

Attachment A

**Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain
Plan (with amendments)**

The City of Sydney acknowledges the Gadigal of the Eora Nation as the Traditional Custodians of our local area.

August-December 2023
DRAFT

Haymarket & Chinatown

Public Domain Plan





Lunar New Year temporary public art in Tumbalong Park, Haymarket

Photo: Daniel Tran / City of Sydney

Front Cover: Neon Playground Festival in Dixon Street

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Contents

1 Introduction	5	Chinatown Ceremonial Gates	30	Creative Lighting Master Plan	64
Haymarket Today	6	Supporting Economic Activities	32	Dixon Street	66
Strategic Context	8	A Changing Precinct	34	Campbell Street	72
Public Domain Planning	10	Balanced Streets	36	Harbour Street	80
Study Area	11	Pedestrians	37	Hay Street West	88
Objectives	12	Cycling	38	Sussex Street	94
Methodology	13	Parking	39	Goulburn Street	102
2 Vision	15	Public Art	42	Ultimo Road	104
Community Engagement	16	Creative Lighting	44	Quay Street	108
Vision	18	Events & Cultural Celebrations	46	Laneways	114
Six Community Themes	20	Urban Forest	48	5 References	117
3 Precinct Context	23	4 Public Domain Projects	51		
Connecting with Country	24	Public Domain Network	52		
Diverse Asian Village	26	Completed Projects	54		
Core Chinatown & Thai Town	28	Potential Projects	55		
		Belmore Park	56		



Smoking ceremony in Kimber Lane, Haymarket
Photo: Sharon Hickey / City of Sydney

1 Introduction

Haymarket Today



Images of public domain and public art works completed or underway in Haymarket (left to right)

Little Hay Street improvements by Aspect Studios

Photo: Paul Patterson / City of Sydney

Pao Cha by Pamela Mei-Leng See

Photo Adam Hollingworth / City of Sydney

In Between Two Worlds by Jason Wing

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Light Boxes by McGregor Westlake Architecture with Deuce Design and Hassell

Photo: Brett Boardman

Garden of Cloud and Stone by Jane Irwin & Lindy Lee

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Scholar's Rocks by Lindy Lee

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Darling Square Library illuminated

Photo: Jessica Lindsay / City of Sydney

George Street transformation and Light Rail

Photo: Chris Southwood / City of Sydney

Barlow Street Forest by Dirt Witches

Photo: Paul Patterson / City of Sydney

Chinatown Ceremonial Gates

Photo: City of Sydney



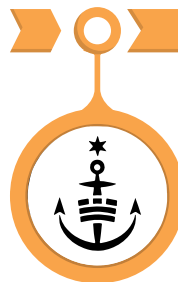
2011-2012

Capital Works

Streetscape improvements to Little Hay Street, Kimber Lane & Factory Street,

Public Art *In Between Two Worlds*, by Jason Wing

Public Art *Pao Cha* (Red Lantern Kiosk), Pamela Mei-Leng See



2010

Council

Chinatown Public Domain Plan and *Public Art for Chinatown* adopted



Precinct Change

Planning for Darling Square and new connections in western precinct



2016-2021

Capital Works

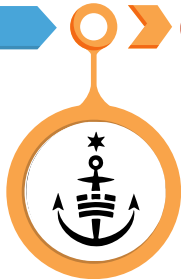
Thomas Street public domain improvements,
Public Art 'Garden of Cloud and Stone' by Lindy Lee and Jane Irwin Landscape Architecture,
Sussex Street paving and poles upgrade,
Darling Square library



2022-2023

Capital Works

George Street South pedestrian boulevard,
Hay Street, and **Ultimo Road** public domain improvements,
Public Art 'Barlow Street Forest' by Dirt Witches
 Commenced **Dixon Street upgrade**
 Commenced **Chinatown Gates restoration**



2015

Council

Updated *Chinatown Public Domain Plan* and *Public Art for Chinatown* adopted



Precinct Change

Light Rail, George Street upgrade, and street changes to support walking, cycling and street life



2022-2023

Council

A Community Vision for Haymarket, Haymarket and Chinatown Revitalisation Strategy, Haymarket Public Domain Plan

Strategic Context

The *Haymarket Public Domain Plan 2023* (The Plan) supersedes the *Chinatown Public Domain Plan 2010 and 2015*, and the *Public Art Plan for Chinatown 2010 and 2015* by Aaron Seeto.

Haymarket has undergone significant changes since 2010, when the City developed its first *Haymarket/Chinatown Public Domain Plan* with the community. A new plan is required to respond to today's movement patterns, uses and community needs.

The Plan should be read in conjunction with *A Community Vision for Haymarket 2022* and the *Haymarket and Chinatown Revitalisation Strategy 2023*.

The Community Vision has informed the community themes which have guided the project opportunities.

The Revitalisation Strategy sets a five-point plan to realise the community's vision through:

- Renewal of the heart;
- Planning and heritage;
- Public domain and art;
- Culture, events and activations; and
- Collaboration and partnerships.

The Plan is also guided by the City's strategic directions.

Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision (The Vision) guides the City's efforts to improve the way communities live, work and play.

The *Public Space Public Life Study 2020* (updating the 2007 study), prepared by Gehl Architects in collaboration with the City Design team at the City of Sydney, provides a review of Sydney's public life. It reports that the City must continue to increase the quantity and quality of well-planned streets and spaces that are human in scale, sustainable, social, healthy, safe, and lively.

The *Central Sydney Planning Strategy 2016-2036* outlines key priorities and a series of actions, many already adopted in the City's planning controls.

The Plan integrates the City's plans and priorities across many strategies addressing culture, environment, cycling, economies, community, and sustainability.

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS



Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050
Continuing the Vision



Public Spaces
Public Life
Study 2020



City Plan 2036
Local Strategic
Planning Statement



Central Sydney
Planning Strategy
2016-2036

PRECINCT PLANS



A Community
Vision for
Haymarket 2022



Haymarket and
Chinatown draft
Revitalisation
Strategy 2023



City Centre Public Domain Plans
2008 - present

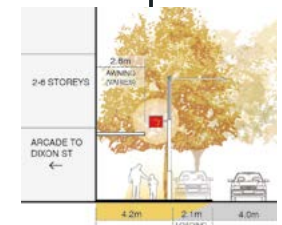


Haymarket Public Domain Plan 2023

PROJECTS



Structure Plan



Public Domain Projects

- Streets & Public Spaces
- Public Art
- Creative Lighting

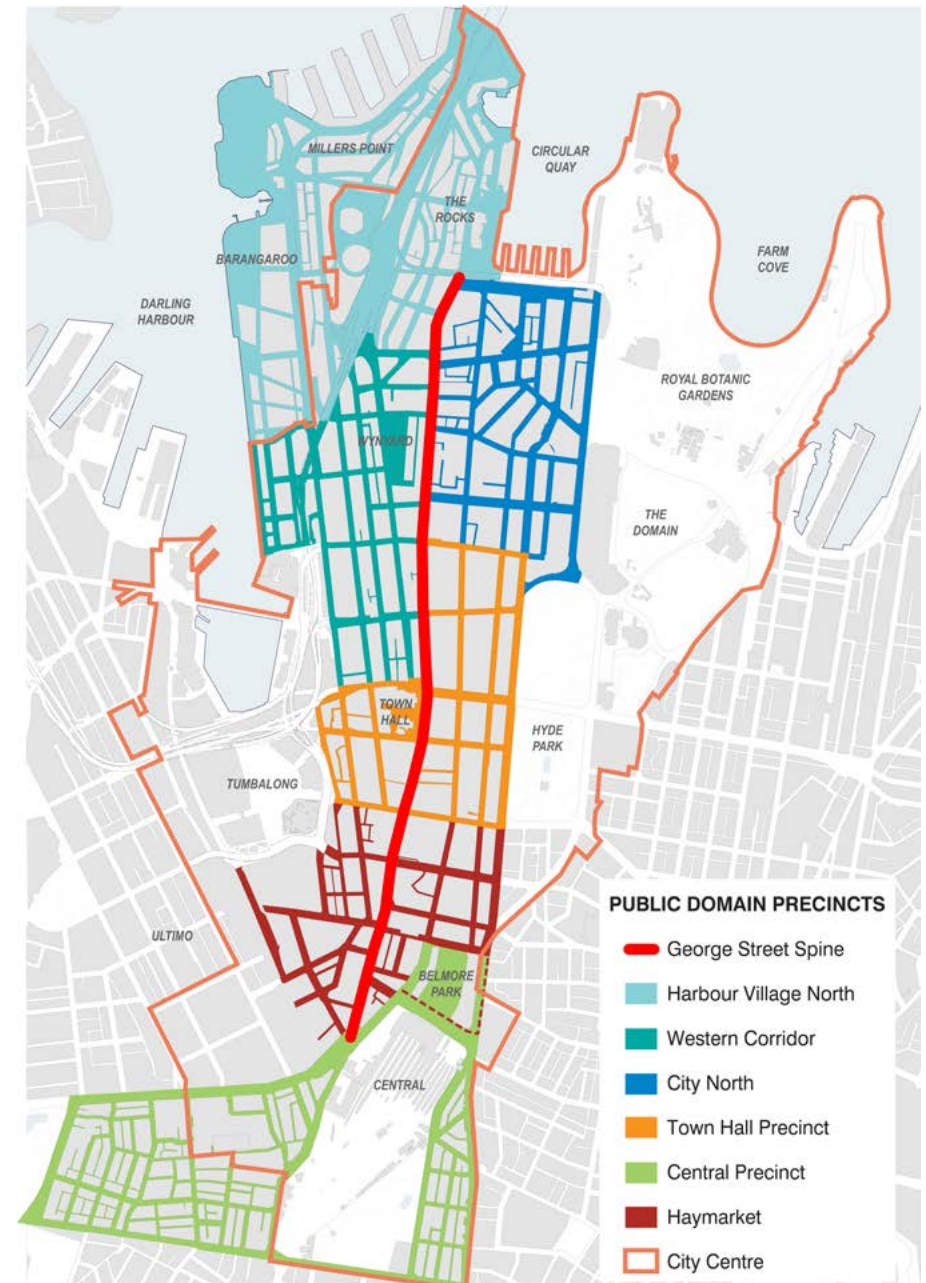
The Plan responds to the City's strategic directions

Public Domain Planning

The City Centre 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/Haymarket, Harbour Village North, George Street, Town Hall Precinct and City North.

The Haymarket Public Domain Plan 2023 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, and Town Hall Precinct. A Public Domain Plan for Central Precinct is underway.



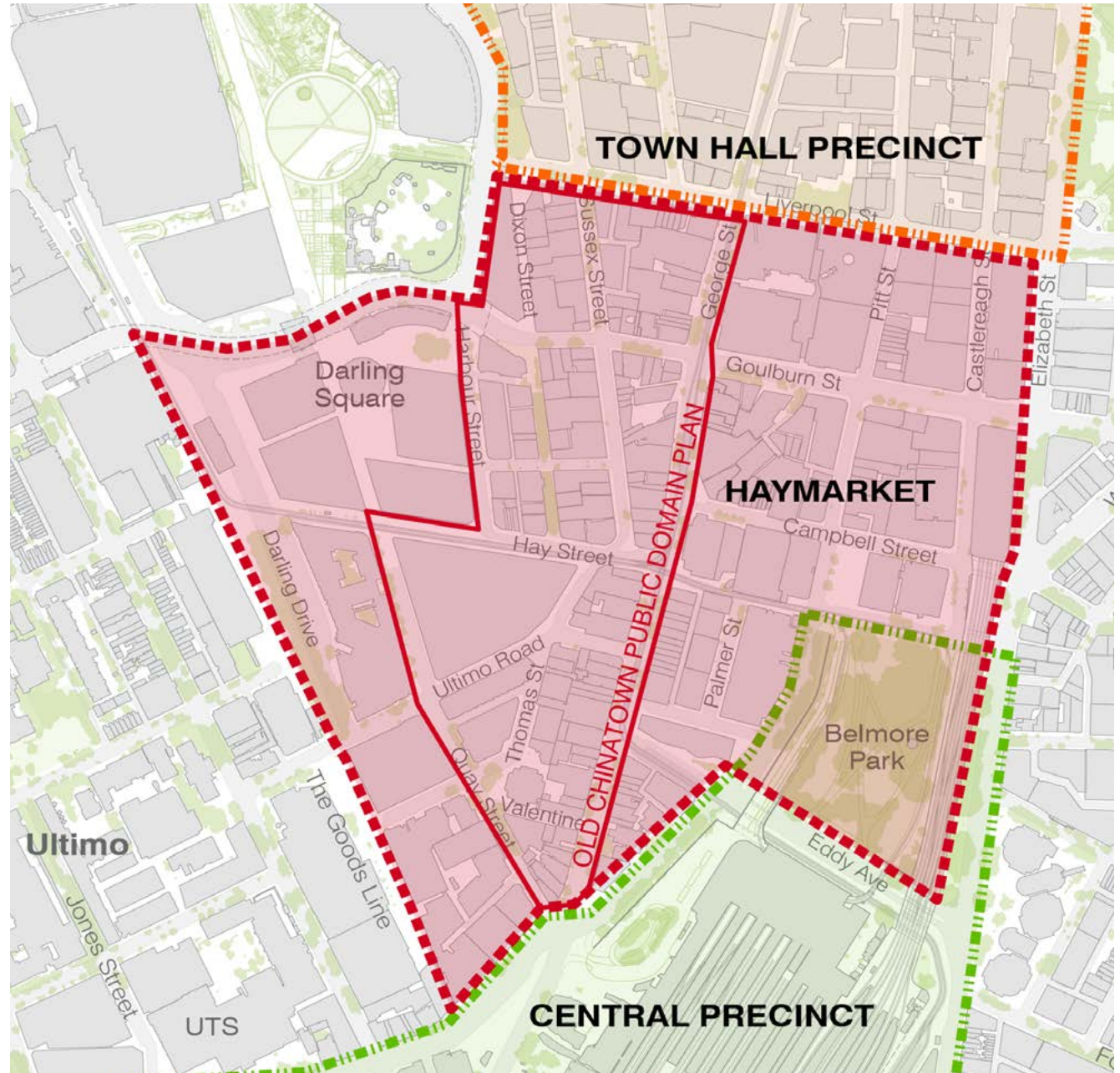
City Centre Public Domain Precincts

Study Area

The Haymarket area is bounded by Liverpool Street to the north, Darling Drive to the west, Broadway and Eddy Avenue to the south and Elizabeth Street to the east.

The precinct encompasses the core Chinatown area at Dixon Street as well as the surrounding diverse Asian village.

This plan expands the boundaries of the *Chinatown Public Domain Plan 2015* in response to the transformation of George Street, which has created new opportunities to unite the precinct east to west and reinstate the historic connection between Chinatown and Belmore Park.



Haymarket study area

Objectives

The Plan is an important tool in shaping government and private investment that reflects community aspirations, and will also guide the City's long term planning and capital works program. The objective of the Plan is to:

- Respond to the changing city, George Street, Light Rail, and development of Central Precinct and Darling Square;
- Realise *Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050* aspirations and project ideas;
- Realise *Haymarket and Chinatown Revitalisation Strategy 2023* actions;
- Assist in COVID-19 recovery by improving amenity to support street life, day and night;
- Support contemporary cultural expression whilst respecting heritage and memories;
- Support events and activations with improved infrastructure and a flexible public domain;
- Contribute to greening our city;
- Improve comfort and amenity for all;
- Promote the precinct's unique character;
- Prioritise projects in consultation with the community; and
- Provide a plan that can be used for advocacy and stakeholder engagement.



Methodology

The Plan investigates how the community vision could be achieved across the precinct. The recommendations of this study are presented as a series of precinct strategies and public domain projects that set the stage for planning, design development and future public works.

The Plan also integrates new thinking on the public art strategies founded in *Public Art Plan for Chinatown 2015*, prepared by curator Aaron Seeto. It builds on Seeto's curatorial framework, as well as the existing suite of artworks throughout the precinct.



Left: CBD light rail and new pedestrian amenity on George Street

Photo: Chris Southwood / City of Sydney

Right: The Darling Square Library by Kenjo Kuma 2020

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney



1-10 FEBRUARY
SYDNEY LUNAR FESTIVAL.COM
BY TIERNO

Lunar eats

Circular Quay

The Rocks Lunar Markets

Lunar eats

Chinatown

New Year cocktails @ North Bar

Sydney Lunar Festival celebrations in 2019
Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

2 Vision

Community Engagement

The Haymarket precinct encompasses Chinatown and the diverse Asian village that surrounds it. It is a special place for community members; a place of cultural belonging, experiences and memories, a place to find diverse, affordable and authentic food, and a place to shop for unique Asian groceries.

Early engagement informed *A Community Vision for Haymarket 2022*, which was prepared with extensive input from the community with over 1,150 responses were received through a Lord Mayor's Forum, surveys, pop-ups, stakeholder meetings and written submissions. The community vision provides an understanding of what makes Haymarket special, what people love, and what they would like to see improved. The Plan is strongly informed by the community's vision.

What makes Haymarket special for our community

- Diverse Asian culture reflected in the public domain
- Authentic and affordable food, including unique Asian grocers
- Celebration of cultural heritage and memories

What our community would like to see

- More lighting to create a safe and colourful atmosphere
- Greater range of quality, authentic and affordable food and retail options
- More outdoor dining options and public amenities like seating and public toilets
- Improved access to and connections within Haymarket
- Increased attractiveness of the area through street cleaning and maintenance
- Contemporary cultural expression
- Preservation of local character and cultural heritage
- Using the streetscape to bring colour and to celebrate diverse Asian cultures
- Extended trading hours and thriving nightlife

Right: Local musicians animate Haymarket

Photo: Adam Hollingworth / Hired Gun / City of Sydney

Opposite page: Local shopkeeper selling goods for LNY

Photo: Adam Hollingworth / Hired Gun / City of Sydney



What our community told us

“The public realm and footpaths need to be upgraded to match the quality of the rest of the city, including greening.”

“A lively, vibrant and safe space to socialise both day and night.”

“A precinct expressing the history, culture and social contribution of Chinese Australians and more recent diverse Asian Australians.”

“Lots of public space to catch up without having to buy something, good for deep connection with friends.”

“Make it more welcoming by improving cleanliness of the area.”

“Have more a hawker, street food vibrant character.”

“I hope it becomes a place where both young kids, partygoers and the older generation could visit.”

“It’d be great to include stories at sites or create artworks that illustrate the history of the area, whilst looking towards the future.”

“Fewer cars and more pedestrian areas.”

“Design wonderful cultural street decorations and light.”

“Areas dedicated to events, public art and performances to showcase the best of Asian-Australian heritage.”

“It is very important to keep the past alive.”



2 Vision

The draft Plan was placed on public exhibition from 22 August to 25 September 2023. Over 350 pieces of feedback were received and 138 people attended a Haymarket Forum hosted by the Lord Mayor Clover Moore AO. Community consultation during the public exhibition period included the following activities:

- Community notification distributed to 14,709 property owners, residents, and businesses;
- E-mailout to 670 registered stakeholders;
- Haymarket Forum hosted by Lord Mayor Clover Moore AO on 19 September;
- Door-knocking 28 businesses on Dixon St;
- 3 pop-up consultation sessions at Sydney Town Hall, Dixon Street and Campbell Street;
- Online survey in English, Simplified and Traditional Chinese, Korean, Indonesian and Thai;
- Online interactive map;
- Summary document of the Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan in English, Simplified & Traditional Chinese, Korean, Indonesian and Thai;
- Advertising on community screens in the

precinct;

- Sydney Your Say e-news sent to over 7,000 subscribers;
- Sydney Your Say web page viewed 1867 times; and
- Media announcement.

The community told us that the most important public domain actions are:

- More pedestrian space and amenity such as social seating and outdoor dining;
- More creative lighting for safety, colour and atmosphere;
- More trees and greening; and
- More spaces and infrastructure for events, markets and gatherings.

The community told us that the streets and spaces which are most important to upgrade are:

- Dixon Street;
- Belmore Park; and
- Campbell Street / Thai Town (including lanes).

page to be deleted in adopted version

Vision

A community vision and themes for Haymarket have been prepared following extensive consultation. The vision and themes guide the precinct strategies, public domain projects and priorities of the Haymarket Public Domain Plan.

The community vision for Haymarket is:

A vibrant, bustling place that celebrates diverse Asian cultures, that preserves its history and character while embracing contemporary forms of cultural expression.

Haymarket grocers cater to diverse Asian cultures

Photo: City of Sydney

Opposite page: In 2022 the Neon Playground festival created a contemporary expression of the Chinatown Ceremonial Gates

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney





Six Community Themes



Respectful of History & Celebrates Culture

Haymarket has a rich history. It is a place where diverse traditions and cultures inform the character of the area, are reflected in the built environment and are celebrated in the public domain.

What our Community Told Us

“People want to see what their parents and grandparents saw, experience it for themselves.”



Global, Diverse & Evolving

Haymarket is globally connected, lively throughout the day and night, and constantly evolving.

What our Community Told Us

“A place where there is good quality restaurants and cafes, karaoke bars, bookshops, world class markets, things to do besides eating. A destination.”



Accessible & Connected

Haymarket is easy to get to and get around within. Places within the precinct are connected and people of all ages find it accessible.

What our Community Told Us

“A cultural hub accessible to the old and young, poor and rich that upholds community values”



Authentic, Affordable & Local

Haymarket serves and reflects its local communities. It has a range of offers, places and spaces that are unique to the area and support everyday life. Visitors are attracted to its unique character.

What our Community Told Us

“Love the specialist grocery stores, roast meat and fish, and seafood wet markets.”

“Love the old frontages and character.”



Green, Clean & Welcoming

Haymarket is clean, green, safe and welcoming to the community. It is more comfortable, with a good balance of light, shade and amenity. The streets and public spaces are well-designed and maintained by Council, residents and local businesses.

What our Community Told Us

“It could be very lovely, filled with people and delicious food. The streets could be beautifully lined with trees giving it a very cosy atmosphere.”



Through Partnerships & In Collaboration

Haymarket’s revitalisation is led by people who are passionate about its future. Its identity is shaped by its communities. Haymarket thrives through partnerships, a willingness to collaborate and leadership.

What our Community Told Us

“Please ensure that you are liaising with cultural leaders and organisations.”



DANGER
HIGH VOLTAGE
KEEP OUT

CHÚC MỪNG
NĂM MỚI

Lunar New Year temporary creative lighting
Photo: Chris Southwood / City of Sydney

3 Precinct Context

Connecting with Country

Haymarket is the traditional lands of the Gadigal. Prior to European occupation the head of Darling Harbour / Tumbalong was fed by two freshwater streams: one that ran down from what is now George Street, along Hay Street, and the other coming in from the south.

In the south eastern foreshore of Darling Harbour / Tumbalong, there is evidence of Aboriginal occupation in the years before and after European invasion, including shell middens. An 1813 engraving (right) shows an Aboriginal camp site on the shores close to the site of the present-day Chinese Garden of Friendship, and Aboriginal fishing canoes on the water behind. This activity likely continued until major industrialisation in the 1820s and 30s.

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. This project, overseen by art curator and writer Hetti Perkins with Emily McDaniel, aims to reactivate the knowledge of specific places and events in Aboriginal history at key sites in the city.

