve the vision and guide future changes to the City's planning controls:

1. Movement for walkable neighbourhoods and a connected city
2. Align development and growth with supporting infrastructure
3. Supporting community wellbeing with social infrastructure
4. A creative and socially connected city
5. Creating great places
6. New homes for a diverse community
7. Growing a stronger, more competitive Central Sydney
8. Developing innovative and diverse business clusters in the city fringe
9. Protecting industrial and urban services in the southern enterprise area and evolving businesses in the Green Square-Mascot strategic centre
10. Protecting and enhancing the natural environment for a resilient city

11. Creating better buildings and places to reduce emissions and waste, and use water efficiently
12. Increasing resilience of people and infrastructure against natural and urban hazards
13. Open, accountable and collaborative planning

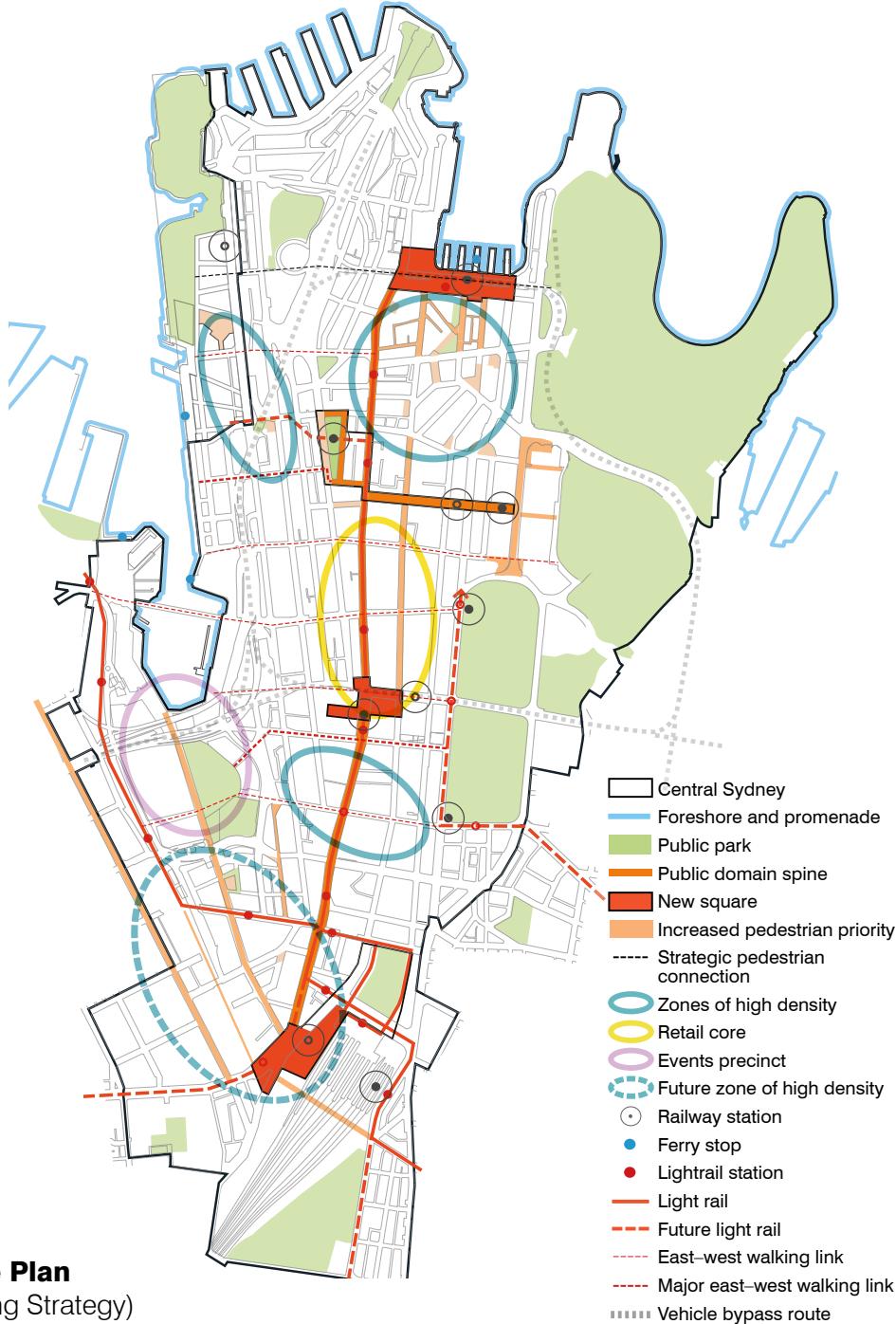


**Central Sydney South: Future focus** (Draft Central Sydney Planning Strategy)

## Central Sydney Structure Plan

(Draft Central Sydney Planning Strategy)

City South Public Domain Plan



## Connecting City South

The southern end of the city is currently somewhat removed from the traditional core of the City Centre, it retains some of the fine grained subdivision patterns, narrow frontages and informal public spaces. The area around Central Station with Ultimo, Haymarket and parts of Surry Hills is the future southern extension of Central Sydney. With Central Station at the centre of the Harbour CBD, a Sydney Metro West station in this location will be an important catalyst for employment and economic growth in the area. It would reduce car dependency and traffic congestion in the area and would support the growth of existing knowledge-intensive employment clusters in the area.

The NSW Government's District Plan requires the City to plan for and deliver at least 165,100 new jobs by 2036 in the Harbour CBD, with a higher aspirational target of 266,100 new jobs.<sup>1</sup> The long term goal for Tech Central is to create 25,000 innovation jobs.<sup>2</sup> The City is reviewing the planning controls for the City South in response. In parallel, will provide a quality public setting for the areas growing creative and young professional workforce to socialise, share, innovate and celebrate.

<sup>1</sup> Central Sydney Planning Strategy Addendum 2020

<sup>2</sup> NSW Government, Tech Central

## Supporting economic and cultural activities

With the transformation of George Street South, planned infrastructure investments at Central Station and the NSW Government's direction on Tech Central, the area is expected to experience pressures to change, including an increase in employment floor space demand and a change in social and economic profile. The City South precinct can capitalise on these catalytic infrastructure investments and government initiatives while maintaining its culturally rich clusters, strong economic connections to Asian markets, and culturally distinct entrepreneurial culture. City South has a vibrant street life. The convergence of different Asian cultures are represented in the shop fronts - Korean, Thai, Japanese and Chinese businesses sit side by side, providing services and goods from hairdressing and nail salons to groceries and restaurants. The restaurants, cafés and bars provide theatre goers at Capitol Theatre, tourists staying in surrounding hotels / backpackers, residents and workers of the City Centre food and entertainment options that open well into the night. Concentrated around Pitt Street and Campbell Street, now known as 'Koreatown' and 'Thai Town', these micro precincts have established strong street presence through annual street festivals. Arts and cultural organisations such as Gallery 4A and the soon to be completed Museum of Chinese in Australia, add to the precinct's attraction as a cultural hub.

**Thai Town**  
Campbell Street  
**Koreatown**  
Pitt Street



**Museum of Chinese in Australia**  
Lord Mayor Clover Moore and Dr John Yu, President of the Museum of Chinese in Australia, at the announcement of the conversion of the former Haymarket Library to the Museum



## COVID-19 pandemic recovery

The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted that our local economy is heavily reliant on population and visitor-driven industries. The arts, accommodation and food services, retail and other professional services have all suffered. International students who live in the city have been hit hard with casual / insecure employment disrupted and no government support. Restaurants in the area provided free meals for international students during the pandemic. The City in partnership with Oz Harvest also opened OzHarvest Hamper Hubs to provide a new emergency food relief service for vulnerable members of the community, especially International Students and Temporary Visa Holders. As the city works towards pandemic recovery, how we enliven and re imagine our city as a destination during the day and later at night will make a significant contribution to Sydney's recovery. City South's vibrant night-time economy with a strong international student and visitor presence will need to be reinvigorated to support the recovery. Recovery will involve creating more space for people to safely access businesses in the area. As the City has done through the Alfresco Sydney program\* investigation could include pop-up festivals and lunchtime performances and the temporary use of parking and loading zones for alfresco dining.

\*in partnership with the NSW Government

Luke Henriques-Gomes  @lukehgomess

Replies to @lukehgomess

Weeraphan, who is helping coordinate free meals through Sydney's Thai restaurants, sent me these photos of international students queuing round the block



3:15 PM · May 15, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

*left People waiting for takeaway food in the evening  
above Local Thai restaurants gave out free meals during the pandemic  
(@lukehgnomes via twiter)*