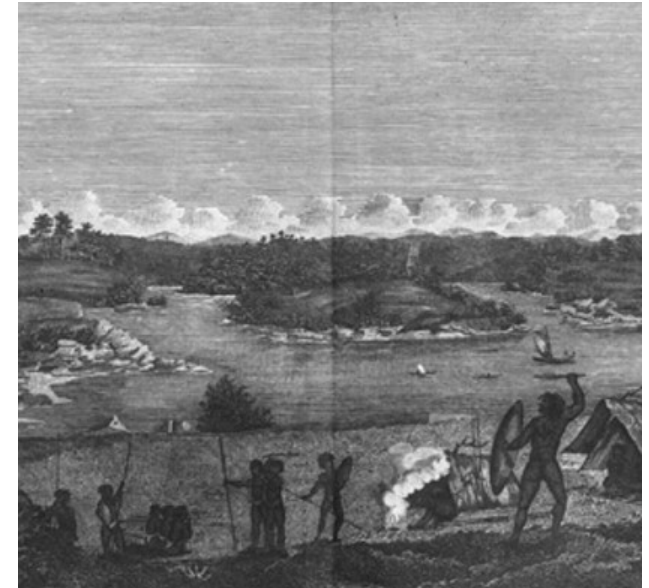
The City's Barani website www.sydneybarani.com.au identifies the location of places that have historical associations for Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander people in Sydney. A number of sites are located in Haymarket, including:

- The Trades Hall (4-10 Goulburn Street). Unions supported Aboriginal people to access employment and scholarship opportunities and supported political lobbying for Aboriginal rights.
- Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs Headquarters (810-812 George Street). Opened in 1966, the headquarters provided welfare support and was a popular venue for community functions.
- Burlington Hotel (431-439 Sussex Street). In 1965 a sit-in demonstration was held here protesting the hotel's policy to refuse admission to Aboriginal patrons.

The City is also investigating ways to implement 'Connecting with Country', including a specific focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and cultural expression.

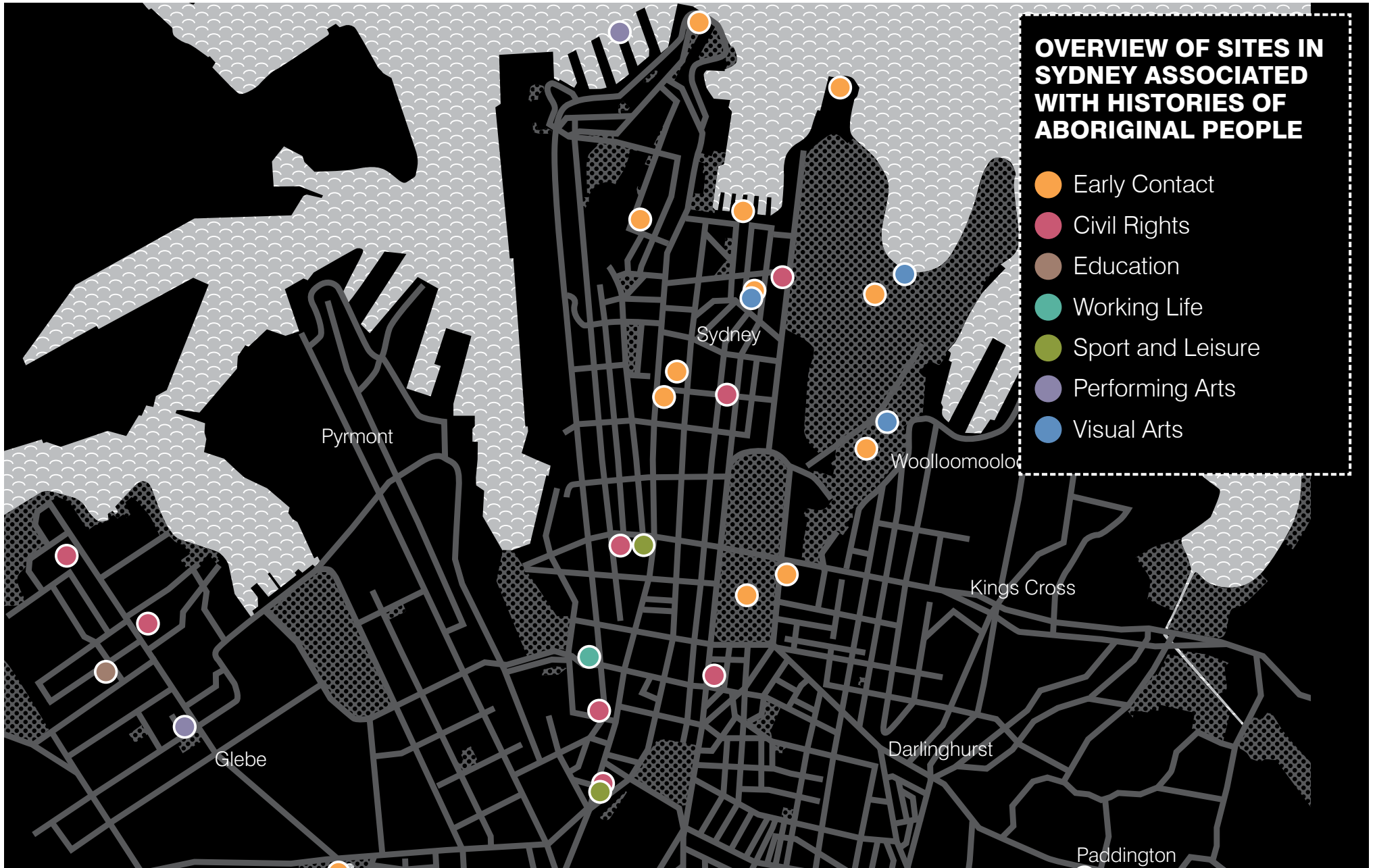
A citywide Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study is being scoped to build on Barani's strong base of research and further extend the mapping of stories and sites. This will involve community engagement and historical research, and will identify opportunities to embed connections with Country into future plans and projects.



Above: The earliest view of Cockle Bay drawn by John Eyre c1813

Photo: www.darlingharbour.com/editorials/history-and-heritage

Opposite page: Barani Barrabugu, Yesterday, Tomorrow



Diverse Asian Village

Haymarket's identity and role has evolved over time. As its name suggests, Haymarket formed around the markets.

Alongside European settlers, a cluster of Chinese businesses and boarding houses sprung up to serve Chinese market gardeners. In the 1930s, Haymarket became a place where Chinese migrants, mostly from Canton, could send remittances to family, speak Cantonese, play mahjong, have a familiar meal, purchase rare goods, gamble, practice religion, and socialise. International Chinese opera troupes toured, and martial arts schools trained students as lion dance troupes.

Tongs (Chinese societies or clan groups) played a vital role providing links to villages back in China, connection people to others from the same region and supporting members with immigration to Australia. These tongs became social places for members and resulted in strong community bonds. Tong buildings at Goong Yee Tong at 50 Dixon Street and You Ming Hung Fook Tong at 417 Sussex Street still stand today.

Over time, the nature of those immigrating from China to Australia changed - from labourers to highly-educated workers and investors, and from majority Cantonese speakers to Mandarin speakers. This was partly due to China's

economic growth and partly due to changes in immigration policy.

Second and third generation Chinese Australians have emerged with their own identity and culture - a unique fusion of their family's and their birth country.

In the late 20th century, the economy in Haymarket saw significant change. The markets and industrial uses moved further out of the city, freeing up sites for redevelopment. 'Chinatown' was named and the area was transformed into a tourist destination with the Chinese styling of Dixon Street and the creation of the Chinese Garden of Friendship. With rising rents in Haymarket, new migrants were more likely to move to the suburbs. Despite this, Haymarket remained a special place for Chinese Australians to come in from the suburbs to celebrate Chinese New Year, visit Yum Cha banquets on special occasions and buy food or goods which were hard to get elsewhere.

The population of Chinatown and Haymarket has continued to diversify, with more migrants from different parts of China and Asia. In 2022, residents' countries of birth include China (21%), Thailand (17%), Australia (13%), Malaysia (3%) and South Korea (3%). Being near to the Universities, international students from Asia often come to Haymarket for 'a taste of home'.

This co-location of different east Asian communities is relatively rare; Chinatowns elsewhere in the world have not attracted such a diverse mix. Thai businesses have clustered around Campbell Street.

From this diverse Asian village, a distinct Asian Australian identity has emerged. Haymarket now offers a sophisticated range of both traditional / authentic and contemporary / fusion food, art, and culture.

The community has told us that they want to see more historical storytelling and heritage interpretation in Chinatown. Further investigations are underway to look at prioritising Chinatown within the City's Historical Plaques and Sydney Culture Walk programs.

Haymarket's diverse Asian village (top to bottom)

Vietnamese Bahn Mi from Steam Mill Lane, Haymarket

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Celebrating the Thailand Grand Festival

Photo: City of Sydney

Japanese restaurant

Photo: Adam Hollingworth / Hired Gun / City of Sydney

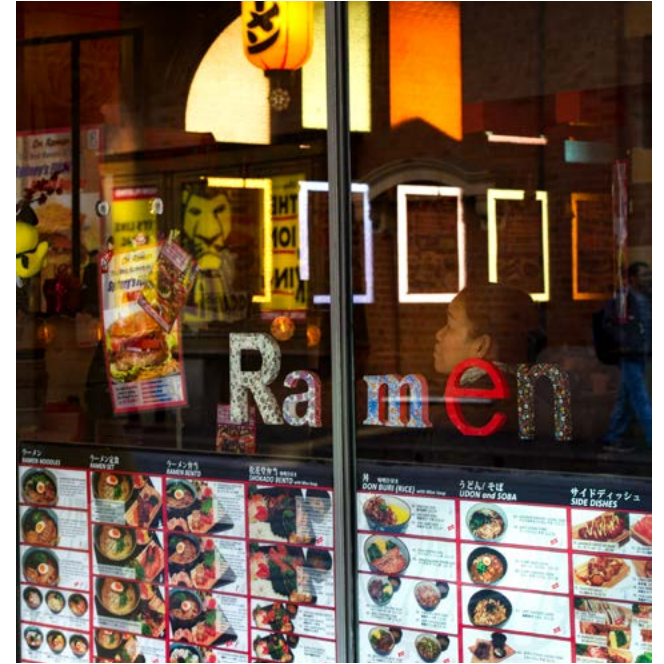
78 Harbour Street in 1951, as the Lee's grocery store

Photo: The China-Australia Heritage Corridor

78 Harbour Street today, as Bornga Korean Restaurant

Photo: City of Sydney

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



Core Chinatown & Thai Town

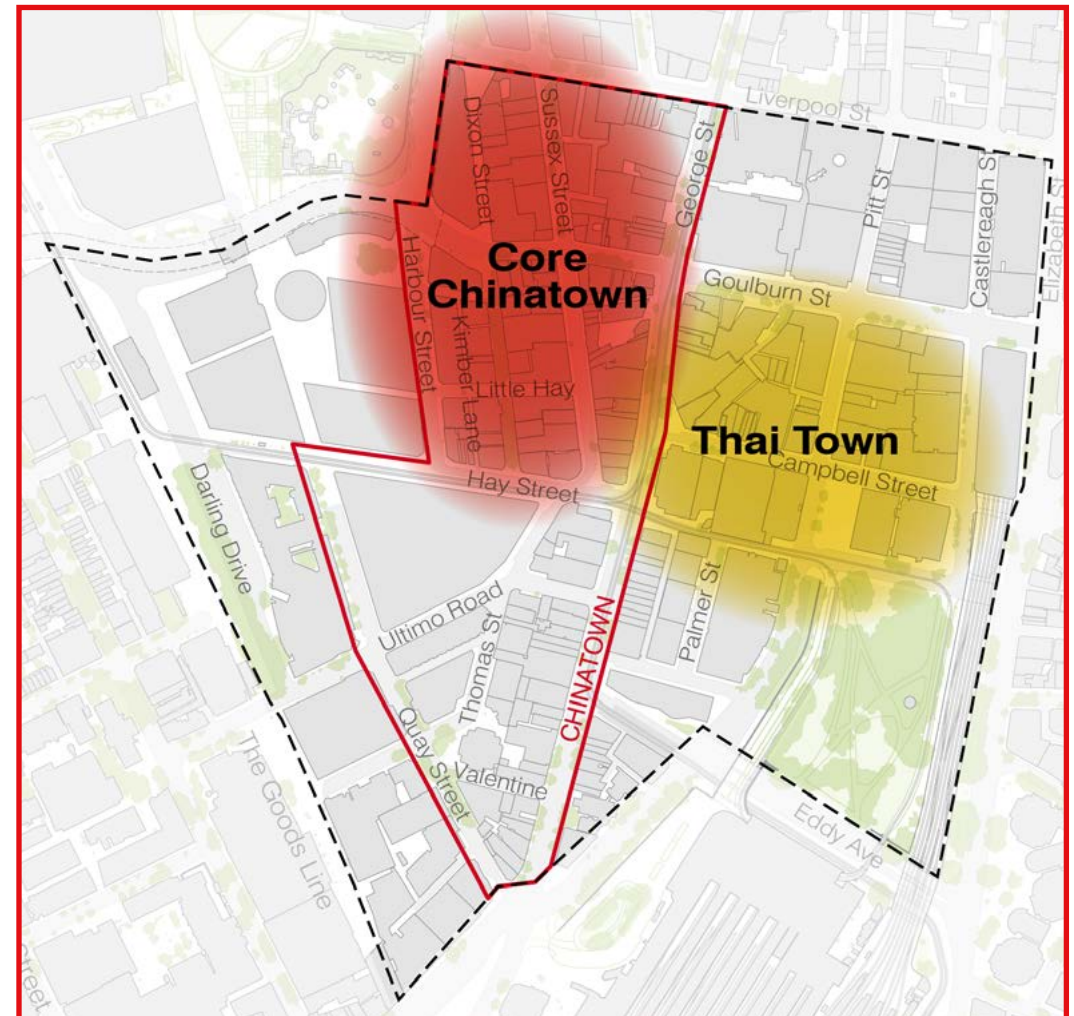
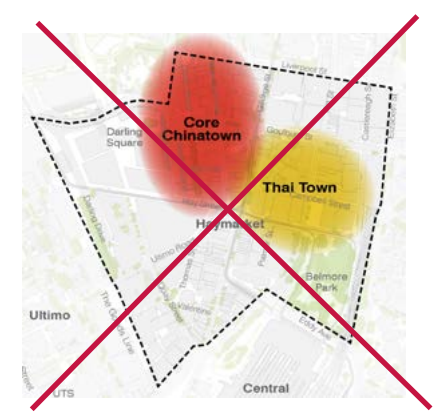
Chinatown extends from Liverpool Street to Broadway on the western side of George Street, although there are places of history and meaning to the Chinese community all across Haymarket. The core Chinatown area is centred around Dixon Street and extends out towards Sussex, Hay, Harbour and Goulburn Streets.

Dixon Street is the heart of Chinatown. It was transformed into a pedestrian street in 1980 through a partnership between the City and the Dixon Street Chinese Committee. Ceremonial gates, designed by architect **the Hon.** Henry Tsang, were installed at the entries of the street, and buildings were adorned with traditional Chinese hipped rooves. Dixon Street was a thriving destination by the early 21st century and remains a place of significant cultural heritage and history.

The Thai Town area centres on Campbell Street, and extends out towards Goulburn, Castlereagh, Hay, **Palmer**, and George Streets.

Campbell Street is the heart of Thai Town. It has hosted several cultural events, including Lunar New Year Festival, where road closures welcome people onto the street. In 2013, the City officially identified Thai Town as one of a few of its kind in the world.

Right: the Core Chinatown and Thai Town areas



Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



Dixon Street at the heart of Core Chinatown
Photo: Chris Southwood / City of Sydney



Campbell Street at the heart of Thai Town
Photo: Jamie Williams / City of Sydney

Chinatown Ceremonial Gates

The Chinatown Ceremonial Gates, designed by the Hon. Henry Tsang, are important to the history and tradition of Chinatown. They were realised in 1980 by the Dixon Street Chinese Committee and the City of Sydney. Today they are in need of restoration to repair broken tiles, chipped lions, missing portions and water damage.

The Gates are distinguished by decorative panels that are placed centrally above the main archway. Each gate features inspirational proverbs about friendship and goodwill. An inscription on the northern gate was inspired by the word Dixon broken down phonetically into 'Dix' 'sun', which in Cantonese translates to 'virtue' and 'trust'. The inscriptions are as follows:

Northern Gate:

- 'Understand virtue and trust' and
- 'Continue the past into the future'.

Southern Gate

- 'Within the four seas all men are brothers' and
- 'Towards Australian and Chinese friendship'.

Restoration of the Gates: key moves

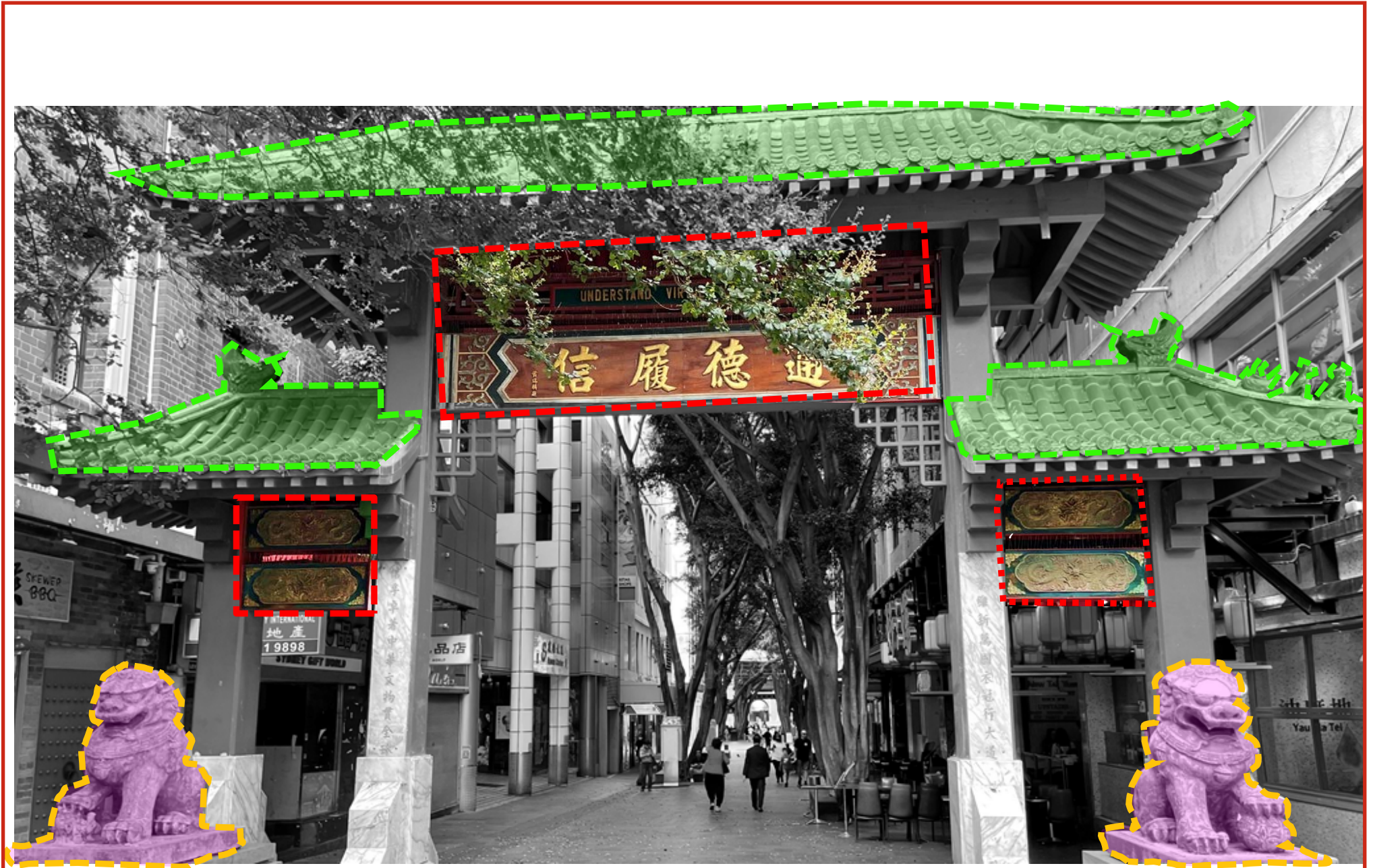
- Upgrade lighting.
- Material changes to ensure longevity including hardwood timber to replace particle board, and gold leaf to replace gold paint.
- Replace the concrete lion sculptures with granite lions.
- Include northern and southern Chinese style lions at each gate. Sydney is a sister city to Guangdong in southern China and the current lion sculptures are in the northern style.
- Replace the plinths with stone plinths to match the lions.
- Replace the timber decorative panels, decorative dragon mouldings in bronze, ceramic roof tiles, and two marble plaques on the north gate.
- Update for gender balance including dragon panels (male symbol) to be balanced with the phoenix (female symbol). The original design includes eight identical dragon panels on each gate.

The concrete lion sculptures in need of repair

Image: City of Sydney

Opposite page: Gates elements to be restored





Supporting Economic Activities

The ~~draft~~ *Haymarket and Chinatown Revitalisation Strategy 2023*, prepared by the City, provides economic insights into Haymarket. Key economic research findings include:

- Food catering remains the predominant activity, particularly in and around Dixon Street. Most visitors go to Haymarket to visit the restaurants and cafes.
- The vacancy rate is high, and most pronounced in the areas around Dixon Street and Market City.
- The amount of retail floorspace is supportable – quality of the offer is the issue. Authentic, immersive experiences in attractive settings have become the ‘baseline’ expectations in a post COVID-19 environment.
- Activity levels are recovering. The 2022 grant-funded event ‘Neon Playground’ produced a marked increase in activity levels, demonstrating the potential of events in accelerating recovery.
- Demographics are changing. Haymarket residents are younger, highly education, mostly single or unmarried couples, with a high percentage of parents born overseas.
- International students are a key audience.

- Late night trading has declined. Haymarket activity spikes in the 6pm-8pm period. Extending this activity later into the evening, and into the daytime would help to sustain local businesses.
- Haymarket is part of Tech Central. The transformation of Broadway into a green avenue would strengthen the connection from Haymarket to the universities and Tech Central.
- **The community has also told us that minimising construction disruption is important to supporting local businesses.**

The City is preparing a new economic development strategy that will address pandemic recovery and examine contemporary challenges to our city centres and how they function. A key direction of the Strategy is to revitalise our city centre by supporting local business recovery, creating better places and spaces, and activating and promoting places and precincts.

This Plan outlines how public domain improvements can contribute to this strategic direction. It sets the stage for the collaborative work that is required across business owners, chambers, local champions, culture-makers and governments to help Haymarket to thrive.

Events such as Neon Playground play a key role in supporting economic recovery from the pandemic

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney



A Changing Precinct

Haymarket is changing. The CBD and South East Light Rail has been realised. George Street, which previously divided the precinct with high volumes of traffic, has now been transformed into a beautiful tree-lined, pedestrian boulevard, with 20,000m² of new pedestrian space, 130 trees, less noise and better air quality. In City South, plans are underway to add an additional 27,000m² of new pedestrian space and 396 trees through the realisation of Central and Railway Squares and improvements to local streets and lanes.

At the western edge of the precinct, Darling Square has been redeveloped, creating a series of new active laneways connecting to Haymarket, as well as delivering the new Darling Square Library centre for learning, innovation, and creativity. The overall walkability of the precinct has been improved, with legible, activated, and shady connections between Central Station, Haymarket, Darling Harbour, and Ultimo.

With the transformation of George Street South, planned infrastructure projects at Central Station and the development of Tech Central, the area is expected to experience a significant increase in employment floorspace and pedestrian numbers, increasing demands on the public domain.

Artist's impression of the future Central Square

Image: City of Sydney



Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



The City of Sydney is supporting these changes with significant improvements to footpaths, cycling routes and public spaces in Haymarket, as it works to create a people-friendly city centre.

Hay Street has been upgraded for wider footpaths, a continuous tree canopy, new seating, and more space for cultural events.

A series of small squares have been created along George Street. At one of these squares the Barlow Street Forest by Dirt Witches, a successful temporary public art installation as part of a COVID-19 recovery program, has now been made into a permanent native garden.

Thomas Street has been partially closed, improving light rail safety and running times, minimising vehicle shortcuts, and creating a new public space and public artwork *The Garden of Cloud and Stone*, by artist Lindy Lee and JILA.

The former Haymarket library on George Street has become the Museum of Chinese in Australia, due to open by 2024.

Haymarket streets are now mostly used for local access and servicing, providing the opportunity to further improve pedestrian amenity and support COVID-19 recovery through street activation.

Barlow Street Forest by Dirt Witches

Photo: City of Sydney



Balanced Streets

The changing precinct has already resulted in several changes to the way that people access and move around Haymarket. The precinct is still accessible by car for those who need it, however routes may be different and may take longer. The community feedback acknowledged this tension and transition. Many people were positive about the changes to George Street and wanted to see more improvements for pedestrians. Others felt that it has become more difficult to park which may discourage people from visiting.

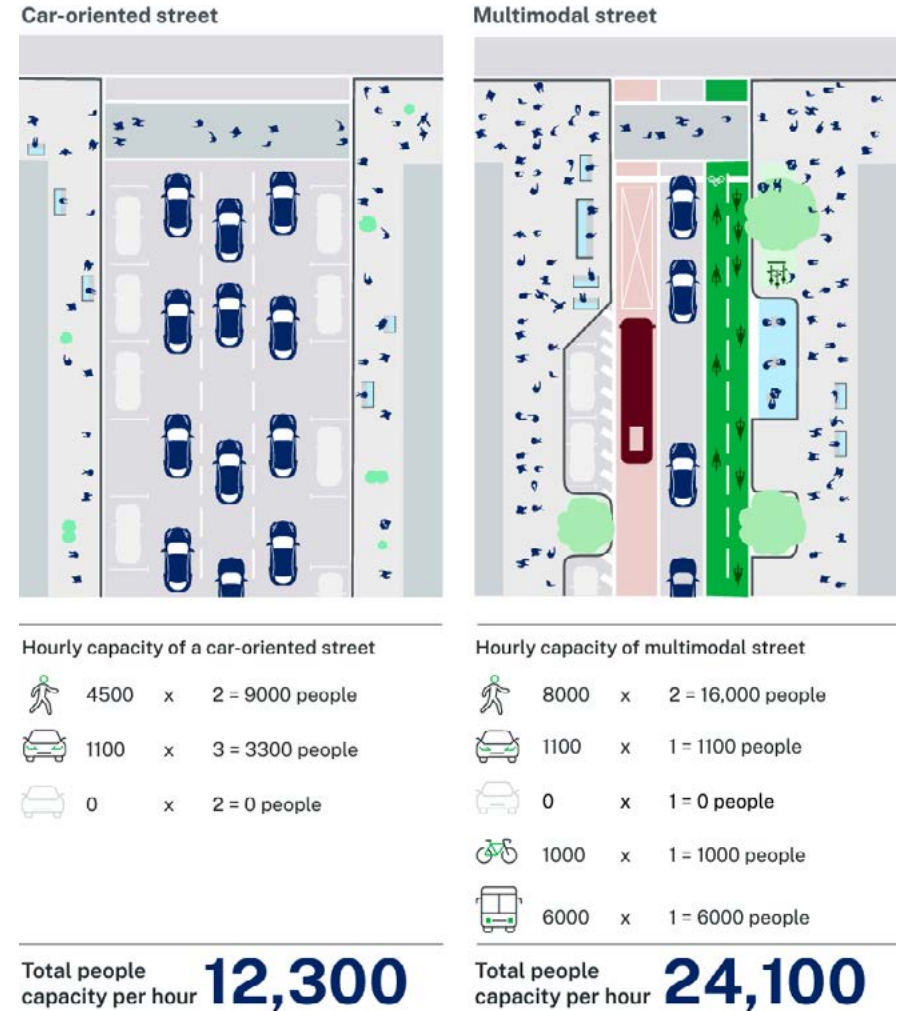
This Plan looks at the impacts of existing precinct changes on the function of streets and identifies opportunities to improve efficiency and balance space allocations, particularly for streets that have changed from through-traffic to local access.

Guided by the City’s draft *Access Strategy and Action Plan 2023* and Transport for NSW’s *Future Transport Strategy*, this Plan prioritises street space to give the greatest space to the greatest number of users. It seeks to rebalance the priority of streets whilst providing local access, servicing, and deliveries where necessary.

Right: Prioritising road space for efficiency

Image: TfNSW 2022

Image on opposite page: Haymarket Street Network



Pedestrians

The community has told us that they would like to see widened streets, more outdoor dining including free-to-use public seats and tables, more shady places to sit for social interaction and for elderly people, a colourful streetscape, and more local heritage interpretation.

On Sussex and Harbour Streets, street changes have reduced traffic and created opportunities for footpath widening, tree planting and events whilst maintaining on-street loading and parking.

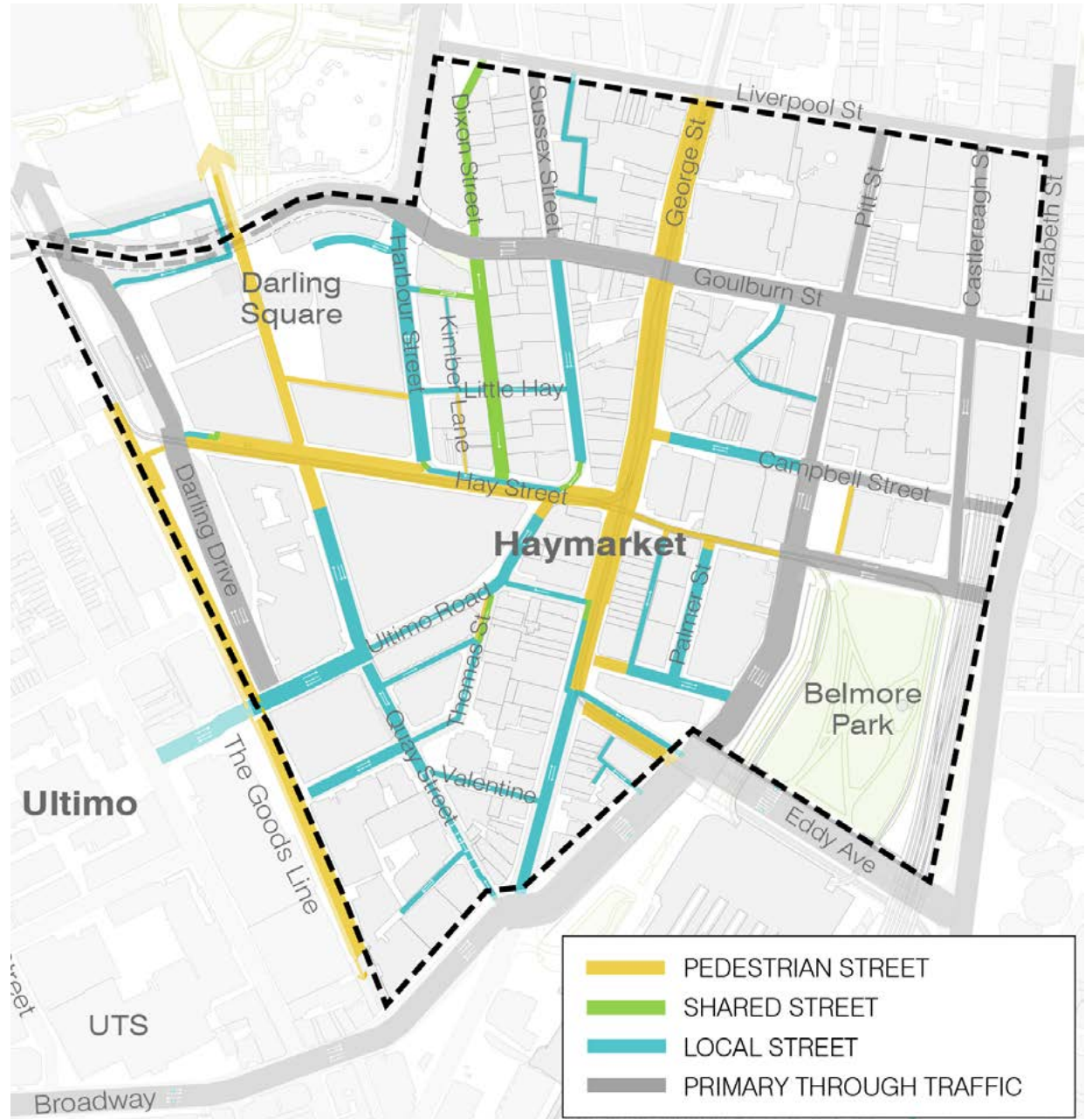
The pedestrianisation of George Street has changed the function of some east-west streets, creating opportunities to realise regional cycleways on Campbell Street and Ultimo Road alongside high-quality street upgrades.

Hay Street improvements have created more event space and strengthened the east-west pedestrian connection linking Ultimo to Central.

The completion of Tumbalong Boulevard has increased the importance of Quay Street as the primary link between Central and Darling Harbour.

Dixon Street improvements are underway, with better event services and more places to sit.

Goulburn Street has high volumes of pedestrians and **a paving upgrade has recently been completed. is in need of a paving upgrade.** Footpaths could also be extended at intersections to provide more space for people waiting to cross.

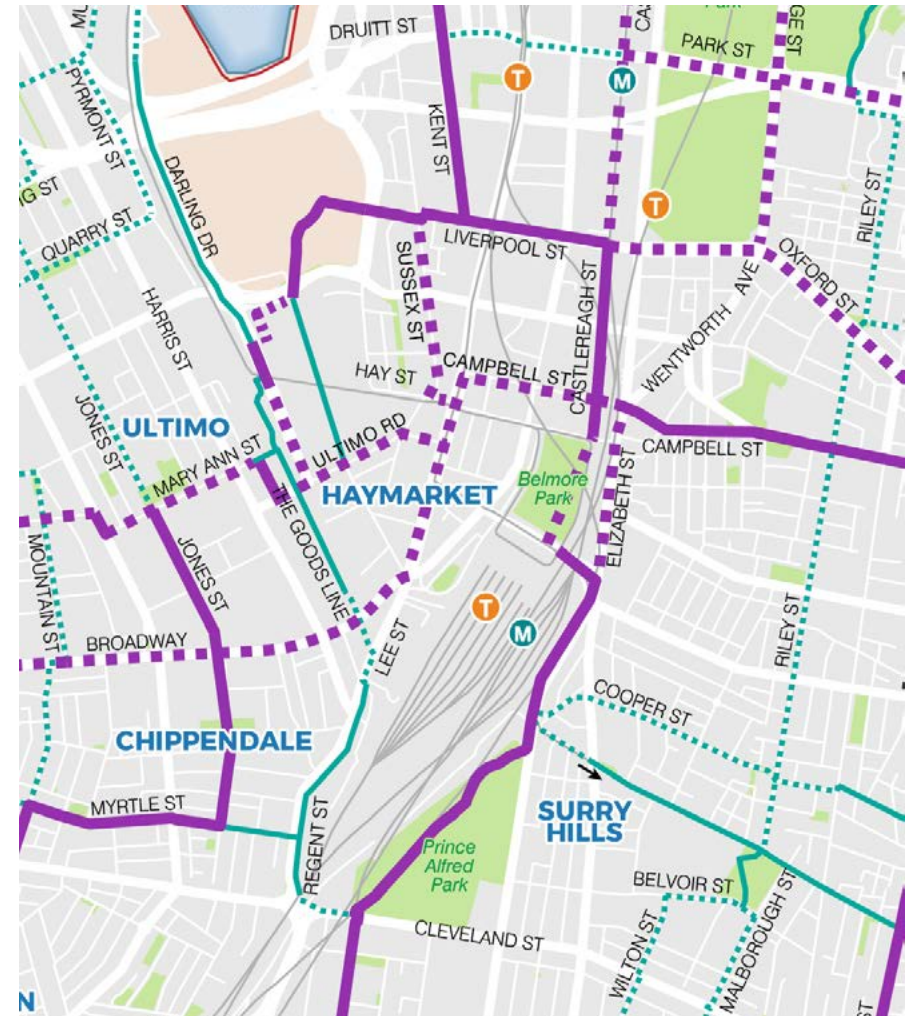


Cycling

The City is building a safe bike network connecting people and destinations, suitable for all ages and abilities. It will serve workers, students, residents and visitors travelling in, to, or through the city.

A key action from the *2018 Cycling Strategy Action Plan* is to complete the 11 regional bike routes. Key regional routes are identified in Haymarket along Ultimo Road and Campbell Street, connecting Ultimo to Surry Hills, and along Sussex Street (under review), connecting City North to Broadway. Changes to the street network due to the pedestrianisation of George Street have resulted in a significant reduction in local traffic volumes and provided the opportunity to implement 'quietways', an innovative street type where cars and cyclists mix in a high-quality, low-speed street environment.

The City has prepared concept designs for new cycling infrastructure on Ultimo Road and Campbell Street. The designs consider the total street profile from façade to façade and identify opportunities to improve pedestrian amenity and increase tree canopy.



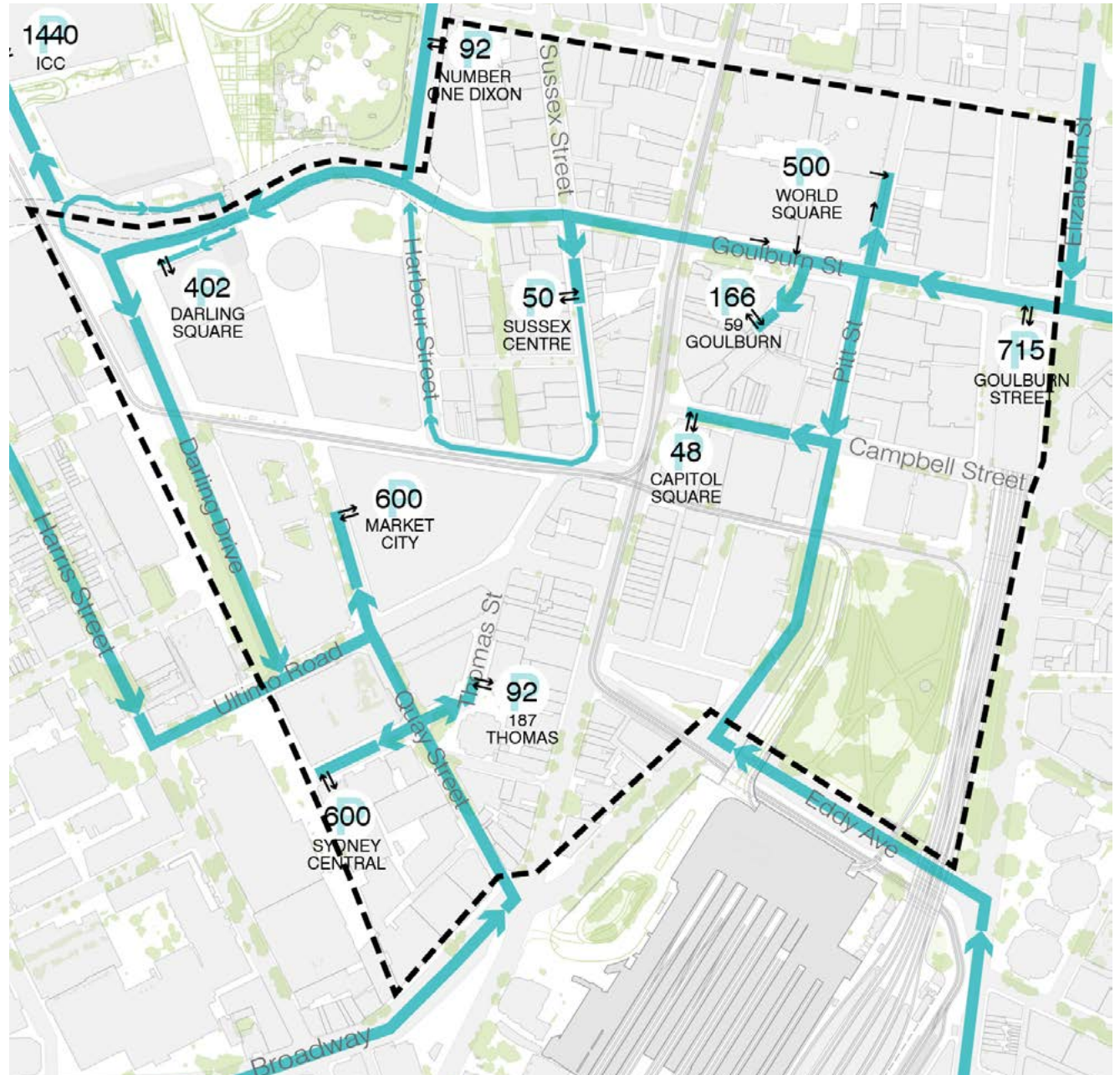
2022 Sydney Bike Network
Image: City of Sydney

Parking

The community has expressed concerns that it is becoming more difficult to drive and park in Haymarket. In response to that feedback, investigations have been undertaken on local parking and access arrangements.

Carparks

All carparks remain accessible, however routes may be different. Vehicles accessing the precinct should plan their trip to adjust to new access routes.



Car park access in Haymarket

Parking

On-Street Parking, Loading and Deliveries

On-street loading remains important for local business operations, especially for small sites or heritage buildings with no off-street access. The street network must enable deliveries and services to keep the fine grain ground floor retail alive. The community has also told us that being able to easily drop off passengers helps older generations to visit Haymarket.

Detailed consideration will be given to on-street access for loading, pick-ups and drop-offs as projects are further developed. The following analysis identifies precinct-wide opportunities and issues, including:

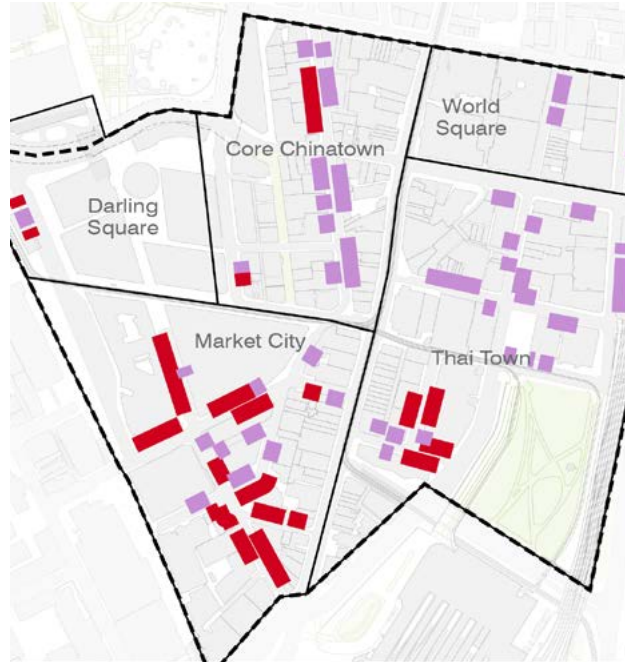
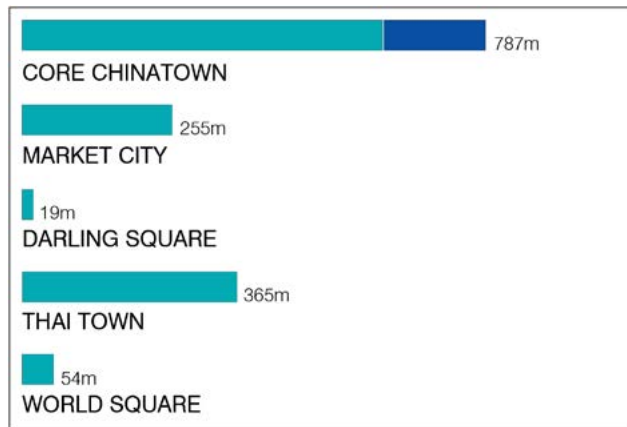
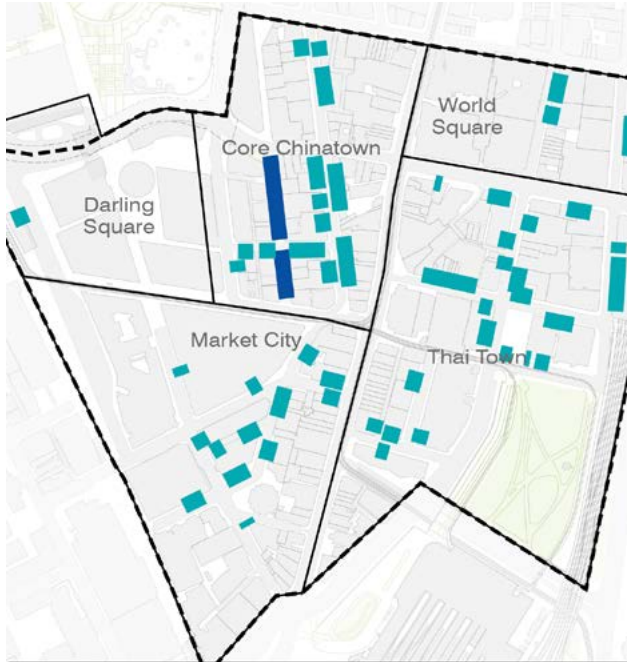
- Core Chinatown has a heavy concentration of loading, which can also be used by normal vehicles to pick-up and drop-off passengers. Occupancy in this area is typically 50-80%, and 20-50% in the north.
- Precinct street changes have resulted in inefficient parking zones in Harbour Street, which offer opportunities to improve parking efficiency and the public domain.
- The Market City area has a mix of all types of parking and loading, and offers the most weekday parking. Occupancy is highest in this area, especially in Quay Street and Ultimo

Road west, where it is 80-100%.

- Changes to bus routes offer the opportunity to reallocate 'no parking - buses excepted' zone on Ultimo Road for improvements.
- Thai Town offers little on-street weekday parking, except to the south, where occupancy in Parker Street is 80-100%.
- In Campbell Street, temporary no parking zones for COVID-19 are no longer required and offer the opportunity for improvements in Thai Town.
- Informal drop-off activity has been observed in Harbour Street and Campbell Street, indicating a need for more short stay parking in Core Chinatown and Thai Town.

Images on opposite page: Types of on-street parking in Haymarket

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



Public Art

The *Public Art Plan for Chinatown 2010* was prepared by curator Aaron Seeto, former Artistic Director of 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, and updated in 2012 & 2015. It maps and reviews the existing collection, provides the curatorial framework 'New Century Garden', and establishes guiding principles for the public art program in Chinatown.

This Public Domain Plan updates the thinking on public art based on the Seeto strategies and should be read in conjunction with them. It identifies new opportunities for public art and provides a concept brief that responds to 'New Century Garden', site and public domain objectives.

High quality public art greatly contributes to the social fabric, cultural expression and quality of life in the city. This Plan approaches public art as an integrated element that is essential to achieving the precinct vision. Opportunities for new public art are presented in this Plan alongside related public domain projects.