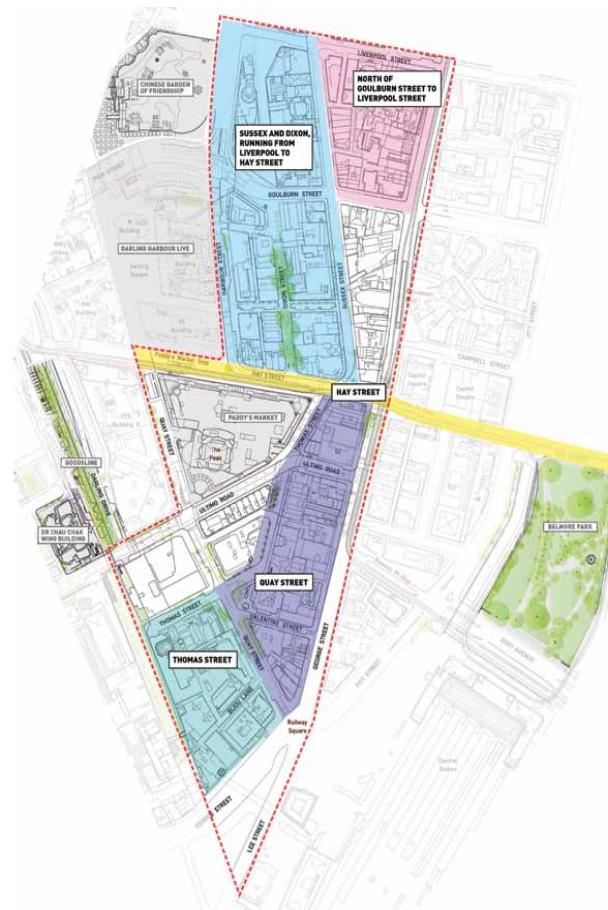
## Public Art

The City Centre Public Art Plan aims to bring inspiring public art with a permanent legacy to Sydney's residents and visitors. By placing high quality public art in our urban spaces, the plan greatly contributes to Sydney's social fabric and the quality of daily life for Sydneysiders. It also sets out processes to encourage and enable public art commissioning in Sydney. The map of priority sites highlights Liverpool, Goulburn and Hay Street as key east west connectors as well Cunningham, Parker and St Laurence Lane.

New Century Garden Public Art Plan for Chinatown also highlights Hay Street as the main connector between Chinatown and Belmore Park which bears cultural connections to Chinatown.

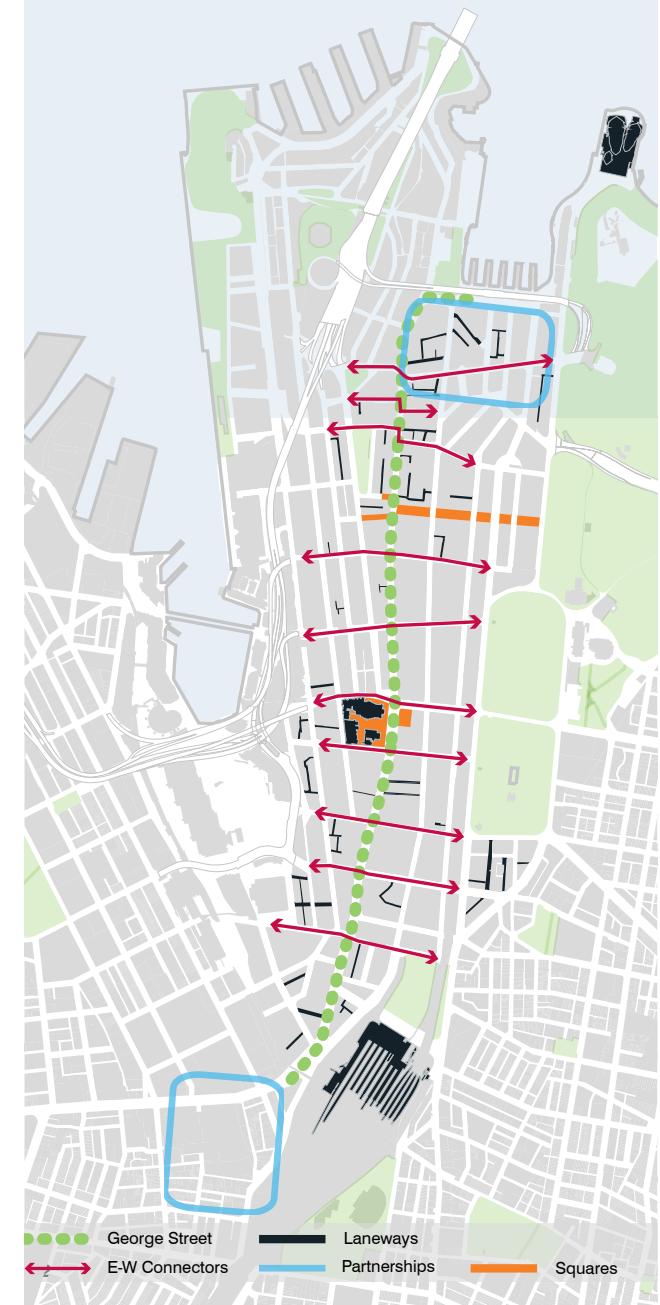
A number of major developments including the renewal of Central Station will include major Public Art contributions.

The City has identified a need to develop a public domain co-ordination plan to guide future development of Tech Central, including the renewal of Central Station and the creation of Central Square. The co-ordination plan will include direction on existing and future public art in the precinct



**New Century Garden - Public Art Plan for Chinatown** (Aaron Seeto)  
right **City Centre Public Art Plan**  
Priority sites

## Map of priority sites



## Designing with Country

The City's Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2020-23 recommends that the City recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and achievements in Sydney through the Eora Journey: Recognition in the Public Domain.

The Eora Journey, meaning 'the people's journey', is a program that celebrates the living culture and heritage of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Sydney. Recognition in the Public Domain is one of the four key components of the Eora Journey. This project, overseen by art curator and writer Hetti Perkins, aims to reactivate the knowledge of specific places and events in Aboriginal history at key sites within the city.

In addition to the key projects already identified in the Eora Journey, the City is investigating ways to implement the concept of 'Designing with Country', including a specific focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and cultural expression. Investigations will inform and guide the implementation of projects in this plan.

The City's Barani website identifies the location of places that have historical associations for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Sydney. Each place is connected to a historical theme that expresses an aspect of cultural life in Sydney. A number of sites are located in the City South.