New Century Garden

This Plan continues to explore the curatorial framework of New Century Garden that was proposed in the *2015 Public Art Plan for Chinatown* by Aaron Seeto. From the 2015 plan:

"Chinese garden is a metaphor that privileges the creation of rest and respite to contemplate the relationship between life and art.

Artworks in Chinatown will operate as moments of reflection and contemplation, much like pavilions in a garden, and the process of travelling through or reflection is an extension of cultural activity. Like gardens, artworks make us closer to an understanding of everyday life, and our place within an expanded network of culture, society and nature.

The garden concept is also a link back to two distinct historical periods in Sydney's Chinatown. Firstly to the 19th century market garden, which involved much of the early enterprise and labour of Chinese people in Haymarket, and secondly to the Chinese Garden of Friendship, which was built in 1988 as a commemorative exchange of fellowship.

The New Century Garden strategy is an opportunity to directly reflect the history of the area rather than employing a recognisable

palette of Chinese elements, such as lanterns or red lighting. It allows for a variety of scales, from the epic to the intimate, and for temporary activations that encourage experimental and ephemeral engagement with space and culture.

Works should respond to the social and cultural histories that tell many stories of the contributions of Asian-Australian communities to the Sydney culture. Chinatown is both local neighbourhood and internationally connected area, as migrants, businesses, students, residents and city workers help to create a dynamic mix of networks and information flows and a diverse mix of cultures. To reinforce the unique local and global connections formed historically within Chinatown and the diasporic nature of its communities, there is an intention to work with both local and international artists."

The curatorial framework of New Century Garden is flexible, sensitive to the unique character of Chinatown, and generous in its intent. This allows for the contribution of public art by the private sector or other levels of government as part of new developments or independent initiatives.

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



Cloud Gate by Lindy Lee
Photo: City of Sydney



Chinatown Ceremonial Gates by Henry Tsang



Golden Water Mouth by Lin Li
Photo: Aaron Seeto



Garden of Cloud & Stone by JILA & Lindy Lee
Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney



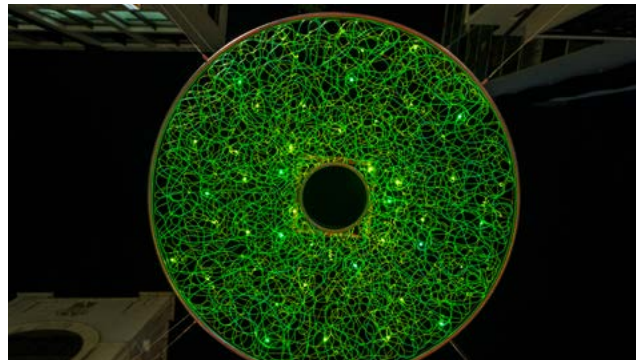
In Between Two Worlds by Jason Wing
Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney



Pao Cha (Red Lantern Kiosk) by Pamela Mei-Leng See
Photo: Paul Patterson / City of Sydney



Scholar's Rocks by Lindy Lee
Photo: Katherine Griffiths



Heaven and Earth by McGregor Westlake Architecture (MWA)
Photo: Katherine Griffiths



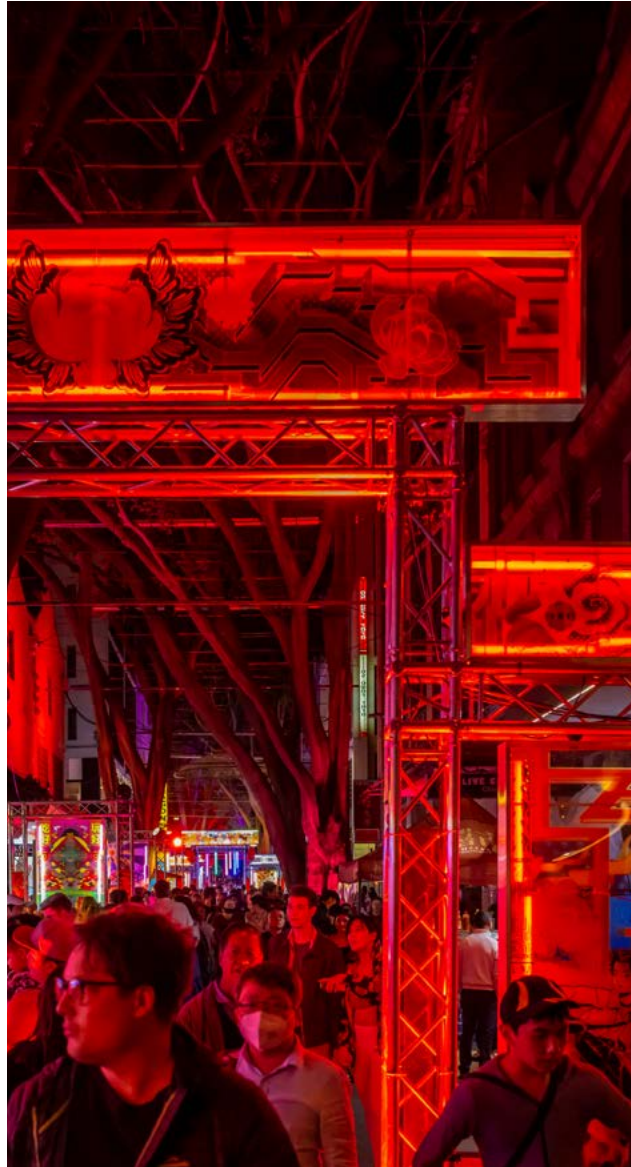
Australian Chinese Ex-Services by MWA
Photos: Monument Australia

Creative Lighting

Chinatown has historically been a place that is lively at night. Lighting has become a key characteristic of the precinct in its everyday character, as an important element in cultural expression, and as part of its global identity.

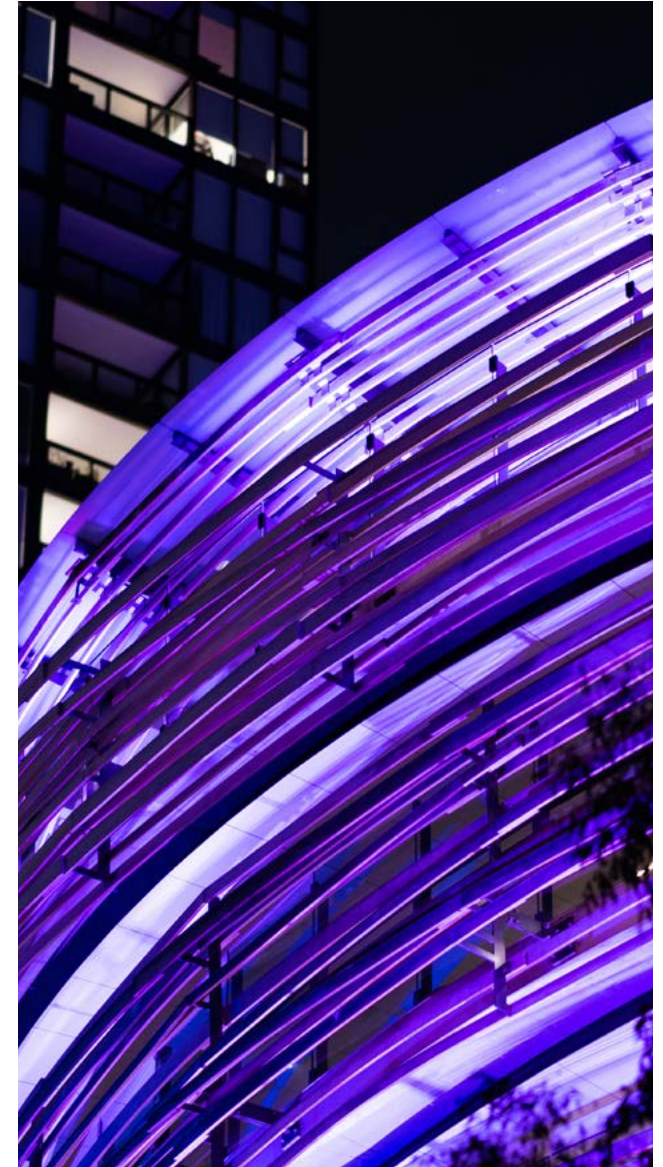
The Dixon Street Light Screens, Pao Cha Red Lantern Kiosk, and Light Boxes in surrounding laneways, highlight the core of the precinct. The illuminated spirit figures of *In Between Two Worlds* by artist Jason Wing create an immersive streetscape in Kimber Lane.

Festivals such as Vivid, the Sydney Lunar Festival and Neon Playground reimagine spaces with light installations, neon archways, and building lighting.



Neon Playground by Haymarket HQ, Haymarket Chamber of Commerce, Soul of Chinatown, Basalt Studio and Bepok3

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney



Vivid, at Darling Square Library

Photo: Abril Felman / City of Sydney



Light Boxes by McGregor Westlake Architecture with Deuce Design and Hassell

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney



In Between Two Worlds by Jason Wing

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney



Dixon Street Light Screens by McGregor Westlake Architecture

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Events & Cultural Celebrations

Cultural and community events play a significant role in animating the precinct and supporting local economies. When led by locals, these events can have long-term positive impacts on community and business development. The City supports a wide range of community-led initiatives through its grants program.

The Chinatown markets on Friday evenings in Dixon Street south offer Asian-inspired food,

design and art, and are an important part of the regular rhythms of the precinct.

Street festivals, including the annual Sydney Lunar Festival, Vivid Sydney and bi-annual Sydney Streets, invite people onto the street for parades, performers, music, and food.

In 2022, the grant-funded Neon Playground was a successful festival organised by Haymarket HQ, Haymarket Chamber of Commerce, Soul of

Chinatown, Basalt Studio and Bespok3.

Cultural and community organisations, including the Chinese Garden of Friendship, 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, Tumbalong Park, Darling Square Library and Capitol Theatre, are key draw-cards for the area and have a changing program.

The City-supported Museum of Chinese in Australia (MOCA) is due to open by 2024 in the former Haymarket library building.

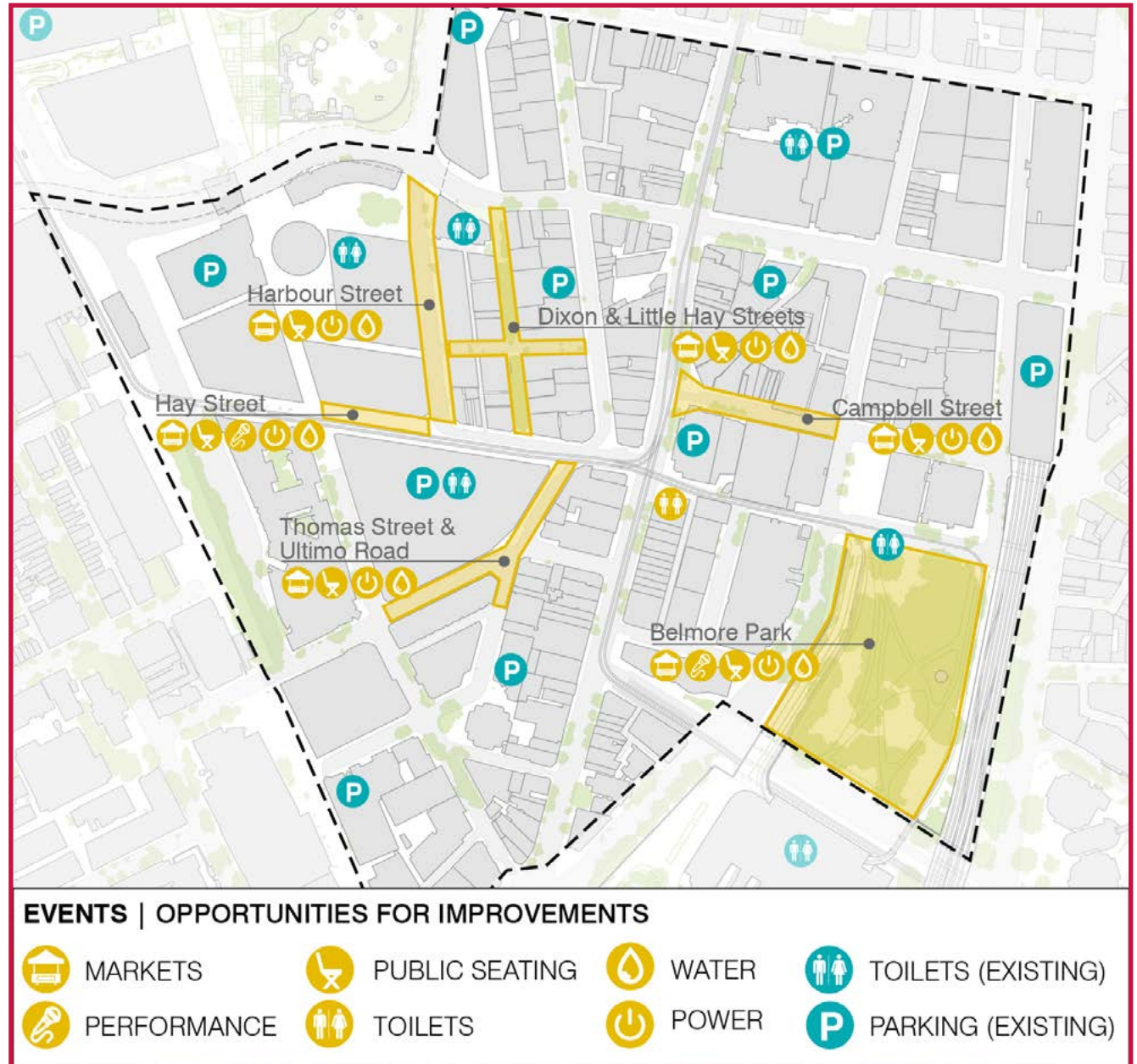


Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



Flexible spaces with services to support events are key to supporting Haymarket's rich cultural events calendar. Key considerations include:

- Open spaces at a variety of scales. There are few large-scale event spaces in Haymarket. Belmore Park provides a key opportunity;
- Evolution of the Chinatown Markets. Harbour and ~~Thomas Streets and Ultimo Road and Hay Streets~~ could provide ~~150%~~ more market space than the current offering in Dixon and Little Hay Streets. The community has also told us that they would like to see Thai markets in Campbell Street and Belmore Park;
- More hardstand areas such as wide footpaths that do not require road closures, which add expense and time to events and can restrict small and innovative event operators;
- Generous public seating and tables at a variety of scales that are free for all to use;
- Ambient or ~~dimnable changeable~~ street lighting;
- Power supply for event operators. Regular, in-pole 3-phase and GPO power is preferred;
- Water supply for public use and for operators;
- Regular access to public toilets; and
- Access to affordable public parking.



This Plan identifies opportunity sites that could be expanded or equipped with event infrastructure improvements.

Urban Forest

The City has a vision for an expanding urban forest canopy, distributed equally for the benefit of all, that is managed as a sustainable and resilient asset for our communities.

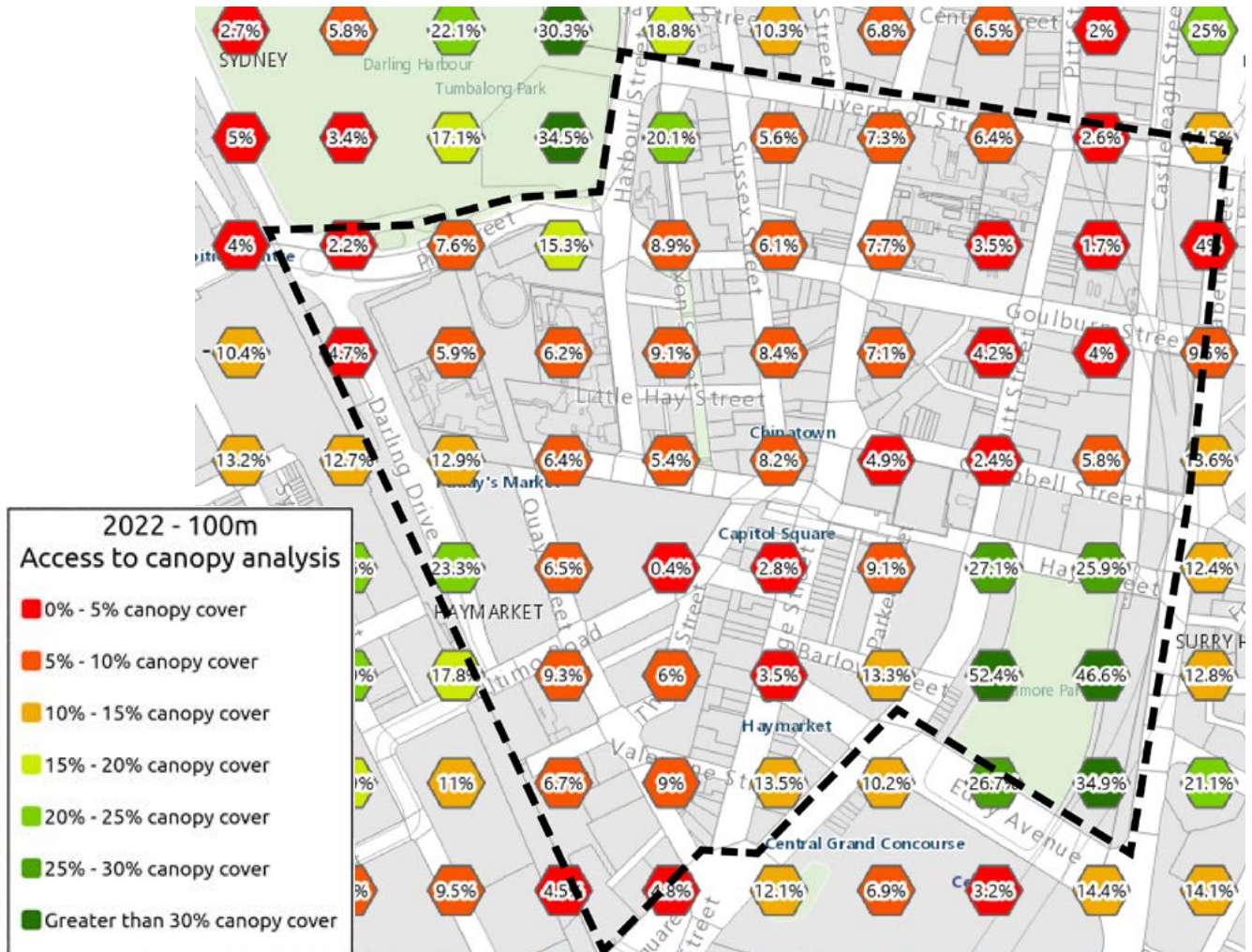
The target is to increase the overall green cover to 40% across the local government area, including a minimum of 27% overall tree canopy by 2050.

Haymarket does not have great access to canopy and needs to work much harder. Projects should aim to maximise tree planting opportunities including footpath planting and where suitable in the roadway.

The community supports more greening in Haymarket and would like to see stronger links to the Chinese Garden of Friendship and more comfortable and amenity for people of all ages.

The City of Sydney's *Street Tree Master Plan 2023* provides details on the proposed street tree species for Haymarket, as shown on opposite page.

Haymarket access to tree canopy (Urban Forest Strategy 2023) within 100m of each data point
 Opposite page: Street tree species for Haymarket





GREEN ASH - *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*

Qualities: A dense, rounded, medium tree, up to 10m, deciduous, with stunning golden-yellow autumn colours

Location: Sussex Street, Hay Street Pitt Street, and Castlereagh Street



TULIP TREE - *Liriodendron tulipifera*

Qualities: A pyramidal large tree, 10-15m, deciduous, with bright-green soft leaves and lime-green tulip-like flowers

Location: Sussex Street, Ultimo Road, Goulburn Street, Campbell Street and Pitt Street



CHINESE RAIN TREE - *Koelreuteria bipinnata*

Qualities: A round and spreading medium tree, up to 6m, deciduous, with yellow autumn colour and papery bronze-pink seed pods

Location: Thomas Street, Quay Street, Ultimo Road, and Harbour Street



LEOPARD TREE - *Caesalpinia ferrea*

Qualities: An umbrella-shaped large tree, up to 18m, semi-deciduous, with deep green leaves, bright yellow flowers and interesting bark patterns

Location: Hay Street and Little Hay Street



JAPANESE ZELKOVA - *Zelkova serrata* 'Green Vase'

Qualities: A vase-shaped, spreading, large tree, up to 12m, deciduous, with lemon-yellow, copper and bright red autumn colours

Location: George Street and Rawson Place



BRUSH BOX - *Lophostemon confertus*

Qualities: A dome-shaped large tree, up to 20m in urban settings, evergreen, native, with dark green leathery leaves and rough bark

Location: Campbell Street and Liverpool Street



Street festival on Campbell Street celebrating Lunar New Year

4 Public Domain Projects

Public Domain Network

The Haymarket public domain network brings together city-wide ambitions and local values.

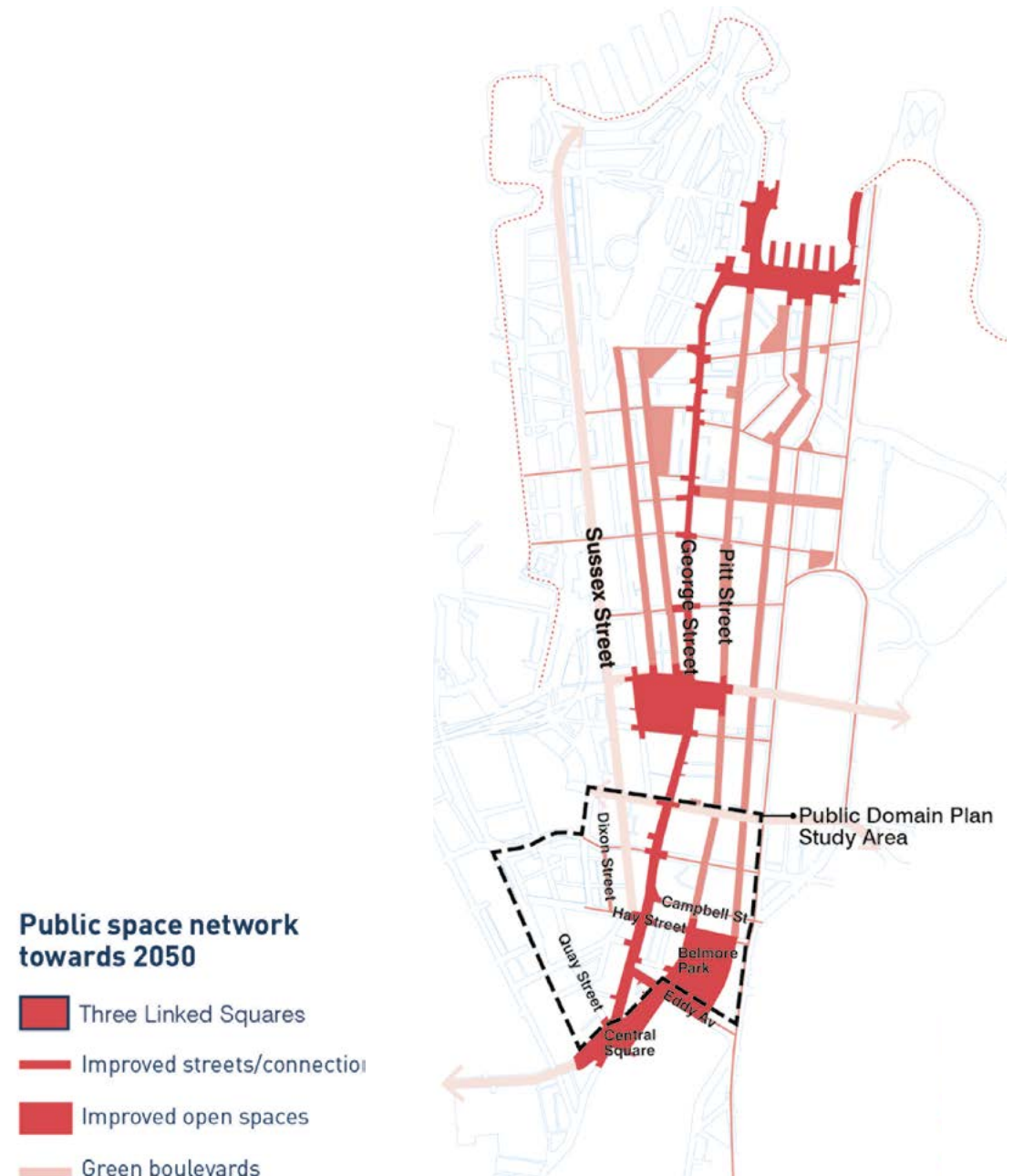
It responds to the city centre public space network that is created by the three linked city squares, which are established through *Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050* and *Public Spaces, Public Life* (by Gehl Architects). It also recognises the important role that some streets, squares and parks play in connecting precincts across the city centre.

It integrates the community's values and feedback provided through *A community vision for Haymarket* to identify distinctive places, meeting places and wayfinding places, and to strengthen their unique character.

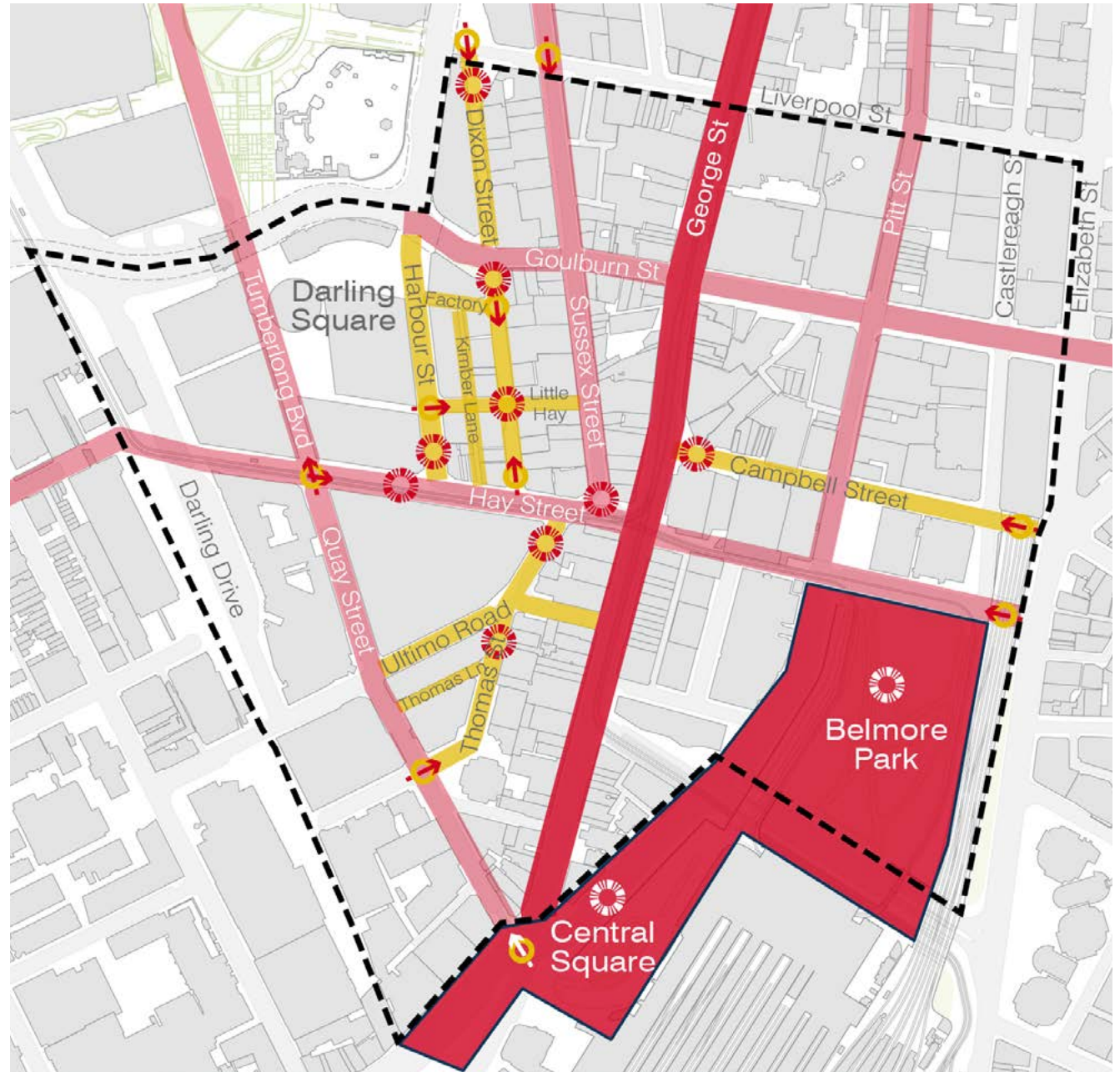
The Public Domain Structure Plan confirms the importance of projects that have already been completed and provides a roadmap for future project opportunities. The community will play a key role in establishing priorities across these opportunities in order to guide future planning and design development.

Three linked city squares in the city centre public space network

Image: Public Space, Public Life, Gehl Architects / City of Sydney



Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



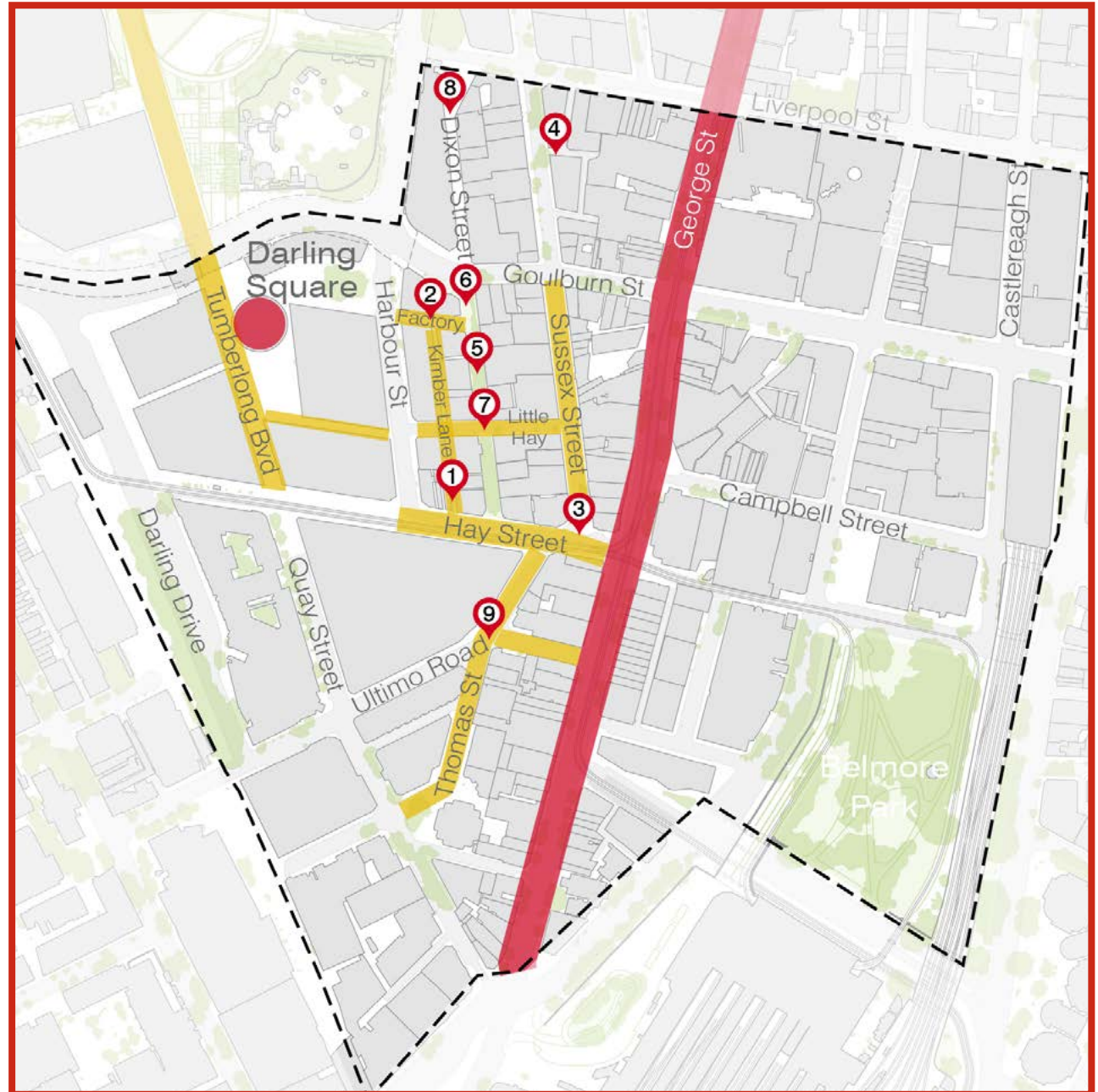
PUBLIC DOMAIN NETWORK

- THREE LINKED CITY SQUARES**
 George Street links the three city squares
 Central Square is Sydney's arrival square
 Belmore Park connects Central Square to Haymarket
- CITY CENTRE CONNECTIONS**
 Streets that connect Haymarket to other city precincts
- DISTINCTIVE PLACES**
 Streets with a unique character
- MEETING PLACES**
 Gathering places with amenities for a diverse community
- **WAYFINDING PLACES**
 Sites of entry, transition and orientation

Completed Projects

COMPLETED PUBLIC DOMAIN PROJECTS

- GEORGE STREET PEDESTRIAN BOULEVARD
- DARLING SQUARE LIBRARY
- STREET PROJECTS
 - Little Hay Street, Kimber Lane & Factory Street
 - Thomas Street (South)
 - Tumberlong Boulevard & Little Hay Street (West)
 - Sussex Street | Paving & Poles
 - Hay St, Thomas St (North), & Ultimo Rd (East)
- 📍 PUBLIC ART PROJECTS
 1. **In Between Two Worlds** | Jason Wing
 2. **Light Boxes** | McGregor Westlake Architecture, Deuce Design, Hassell
 3. **Golden Water Mouth** | Lin Li
 4. **Spanish Steps** | McGregor Westlake Architecture
 5. **Dixon Light Screens** | McGregor Westlake Architecture
 6. **Pao Cha (Red Lantern Kiosk)** | Pamela Mei-Ling See
 7. **Heaven & Earth** | McGregor Westlake Architecture & Deuce Design
 8. **Australian Chinese Ex-Services** | McGregor Westlake Architecture
 9. **Garden of Cloud & Stone** | Jane Irwin Landscape Architecture & Lindy Li



Potential Projects

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

- Belmore Park
- PRECINCT STRATEGY
- Creative Lighting Masterplan
- STREET PROJECTS
- Dixon Street and restoration of the Chinatown Gates - underway* 📍
- Campbell Street 📍
- Harbour Street 📍
- Hay Street West
- Sussex Street 📍
- Goulburn Street
- Ultimo Road
- Quay Street 📍
- 📍 Includes Integrated Public Art



Belmore Park

Belmore Park is an historic local park that provides a major connection to Central Station. It does not meet its current potential as a green oasis in the city and needs improvement.

Context

Belmore Park is a 2.1 hectare public open space on the traditional lands of the Gadigal people, located on the eastern edge of Haymarket.

The City has plans to upgrade Belmore Park, and aims to respond to its heritage qualities, its role as forecourt to Central Station, to its significant cultural value, and to improve public safety and amenity. The Belmore Park Plan of Management outlines how the park should be used, improved and managed in the future. The City South and forthcoming Central Precinct Public Domain Plans outline the design principles and objectives for upgrade works. These documents should be read in conjunction with this Plan.

Existing Condition

Belmore Park was dedicated for public recreation in 1868. Its current form and layout dates from 1906 and includes a path system of two avenues running north-south through the park, connected by three diagonal paths. These paths highlight

the role of Belmore Park as a forecourt and major connection to Central Station, however they do not intuitively connect to today's suburban rail entry at the eastern end of Eddy Avenue.

Today Belmore Park is bounded to the east and west by high embankments that support road, light rail and heavy rail. Subsequently, access and sightlines into the park are limited to Eddy Avenue in the south and Hay Street in the north, which contributes to a lack of passive surveillance, especially at the park's centre.

The park contains one of the City's most spectacular single row plantations of London Planes (Register of Significant Trees, CoS 2013), along its primary avenue. It also has four large Moreton Bay Fig trees which are believed to have survived from the earlier nineteenth century park. In winter the dense canopies can make parts of the park appear dark and unsafe.

Park elements are of varying condition, with several due for renewal. Lighting and pathways require improvements. The park's main architectural feature, the bandstand, is inaccessible to the public, as is the Men's Toilets, located against the bridge abutment wall.

Belmore Park has a longstanding historical and cultural relationship with Chinatown commerce,

and trade. Markets, including the cattle, hay, and corn markets, were in the area from the 1820's.

The community has told us that they would like to see improved amenities such as play and exercise facilities, more furniture in different arrangements for groups, and more flexible spaces for cultural events. There was strong support for regular markets in the Park, which are constrained by the lack of handstand areas.

Belmore Park has often been at the forefront of social movements. Events ~~in the park~~ have been attended by ~~up to 40,000 people across~~ a wide range of communities and include:

- Annual Chinese New Year and Lunar New Year celebrations, featuring markets, lion dances, firecrackers, and carnival rides;
- A 40,000 person march and rally on 26 January 1988 to protest Invasion Day;
- A 1991 rally protesting Fred Nile's anti-abortion bill, which was then boycotted by almost all women in the NSW Upper House;
- An Olympic Live site in 2000, with a big screen TV inviting passers-by to lounge in the park;
- The annual Thailand Grand Festival, featuring a big stage, ceremony, parade, and markets;
- Regular community Tai Chi **gatherings** and

dance rehearsals;

- Mardi Gras festivities; and
- Rallies for Climate Action, Black Lives Matter, YES! Marriage Equality, Hong Kong Pro-Democracy, Lockout Laws, and Invasion Day.
- ~~Climate Action demonstrations and marches;~~
- ~~Hong Kong Pro-Democracy rallies;~~
- ~~Rallies for Black Lives Matter;~~
- ~~The YES! march for marriage equality;~~
- ~~A 2016 rally protesting the impact of lockout laws on music and creative industries.~~

Key demographic observations include:

- Haymarket has one of the fastest growing residential populations in the city (except during COVID-19), which will put more use and capacity pressures on the park;
- Worker and visitor populations are placing increasing demand on public places for lunchtime seating, socialising, and exercise;
- Populations of families with young children, young adults, and older people are growing;
- In 2041, 47% of the City of Sydney's residents will be between 18 and 34 years of age. This age group has high participation rates in active sports and recreation;
- Chinatown and CBD South are forecast to see a high increase in one parent families;
- Haymarket has one of the highest born overseas population (76%), including large populations from China and Thailand; and
- Haymarket has the second highest percentage of low income households (17.5%) in the LGA.



Belmore Park uses and features (left to right)

Spectacular single row of London Plane trees

Photo: Adam Hollingworth / Hired Gun / City of Sydney

Tai Chi in the park

Photo: Paul Patterson / City of Sydney

Protest against Fred Nile's anti-abortion bill in 1991

Photo: C. Moore Hardy / City of Sydney Archives

Australian Hokien Huay Kuan Arts group

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Miss Country Girls celebrating the Olympics in 2000

Photo: Col Tinkler / City of Sydney Archives

Belmore Park as a Sydney Olympic live site

Photo: Eva Rodriguez Riestra / City of Sydney Archives



Belmore Park

Safer Cities

Belmore Park has been identified as an area that feels unsafe after dark, and that needs improvements to cleanliness, maintenance and lighting, and a more welcoming environment.

The Safer Cities program will engage with women and girls to identify safety issues within the park and test temporary activations and installations. The program aims to:

- Assist women and girls to feel that their sense of safety has improved when using public spaces following the impact of the pandemic;
- Improve amenity, accessibility, walkability and safety, day and night;
- Provide a place for the community to gather, connect and feel welcome;
- Increase community stewardship and pride;
- Strengthen the identity and community value of the Park, along with providing diverse, inclusive, free and welcoming uses; and
- Include diverse community voices to influence the designs and interventions.

A research report will be prepared to document the outcomes of the program and to inform future upgrades to Belmore Park.



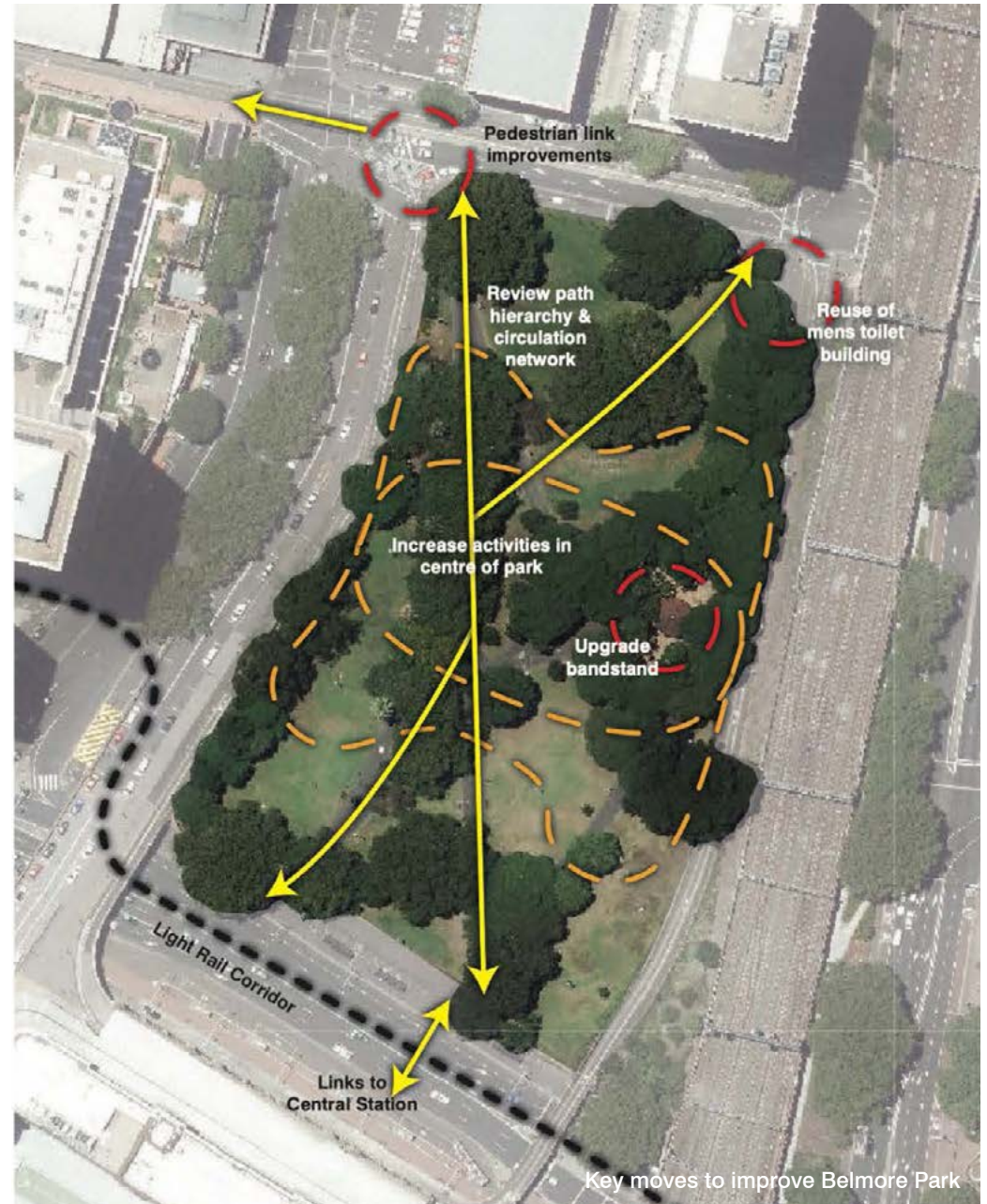
Belmore Park lunchtime activity
Photo: City of Sydney

The Opportunity

Belmore Park could be revitalised as a safe and welcoming CBD park that encourages events, community gatherings, and everyday use.

Objectives

- Retain and enhance the park's character, including adaptive reuse of its heritage assets and historic relationship with Central Station.
- Increase the legibility of entrances, improve sightlines and passive surveillance, and activate the centre.
- Simplify paths and strengthen connections to Central Station.
- Respond to the park as key community space, increase recreational activities, and improve amenities to welcome all users.
- Provide infrastructure and amenities to facilitate cultural events and celebrations.
- Work in partnership with authorities to improve access and sightlines.
- Improve the park's environmental performance and sustainability.
- Extend the park edges into surrounding streets.



Belmore Park

Enhance character and de-clutter



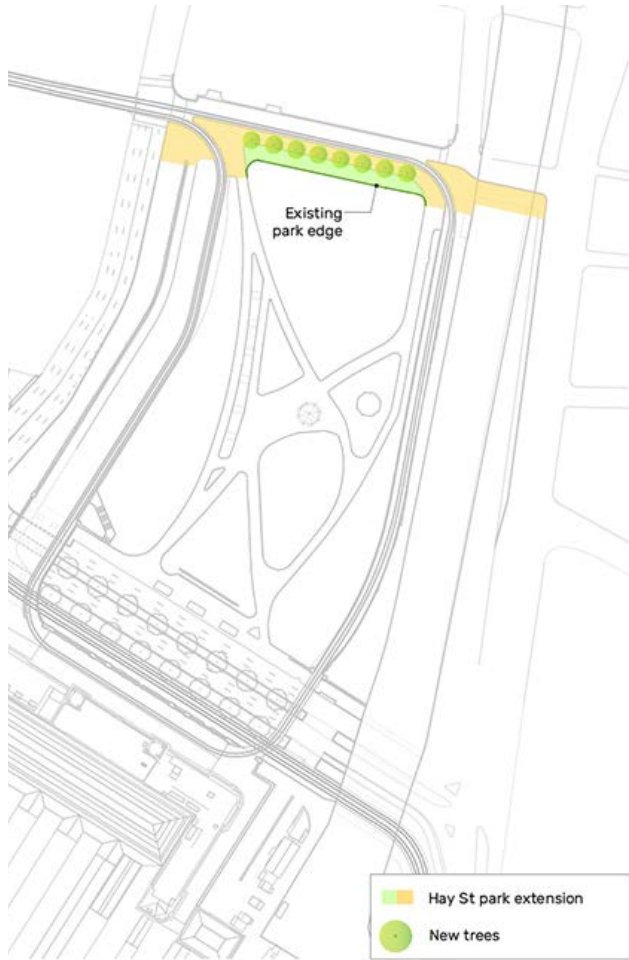
Improve landscape for amenity



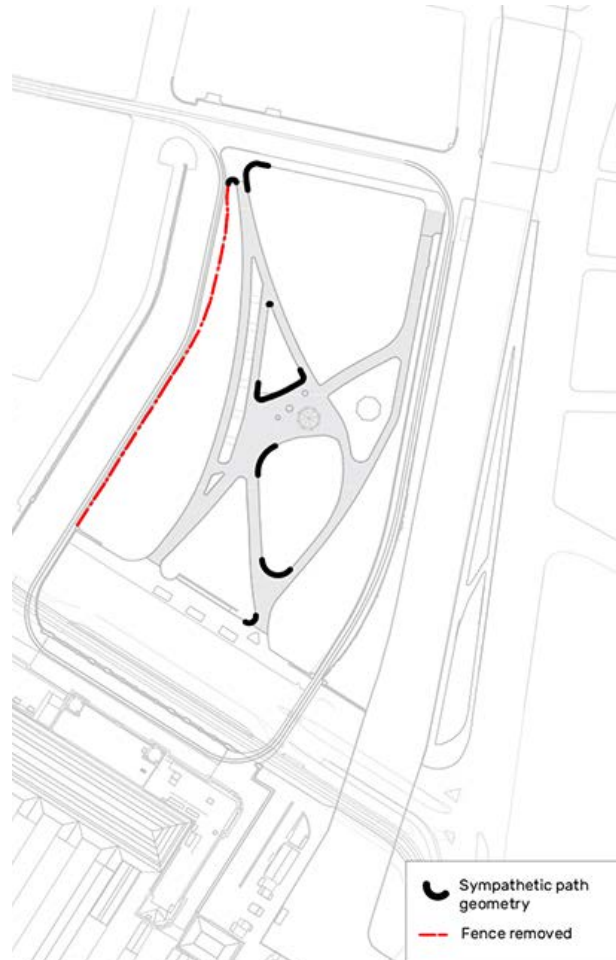
Balance light and shade for amenity



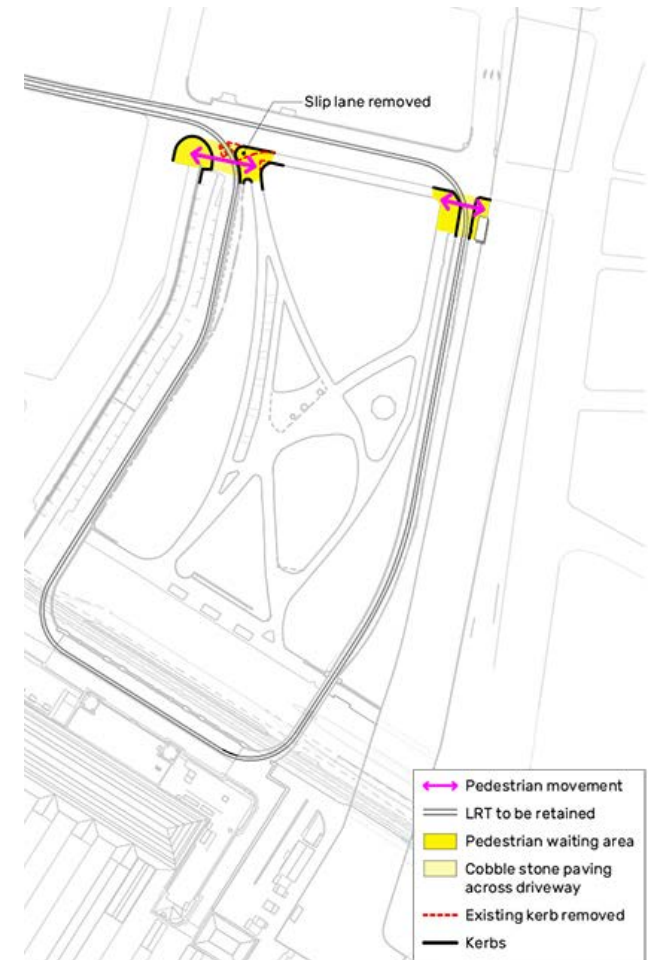
Extend the park into Hay Street



Simplify paths and connect to Central



Improve local connections



Belmore Park

The paths, finishes, furniture and fixtures in the Park could be refreshed and upgraded. A review of park lighting could also include investigations into creative lighting for safety and atmosphere.

Key Moves

- New bus shelters
- New low sandstone seating wall
- Existing bandstand location
- Gravel surfaced activity zone
- Path edge expanded to create a new 'heart of the park' - central park space with good solar access
- Bandstand refurbished and relocated to new 'heart of the park'
- Selective pruning of tree canopy within the park to provide more sunlight to the centre
- Investigate relocation of high heritage value tree, or retain in situ as feature in paved space
- Existing fence removed
- Park edge extended
- New planting to complement heritage planting
- Adaptive re-use of men's toilet

Park Edges

- Westbound traffic lanes removed from Hay Street as part of precinct-wide traffic changes. Park landscape extends north into Hay Street
- Vehicle lanes removed from Upper Carriageway Drive. Park landscape extends west onto the viaduct
- New stair connects Eddy Avenue to Upper Carriageway Drive / viaduct park
- Tree planting in new median on Eddy Avenue
- Tree planting in existing median on Eddy Avenue
- Granite (cobble) paving extends across Eddy Avenue to unite the station and the park
- Pedestrian crossing to suburban station entry
- New wide pedestrian crossing at Pitt Street

Diagrams on previous page: design principles to improve Belmore Park

Images: Spackman Mossop Michaels

Right: Belmore Park preliminary concept

Image: Spackman Mossop Michaels

LEGEND

	Upgraded asphalt path
	New granite paving
	New cobble stone paving
	New sandstone paving
	Existing kerb/garden bed edge realigned
	Existing fence removed
	Upgraded garden bed
	Proposed garden bed
	Upgraded turf
	New activity space gravel surface & furniture eg: - tables + seating for chess, mahjong etc; - table tennis
	Upgraded park seating
	New low seating wall
	Upgraded park and street lighting
	New trees
	Existing trees retained
	Existing tree to be reviewed (SULE < 10 years)
	Existing tree to be reviewed for solar access (selective pruning)
	Existing tree to be reviewed / replanted (In consultation with City Arborist)
	Existing tree to be replanted / retained with paved setting

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



Creative Lighting Master Plan

The community wants to see more neon signs, bright colourful lights, tree illumination, lighting for safety, cultural lighting such as lanterns and lighting of the heritage gates, and creative lighting for a vibrant and exciting atmosphere.

The *Sydney Lights: Public domain design code 2020* identifies Chinatown as a distinctive City precinct and recommends preparation of a lighting master plan for the area. A holistic approach is needed to coordinate functional, creative and artistic lighting.

Objectives

To develop a Haymarket creative lighting master plan that explores:

- A hierarchy of streets and spaces for a coordinated precinct approach to lighting;
- A set of lighting features that can be applied across the precinct in the short term, and that respond to the lighting suite in Dixon Street;
- An approach to signalling arcade entries for increased legibility and connections; and
- Public art that uses the medium of light.

Examples of Creative Lighting (left to right)

Light Boxes by McGregor Westlake and In Between Two Worlds by Jason Wing, Kimber Lane Haymarket

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Pavilion Christmas lights in Darling Square

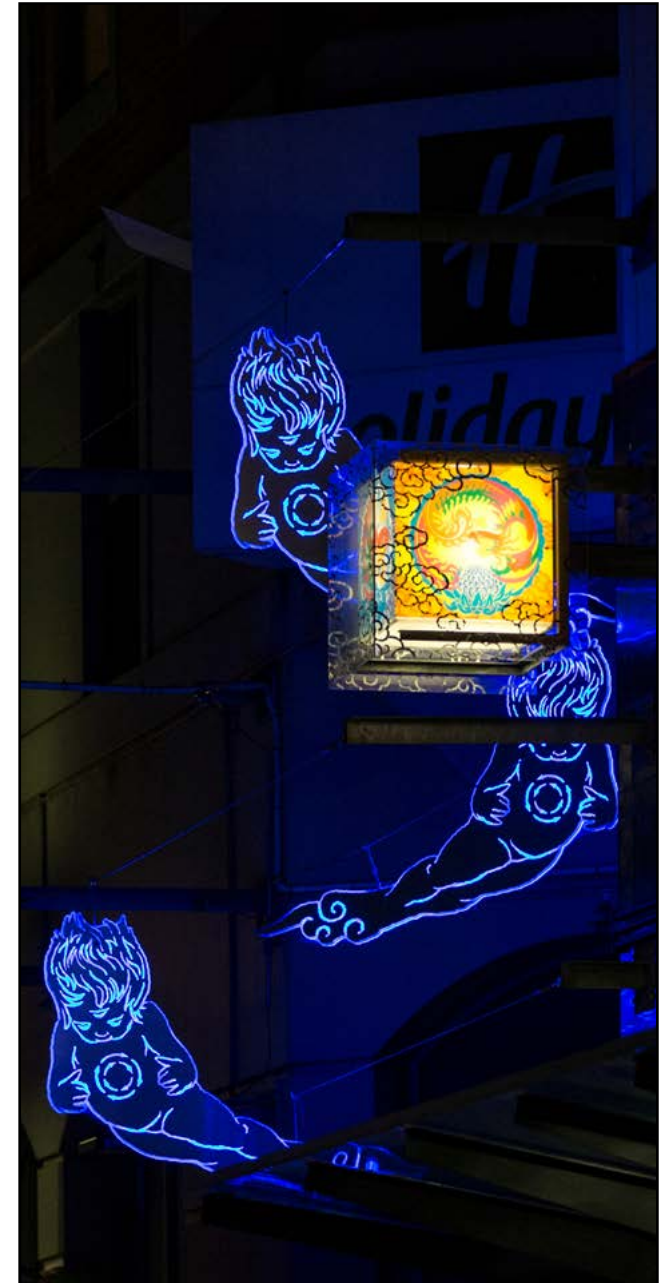
Photo: Chris Southwood / City of Sydney

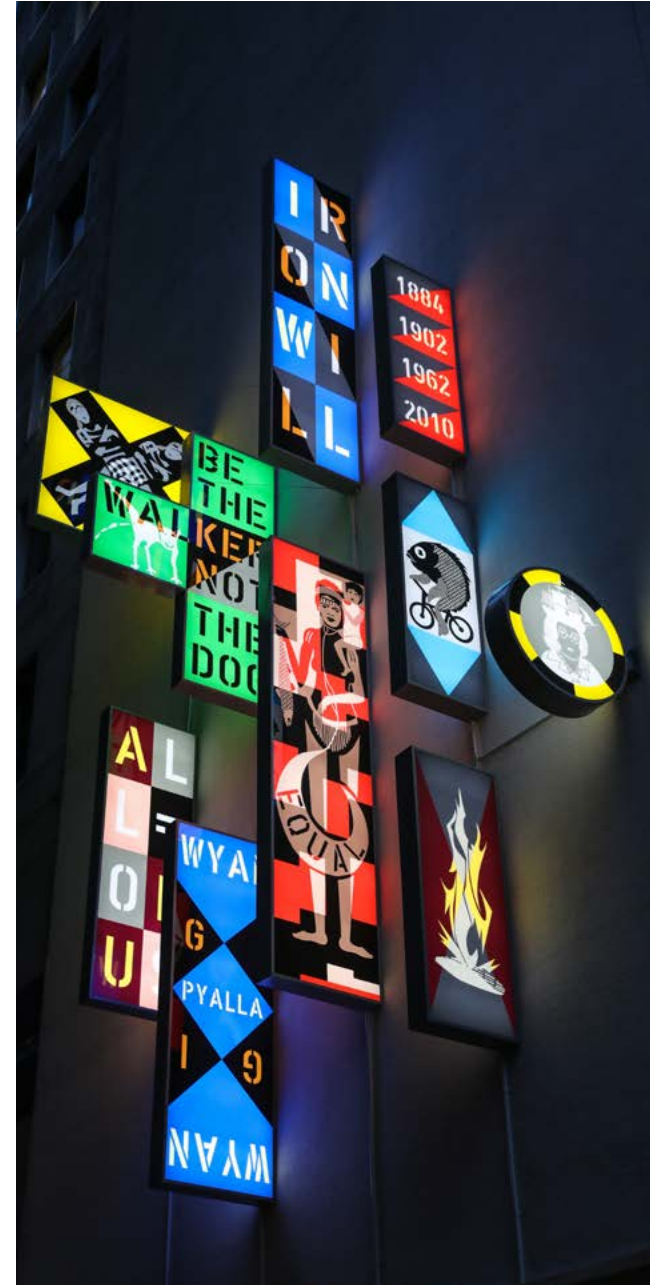
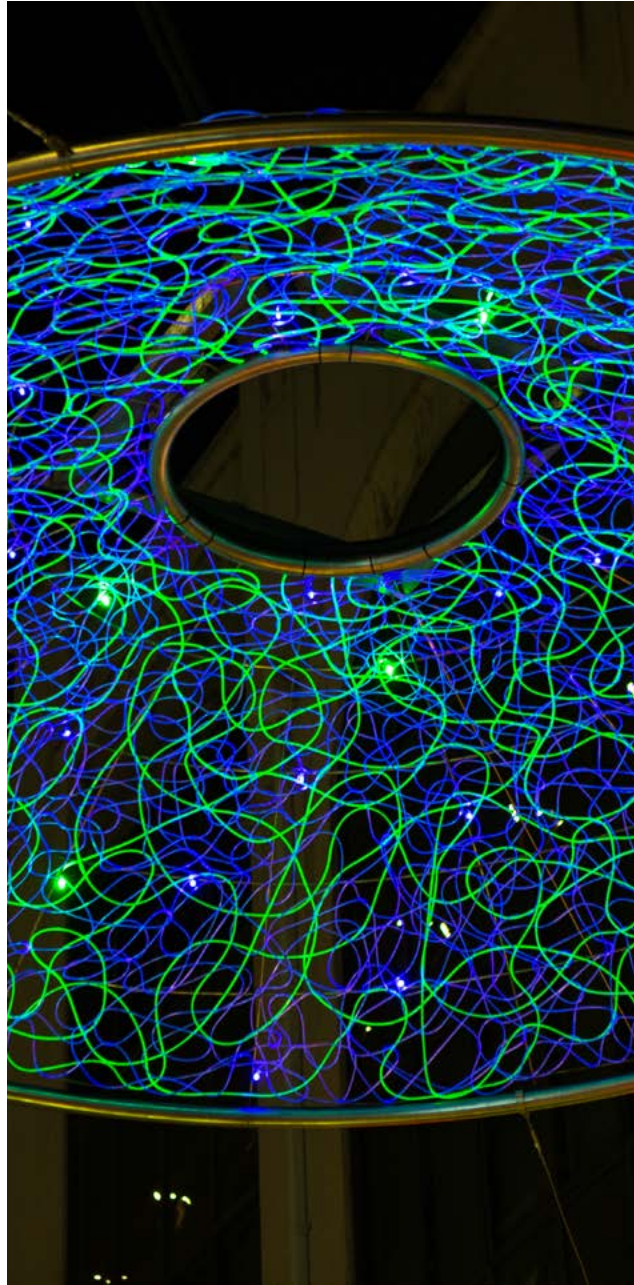
Heaven by McGregor Westlake Architecture

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Patchwork of Light by Lara Schnitger, Reiby Place

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney





Dixon Street

Dixon Street is a place of significant cultural value at the heart of the core Chinatown area. It is in need of renewal and the City has committed to this upgrade with work already commenced.

Existing Condition

At the heart of Chinatown, Dixon Street runs north-south across two blocks from Hay Street at Liverpool Street. The southern block is a paved public space and shared zone, with low volumes of vehicles using the space mainly for servicing and loading. The northern block is owned by the State Government and provides vehicular access to several driveways.

The community has told us that Dixon Street is in need of improvements. Issues identified include:

- The Chinatown Ceremonial Gates are in need of restoration;
- The trees provide a dense canopy which can make the street quite dark. They are also culturally important and are held in the memories of many people;
- More lighting is needed to brighten the space;
- Paving improvements are needed to brighten the space and create a distinct identity;
- The public seating is in need of renovation

and more seating could be provided;

- Power and electrical services need updating;
- The northern and southern blocks have different characters and Goulburn Street creates a barrier between the two halves;
- In the northern block there are no trees to soften the urban landscape;
- There is a need to carefully balance many uses in a constrained space; and
- Many people visit the Chinatown Markets on Friday nights and have indicated a need for more places to sit and enjoy the atmosphere. They supported an expanded market, with more spaces for live music and performance.

Opportunities

There is a great opportunity to improve the Dixon Street public domain in order to catalyse private and government investment in the revitalisation of the historic core of Chinatown.

The strong level of custodianship in the community provides the opportunity for collaboration and authentic cultural expression.

The two blocks of Dixon Street could be united through partnerships with the State Government.

Historic photos of Dixon Street (left to right)

Dixon Street in the 1970s

Photo: City of Sydney Archives

Dixon Street pedestrian street in 1984

Photo: Stan Johnson / City of Sydney Archives

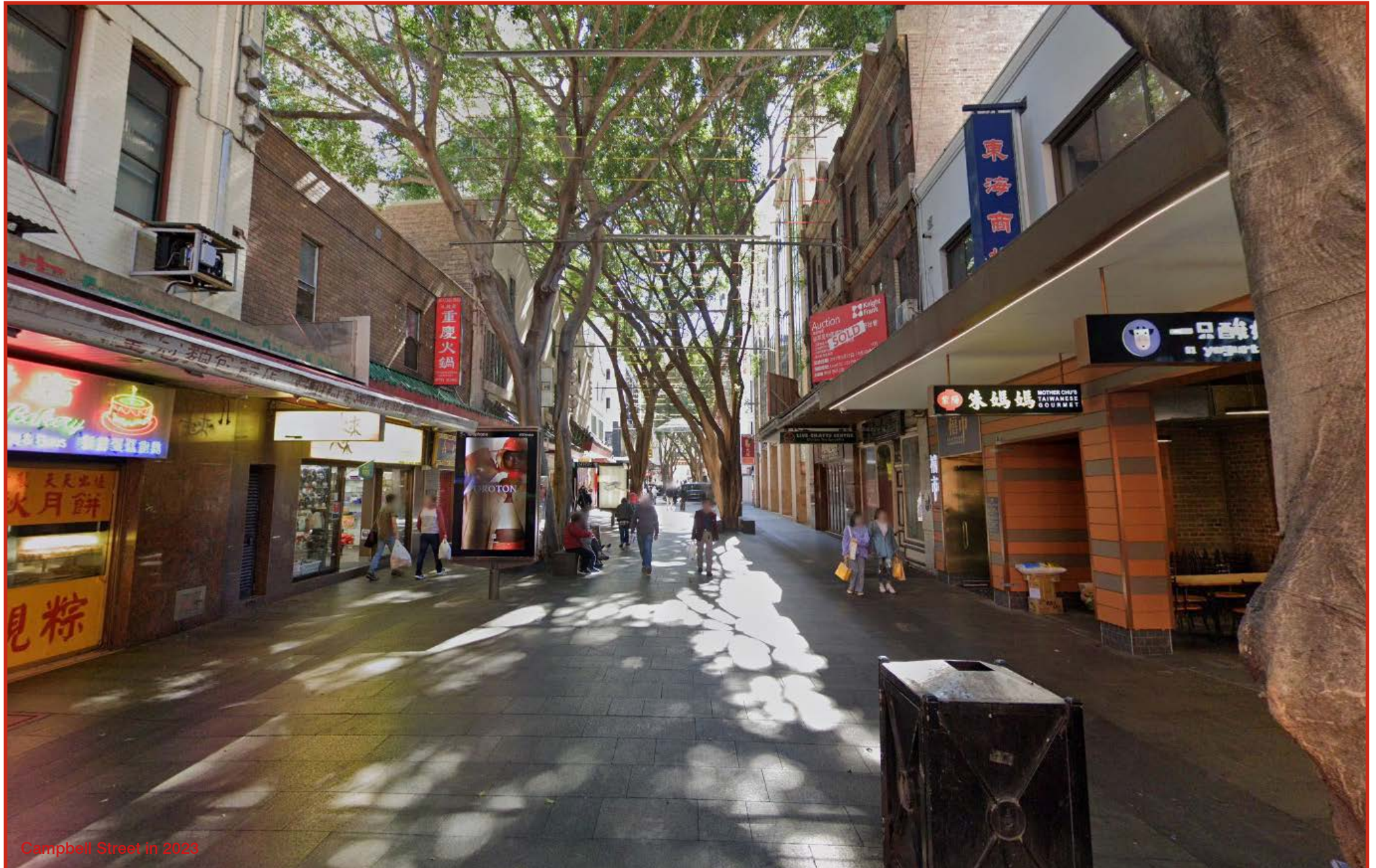
Dixon Street in 2022

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



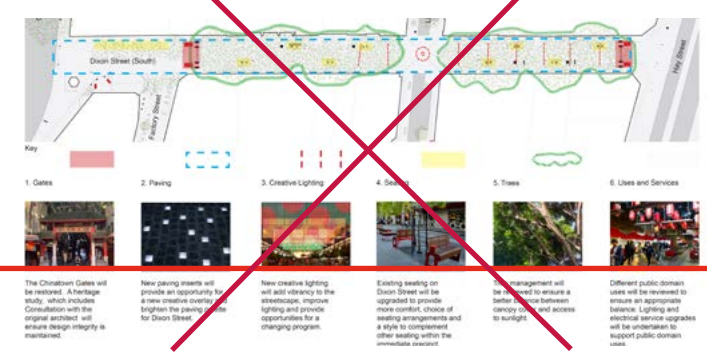
4 Public Domain Projects



Campbell Street in 2023



Artist impression of future Dixon Street, subject to design development and feasibility testing

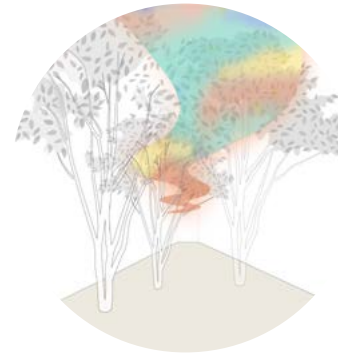


Dixon Street

Key Moves: a kit of parts



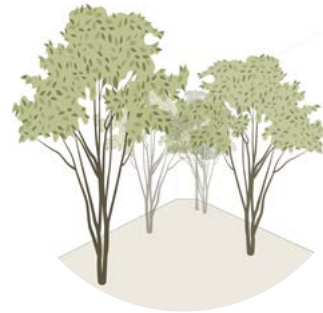
Facades & Awnings



Lighting



Markets



Trees



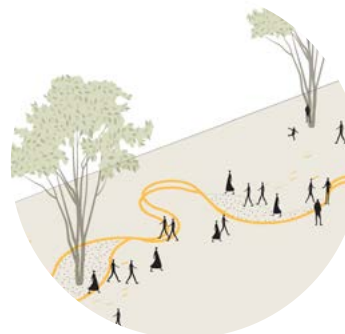
Seating



Events



Gates



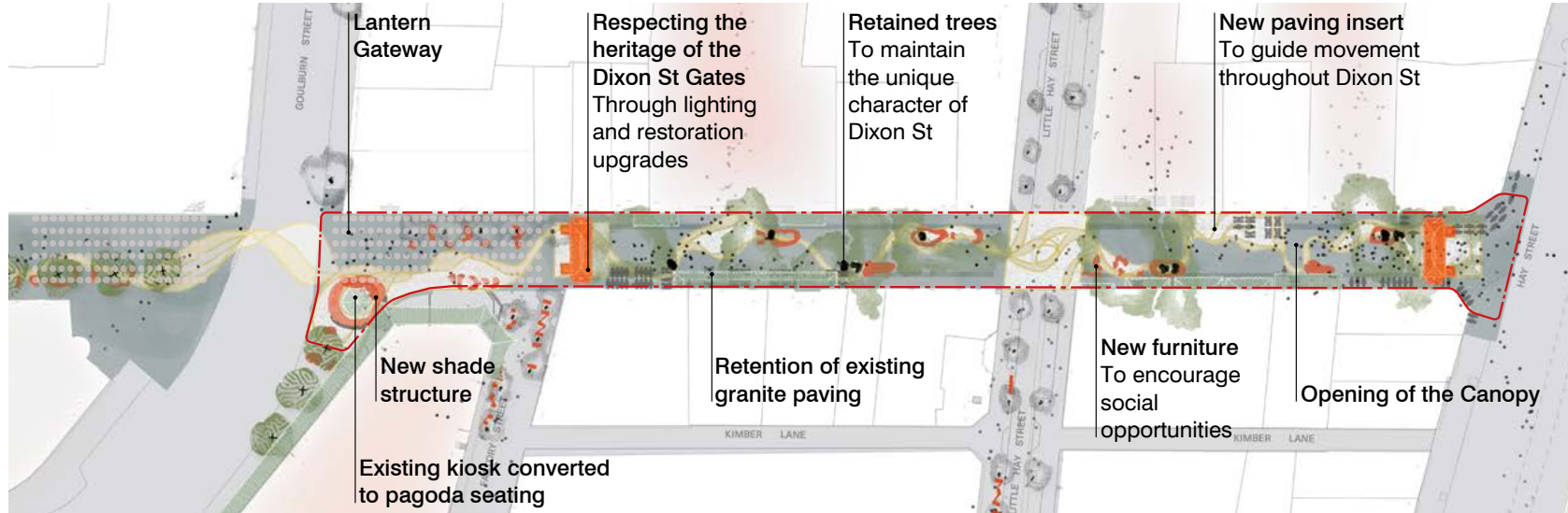
Paving



Outdoor Dining



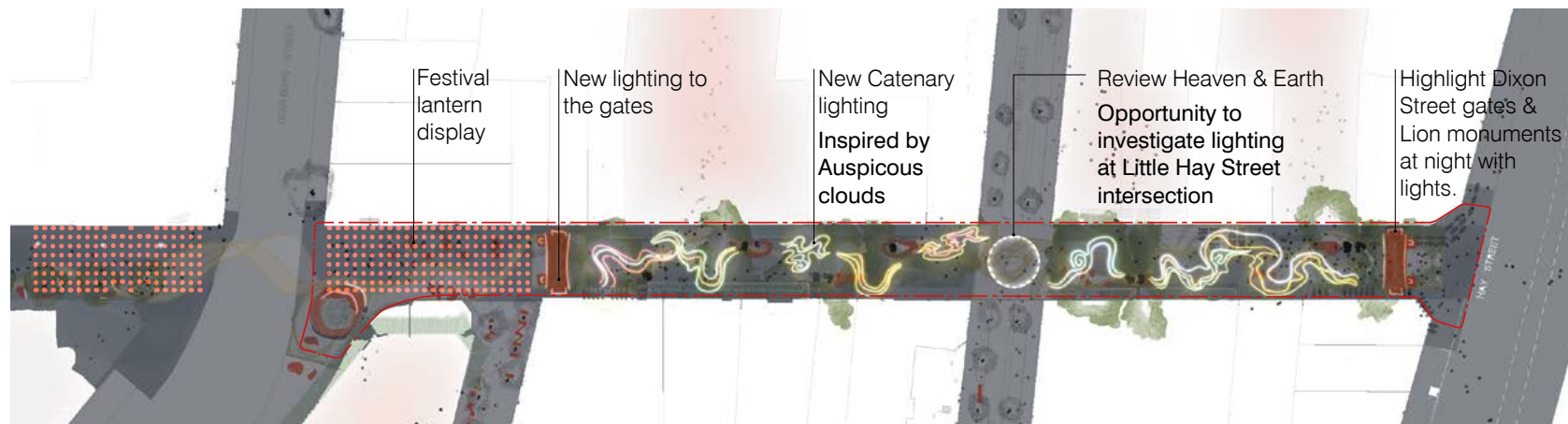
A Vision for Dixon Street South- By Day



Key

- Paving insertions
- Existing Paving
- New Furniture
- Tree retention
- Lanterns

A Vision for Dixon Street South - By Night



Key

- Paving insertions
- Existing Paving
- New Furniture
- Tree retention
- Lanterns
- Catenary Lighting

Campbell Street

Campbell Street has significant cultural value at the heart of Thai Town and presents an opportunity for a flexible street design that welcomes events and cultural celebrations.

Existing Conditions

Campbell Street runs east-west in eastern Haymarket and is an important connector between George and Elizabeth Streets. It is the centre of Thai Town and is a lively street with active frontages consisting of restaurants, cafes, Thai grocers, pubs and hotels. Together these uses attract locals and visitors, day and night.

The state significant Capitol Theatre is located on the southern side of Campbell Street, providing tidal flows of many pedestrians, and lighting up the street with a vivid building facade.

At 18-22 Campbell Street, the Wing Sang & Co. building is culturally significant for its occupation by a top fruit merchant who supported many families' immigration from Guangdong.

The western end of Campbell Street aligns with the Chinatown light rail stop and is a key point of arrival for many visitors to the precinct. This end of the street is now closed to traffic. New outdoor dining and public activity has flowed into the area since the street closure.

Between George and Pitt Streets, traffic use is ~~now predominately deliveries~~, servicing, ~~pick-up and drop-off including mobility access, taxis and ubers~~, and ~~and basement access, including~~ access to the Capitol Square Theatre car park. The loading functionality of the street is highly important for several properties which are serviced from the street. ~~Short stay zones are highly desirable in the street because of the flat topography and proximity to George Street, which no longer carries private vehicles.~~ Three-point turn activity is common ~~since the street's closure and currently occurs at the car park entry, causing conflict.~~ There is a significant tidal flow to traffic from the car park as people depart after shows.

Bus layover is located between Pitt and Castlereagh Streets.

The north-south orientation of Campbell Street provides less than 2 hours of winter sun. Several mature brush box are located in the street.

The *2022 Bike Network Map* identifies Campbell Street as a key link in the regional cycling network.

Opportunities

~~The vibrant street life and reduction in through-traffic changes in traffic use~~ provides an opportunity to ~~upgrade to a high-quality pedestrian street convert the street to a shared zone with provision for cycling, new tree-planting, event infrastructure, and a high-quality pedestrian environment~~ that supports the successful local restaurant scene ~~at night, and precinct access and servicing during the day.~~

Closure of Campbell Street at its western end provides an opportunity for a public artwork on George Street at the Chinatown light rail stop which invites people to Thai Town and celebrates the unique character of the area.

Features of Campbell Street (left to right)

Thai butchers, grocers and restaurants

Photo: City of Sydney

Vibrant Capitol Theatre facade lighting

Photo: Tripadvisor

Depiction of the Wing Sang & Co. building at 18-22 Campbell Street, which still stands today

Image: The China-Australia Heritage Corridor

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



4 Public Domain Projects



Campbell Street in 2023

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



Artist impression of future Campbell Street, subject to design development and feasibility testing

Campbell Street

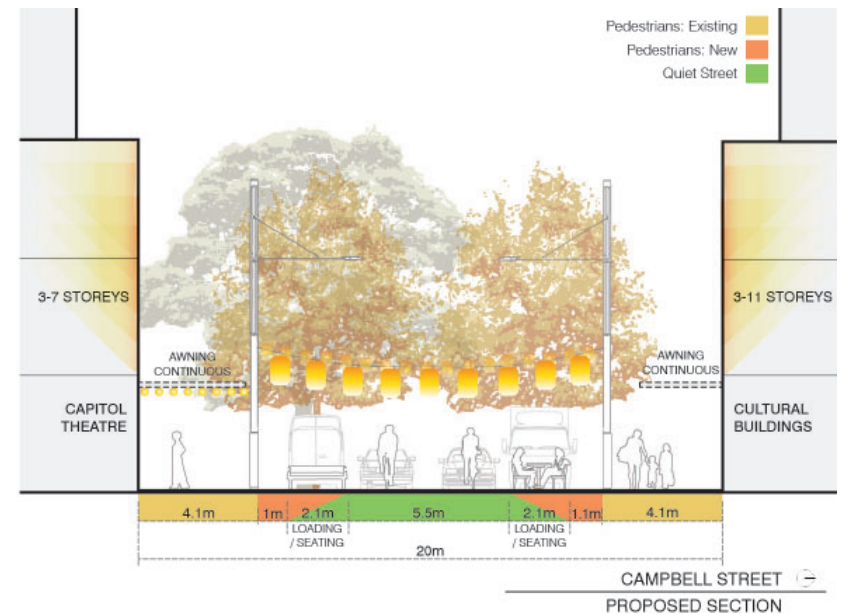
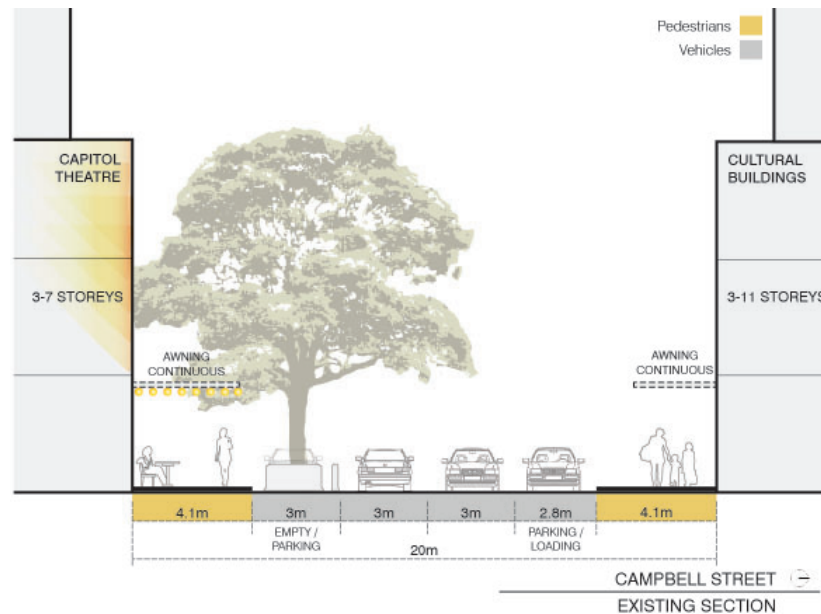
Campbell Street is the heart of Thai Town. It could be an outdoor dining hub, a distinct gathering place, and a Haymarket landmark. It could welcome visitors arriving by light rail, bike and foot, and be animated with light and people day and night. Iconic public art and creative lighting could signal its entry and support east-west precinct connections.

Key Moves

- Upgrade to a **high-quality slow street Shared-Zone** with **flush-paving and highly-flexible parking zones-plaza** that can meet changing community needs.
- Retain loading function during daytime and convert to outdoor dining and cultural programming at night.
- Promote low-speed cycling in a **shared environment**, consistent with George Street

uses.

- Provide a major public artwork at the western end of the street to welcome visitors to Thai Town, for example **Thai Gates**.
- Provide infrastructure to support creative lighting and street decorations for events and cultural celebrations.
- Support events and markets with installation of GPO and 3-phase power in poles, water supply, and public toilet access.



SPACE FOR PEDESTRIANS & CYCLISTS



TREES



KEY

- EXISTING PEDESTRIAN SPACE
- PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN SPACE
- SLOW STREET
- DRIVEWAY
- DAYTIME LOADING & PARKING
- CREATIVE LIGHTING
- PUBLIC ARTWORK
- BUILDING AWNING
- EXISTING/RETAINED TREE
- PROPOSED TREES: TULIP TREE / BRUSH BOX



Campbell Street Public Art & Design Features

Welcome to Thai Town

Historically and today, Chinatown plays an important role in welcoming people from diverse Asian cultures to Sydney.

This site is a place of entry, orientation, and connection. It is a point of arrival into the precinct from the light rail. It is a gateway to the Thai Town hub.

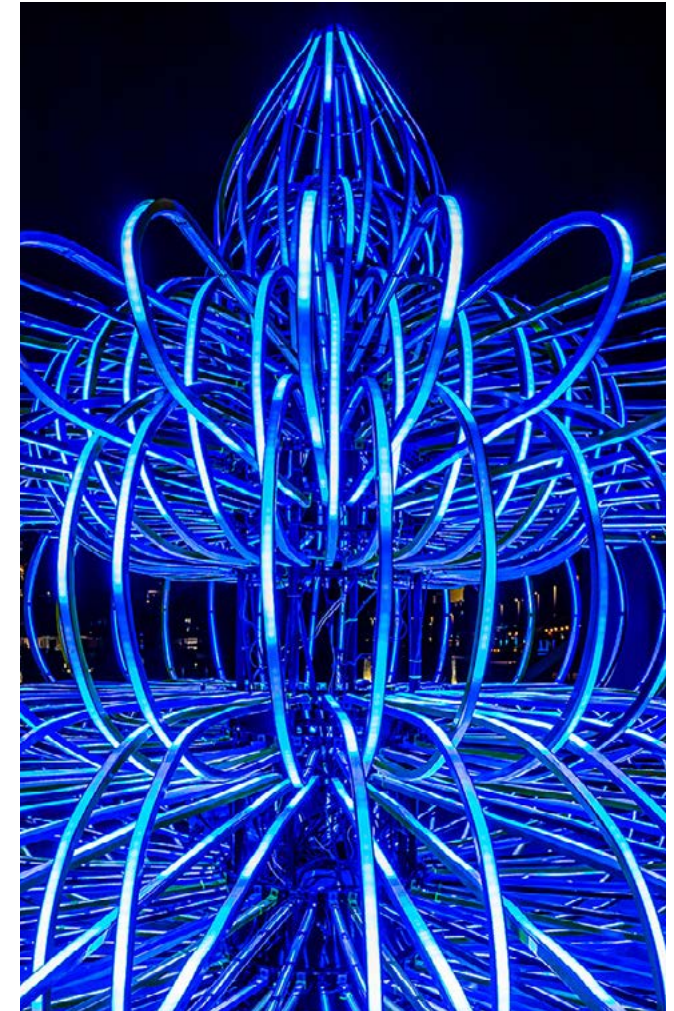
New Century Garden is interpreted as a place of rest and reflection that explores the experience of arrival in a new cultural landscape and reinforces Haymarket's identity with creative lighting. It addresses the needs of everyday life, offering comfort, protection, a place to recharge and connect, and a space to play. It welcomes all types of people to engage with Asian cultures, invites people to immerse themselves in the unique character of the area and hints at what Thai Town has to offer. It responds to the city as it changes day and night and creates a precinct landmark that welcomes and orientates visitors.

Examples of public art that could welcome people to Thai Town (left to right)

Suspended umbrellas in Hua Hin, Thailand

Spirograph by Onga Artful Lighting, at Vivid Sydney

Photo: Destination NSW



What Our Community Told Us

“A place for people who are far away from home; inclusivity, acknowledging, welcoming environment.”

“A safe and pedestrian-friendly place, vibrant and welcoming with an emphasis on its historical cultural diversity.”

“Just make every person of different cultures feel this is the place to meet.”

“Bring the joy and celebrate the diverse and beautiful cultures!!!”

Examples of public art that could bring creative lighting and animation to Campbell Street

Nasatta Light Festival in Ratchaburi, Thailand

Loy Krathong Festival in Chiang Mai, Thailand



Harbour Street

Harbour Street provides an opportunity to significantly increase pedestrian space and greening, and to connect historic Chinatown to Darling Square.

Existing Condition

Harbour Street runs north-south along the western edge of Haymarket, in between Dixon Street and Darling Square.

Realisation of the Darling Square development has significantly improved pedestrian connections to the western edge of Haymarket. Lively new pedestrian laneways, aligning with Little Hay Street, Factory Street and Quay Street, have better integrated Chinatown, Central and Darling Harbour.

Despite new connections, Harbour Street retains edge-like qualities in its location between the historic core of Chinatown and Darling Square, and divides the two precincts, caught in a tension between the old and the new.

Considerable foot traffic passes along Harbour Street. However active frontages occupy only 25% of the street and are concentrated on the eastern side near Little Hay Street and Factory Street. The offering is predominately restaurants. On the western side of the street there are few

active frontages, with driveways and building servicing limiting any future activation.

The carriageway is currently four lanes wide, including parking and loading functionality. The surrounding street network has been changed so that access to Harbour Street is now via one lane on Hay Street. Subsequently there is an over-supply of road space.

A no parking zone on the northern side of the street means that bus passengers alight on the road-side onto a narrow traffic island to access local hotels.

Harbour Street receives around 2-3 hours of winter sun at lunchtime, with the best light near Goulburn Street. Its north-south orientation requires summer shade. There are several small trees along the street which are struggling in current conditions.

Harbour Street is also a low point in the local topography and manages high volumes of stormwater from the catchment.

Opportunities

Changes in traffic use provide an opportunity to reallocate road space, improve pedestrian crossings, significantly widen footpaths,

plant trees, support outdoor dining, provide public amenities for larger groups, and install infrastructure that supports cultural programming and events.

No parking zones and informal drop-off activity from buses, taxis and private vehicles provides the opportunity to review and improve kerbside activity to ensure safe, convenient, and mobility access for pedestrians to local destinations.

Sightlines from Darling Square provide the opportunity for a public artwork that invites people into the Dixon Street hub and visually connects Chinatown and Darling Square.

Harbour Street road closure for Sydney Lunar Lanes
Photo: Chris Southwood / City of Sydney



4 Public Domain Projects



Harbour Street in 2023



Artist impression of future Harbour Street, subject to design development and feasibility testing

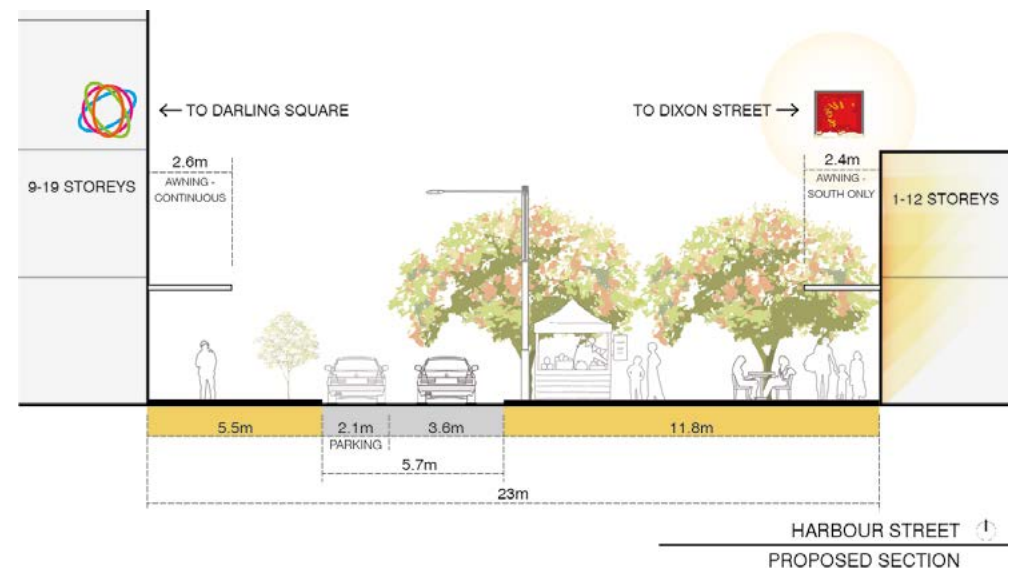
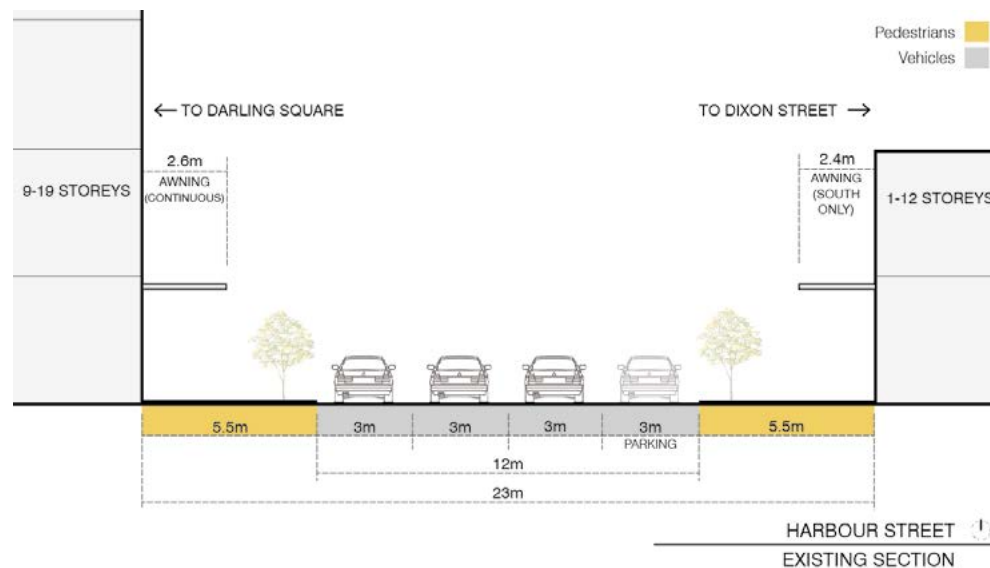
Harbour Street

Harbour Street welcomes visitors to the historic Chinatown hub via seamless connections with Darling Square. It introduces a precinct characterised by creative lighting. It offers generous spaces for markets and cultural celebrations and invites affordable dining with public seating for larger groups.

Key Moves

- Reduce the travel space to one lane and provide kerb extensions at key crossing points.
- Further investigations to define the opportunity to narrow the intersection at Goulburn Street whilst maintaining traffic function.
- Consolidate kerbside parking and loading to western side of the street and provide a dedicated bus drop-off zone that provides safe, convenient, and mobility access to local hotels and destinations.

- Widen the eastern footpath, plant an avenue of trees, and provide a programmable space for creative lighting, events, and cultural celebrations.
- Create a public artwork at height that draws visitors into the Dixon Street hub.
- Support events and markets with installation of GPO and 3-phase power in poles, water supply, and public toilet access.
- Upgrade paving and poles, and provide street furniture that caters for large groups.



SPACE FOR PEDESTRIANS & CYCLISTS

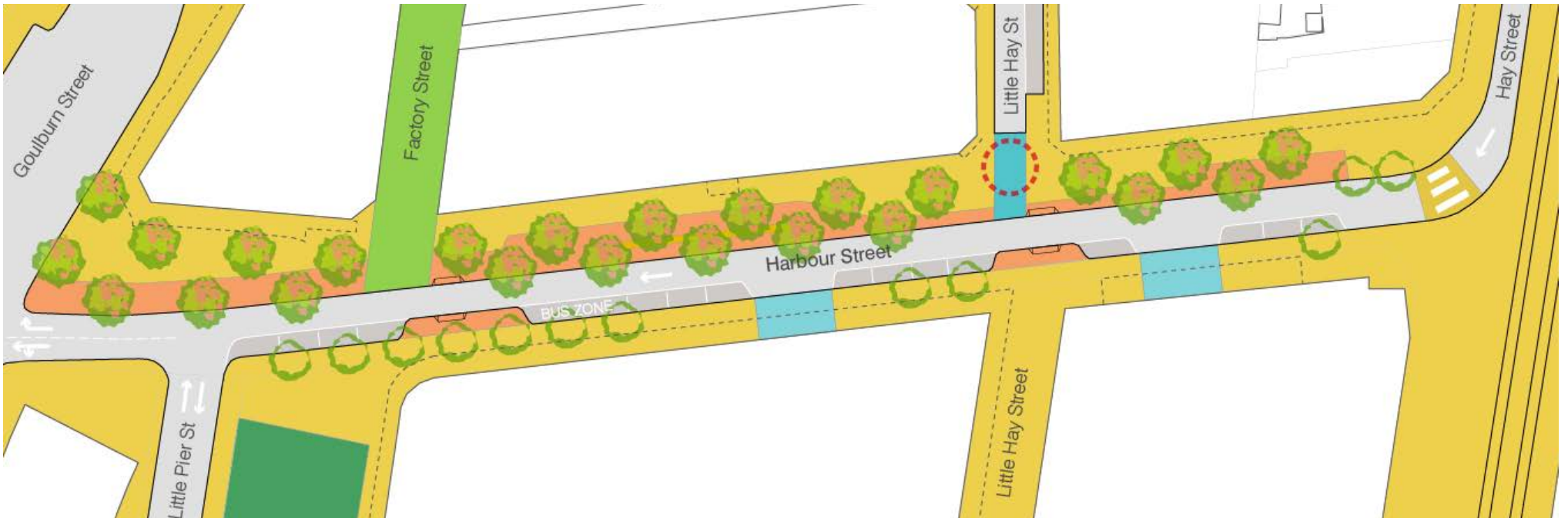


TREES



KEY

- EXISTING PEDESTRIAN SPACE
- PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN SPACE
- SHARED ZONE
- DRIVEWAY
- OPEN SPACE
- EXISTING/RETAINED TREE
- PROPOSED TREE: CHINESE RAIN TREE
- ROAD
- LOADING/PARKING ZONE
- EXISTING PEDESTRIAN CROSSING



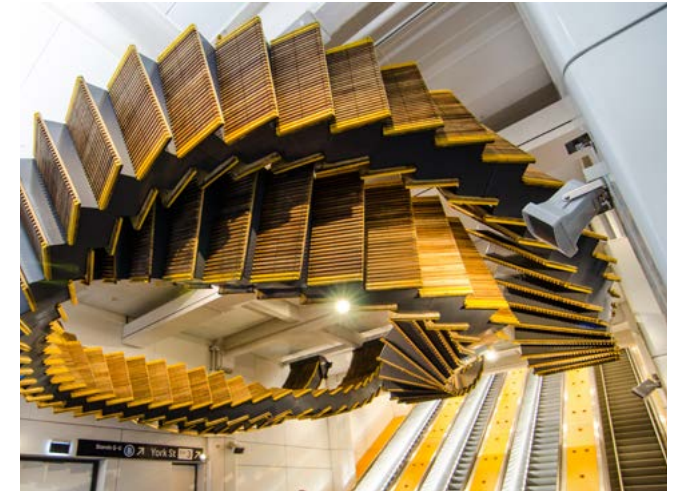
Harbour Street Public Art and Design Features

The Old and the New

Harbour Street could unite Haymarket and Darling Square. It could respond to long sightlines from the west and invite the onward journey, signalling the beginning of Chinatown's light, art, food and activity, and inviting all visitors to linger on the street.

Public art could frame the entrance of Little Hay Street and engage in a conversation about the rich and textured history of old and new Chinatown, in response to a desire expressed by the community to respect history and celebrate diversity. It could cherish Chinatown's lineage in Sydney and Guangdong, honour the historic and unique qualities of the precinct, and embrace the waves of migration that have contributed to today's layered, dynamic, and contemporary neighbourhood.

Along Harbour Street, a generous footpath could welcome all people with a mix of fixed and flexible public seating, including long tables, games tables and seating for large groups. Playful furniture could support events such as markets and also provide an everyday meeting place for locals.



Examples of public art which could draw people into the core Chinatown area (left to right)

City Lights by Brendan Van Hek at Darling Square

Photo: Brett Boardman

Interloop by Chris Fox at Wynyard Walk

Yellow Fog by Olafur Eliasson

What our community has told us:

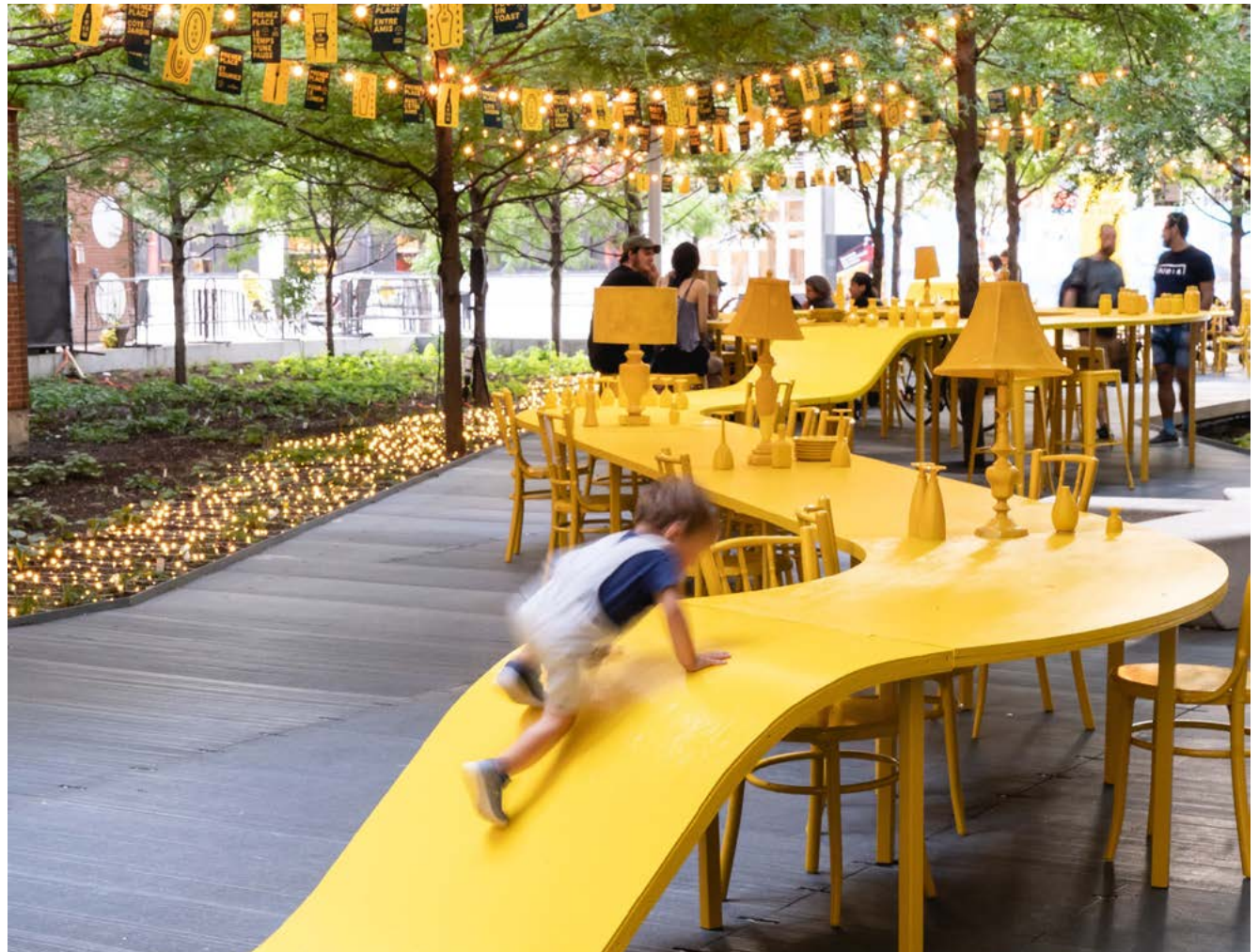
“It’d be great to include stories at sites or create artwork that illustrates the history of the area, whilst looking towards the future.”

“[Dixon Street is] the spiritual heart of Chinatown, with a long history of earlier Cantonese immigrants.”

“Haymarket has this 90s charm. While Chinatown and Haymarket gets updated, it’s important not to change too much of its signature. The Chinatown gates is something very nostalgic.”

“Maintaining heritage and new and flashy. Within the community itself, diverse views, 19th century.”

Furniture that invites play and social gathering: Your Place at the Table! by ADHOC Architects in Montreal
Photo: Raphael Thibodeau



Hay Street West

Hay Street West is need of everyday amenity to provide comfortable connections between Ultimo and Central. It also provides a rare opportunity for larger events and requires more **supporting** infrastructure to support cultural expression.

Existing Condition

Hay Street is a key east-west connection in the City's Liveable Green Network, and a key continuous east-west street through Haymarket. It is an important pedestrian route linking the Powerhouse Museum in Ultimo to the historic Chinatown hub, and on to Central Station, Belmore Park and Surry Hills. Large volumes of pedestrians move daily along this route.

The street layout and character of Hay Street varies across its four blocks. At its western end (Darling Drive to Harbour Street), the Darling Square redevelopment has provided very wide footpaths and large-scale building frontages. There is minimal public seating, shade, shelter and other amenities. The Hay Street West block is the focus of this Plan.

Within the historic Chinatown hub (Harbour Street to George Street), the public domain has been recently upgraded with footpath widening, social public seating and new trees, to support

the large volumes of pedestrians that move through this block.

At the eastern end (Pitt Street to Elizabeth Street), Hay Street is an important curtilage to Belmore Park. Proposals to upgrade this section of Hay Street are included in the Central Precinct Public Domain Plan, alongside plans for the park.

Across the four blocks of Hay Street, the most consistent elements are the Light Rail and a string of heritage and culturally significant buildings, public spaces and public artworks.

The Light Rail is a significant constraint to public domain upgrades, both underground and overhead, limiting the opportunity for new tree planting and for kerb extension at intersections, particularly on the southern side of the street. There is a major stormwater channel that runs between George Street and Darling Drive.

Opportunities

The community has told us that trees and greening is the most important element in improving public amenity in Hay Street West.

The very wide footpath between Darling Drive and Harbour Street provides a generous space for events. They could be better supported with

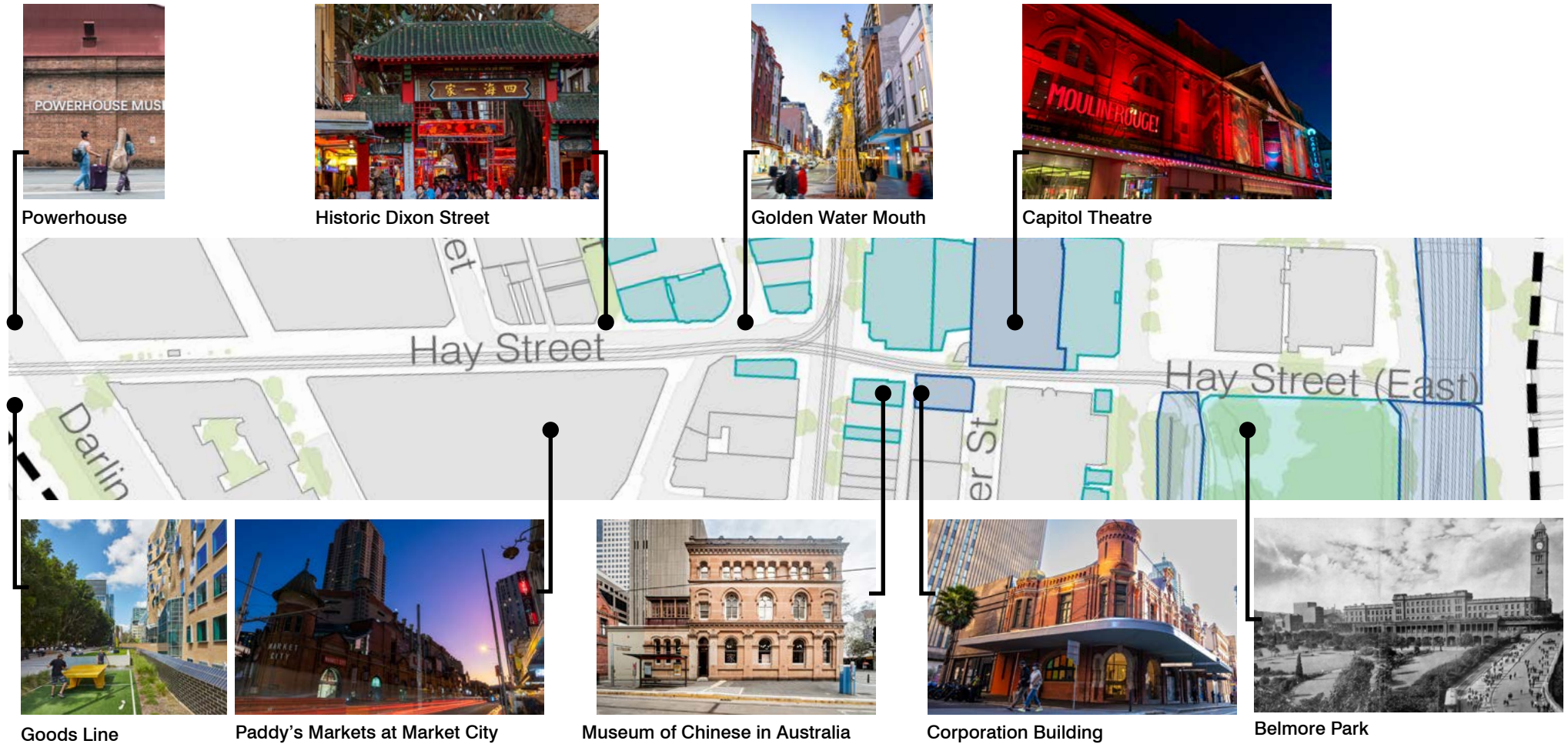
power and water supply, capacity for decorations and lighting, and more greenery, seating, and human-scaled elements.

The long facade of Paddy's markets provides an opportunity to add shade elements, such as awnings, that would retain the sense of grandeur and continuity along the street block.

The string of significant buildings, public spaces and public art along the street provides the opportunity to create a journey experience from the Powerhouse Museum to Central Station. This response could include building lighting, heritage interpretation, signage, and public art.

The role of Hay Street as curtilage to Belmore Park provides the opportunity to improve active transport connections, and to rationalise the complex intersection of Pitt & Hay Street, reducing delays for all users.

The Journey along Hay Street: A string of significant buildings, public spaces and public art



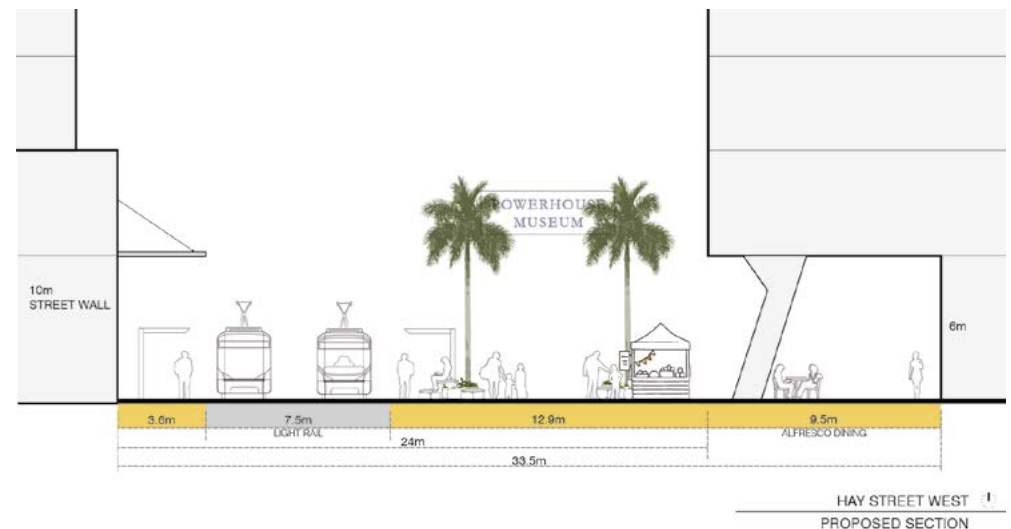
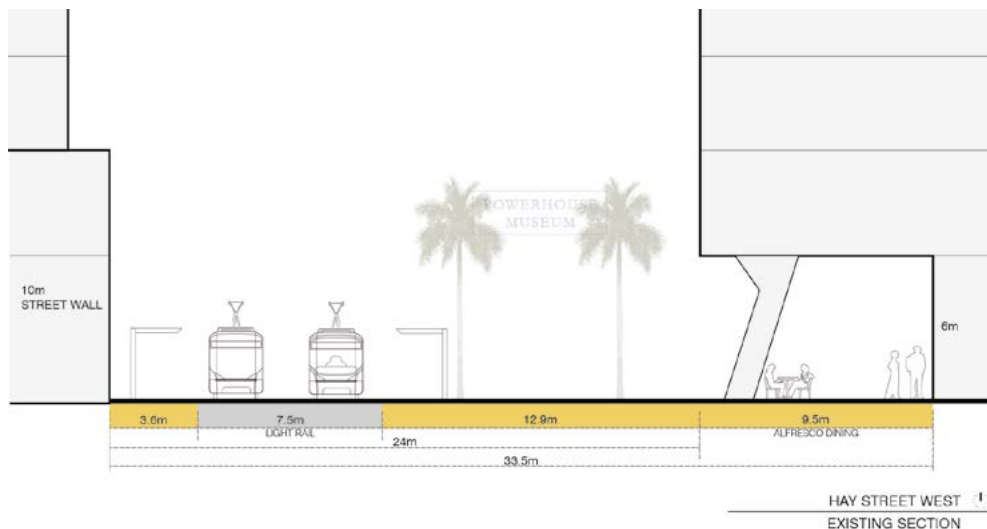
Hay Street West

Hay Street West could further embrace its role as major connector between Haymarket and Ultimo and take people on a journey into historic Chinatown. It could remain grand in scale but also be welcoming, with seating, **trees and greening and shelter** for everyday use. It could be further animated by events and cultural celebrations and provide generous spaces for large public gatherings.

Key Moves

- Extend the existing avenue of trees leading to the Powerhouse Museum, preferably through in-ground planting. Alternatively, trees could be located in water-efficient planters.
- Provide more soft green elements and public seating for comfort and amenity, responding to the primary alignment of trees.

- Support events and markets with installation of GPO and 3-phase power in poles, water supply, and public toilet access.
- Advocate for improvements to the Paddy's Markets façade, including awnings and creative lighting.



Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



In 2023 Hay Street was upgraded between Harbour Street and George Street
Photos: City of Sydney

4 Public Domain Projects



Hay Street West in 2023



TREE SPECIES SELECTION UNDER REVIEW

Artist impression of future Hay Street West, subject to design development and feasibility testing

Sussex Street

Sussex Street is part of historic Chinatown and plays an important role in the City's cycling and greening strategies.

Existing Conditions

Sussex Street is part of the core Chinatown area and has an important place in cultural memories and values. Its local character is expressed through building uses and public art, including the Golden Water Mouth tree and previous catenary lighting. *A community vision for Haymarket 2022* identified public domain revitalisation of Sussex Street as a high priority for the local community. **In 2023, consultation on this draft Plan reinforced support for Sussex Street improvements and also emphasised the importance of the street's role in loading and drop-off to service the core Chinatown area.**

Buildings offer a mix of hospitality and retail, including the Sussex Centre food court and previous Dixon House food court, bars, a cluster of popular restaurants near Liverpool Street, several jewellers, souvenir shops, and grocers. As a result of this diversity of uses, there is a high proportion of active frontages and foot traffic. However, there is little invitation to linger on the street, with few public benches and no outdoor dining. Several through-site links provide

important east-west connections to George and Dixon Streets, but are not clearly legible.

The City has a vision for Sussex Street to become a green boulevard through the city, connecting Chinatown to The Rocks. Solar access is high between Hay and Goulburn Streets, with 2.5 hours of mid-winter lunchtime sun. There is less than 1 hour of summer shade in this block and few trees. Solar access is moderate between Goulburn and Liverpool Street, with 1.5 hours of winter sun and mature trees providing good shade in summer.

In 2021, the northern end of Thomas Street was closed, creating a one-way loop at the southern end of Sussex Street that connects to Hay and Harbour Streets. Hay Street has been subsequently upgraded and its carriageway reduced to one lane. As a result of these changes, traffic use on Sussex Street is now only local access and servicing. Loading and short-stay parking remains an important function of the street for local businesses and for the precinct more generally.

Sussex Street is identified as regional cycleway in the *2018-2030 Cycling Strategy and Action Plan*, connecting Kent Street to future cycleways on Broadway and from Ultimo to Surry Hills. An alternative route to cycling on Sussex Street

could also be provided on George Street, subject to approval by Transport for NSW.

Sussex Street is relatively narrow at 18.4m wide from building to building. Finding the right balance between trees, pedestrian amenity, cultural expression, regional cycling facilities and loading and parking functionality will require an integrated and detailed design approach.

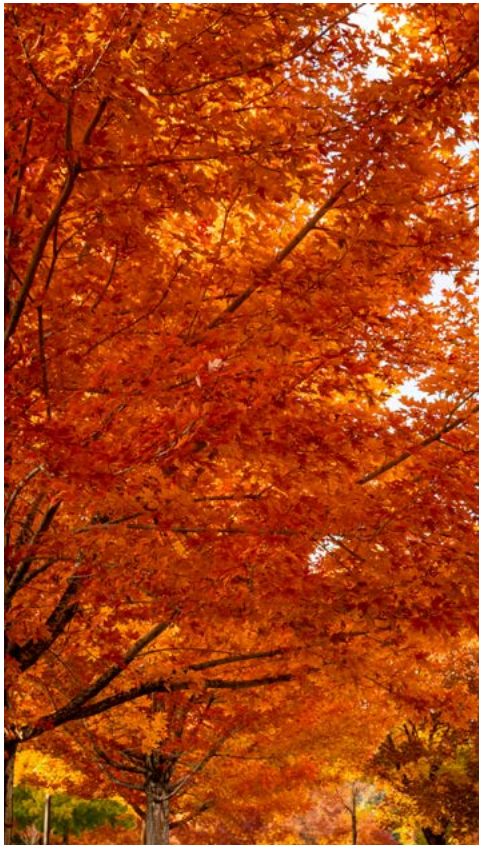
Opportunities

Changes to the street network provide an opportunity to reduce traffic to one lane and reallocate road space for a regional cycling connection and for public domain improvements. A detailed study of precinct loading and parking requirements is required to understand the scope of this opportunity.

Good winter sun offers ideal conditions for trees to provide amenity to the public domain, and to realise the City's vision for a green boulevard along Sussex Street.

Human-scaled buildings provide local character and facilitate east-west precinct connectivity. There is an opportunity to improve the legibility of these through-site links.

The challenge: An integrated approach to balancing all uses



Fraxinus pennsylvanica, street tree for Sussex Street
Photo: City of Sydney



Sussex Street lights, by McGregor Westlake Architecture, provide a cultural overlay
Photo: McGregor Westlake Architecture



Sussex Street is identified as a regional cycling route
Photo: Brett Boardman Photography



On-street loading is important to support local business operations
Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

4 Public Domain Projects



Sussex Street in 2023

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



Artist impression of future Sussex Street, subject to design development and feasibility testing

Sussex Street

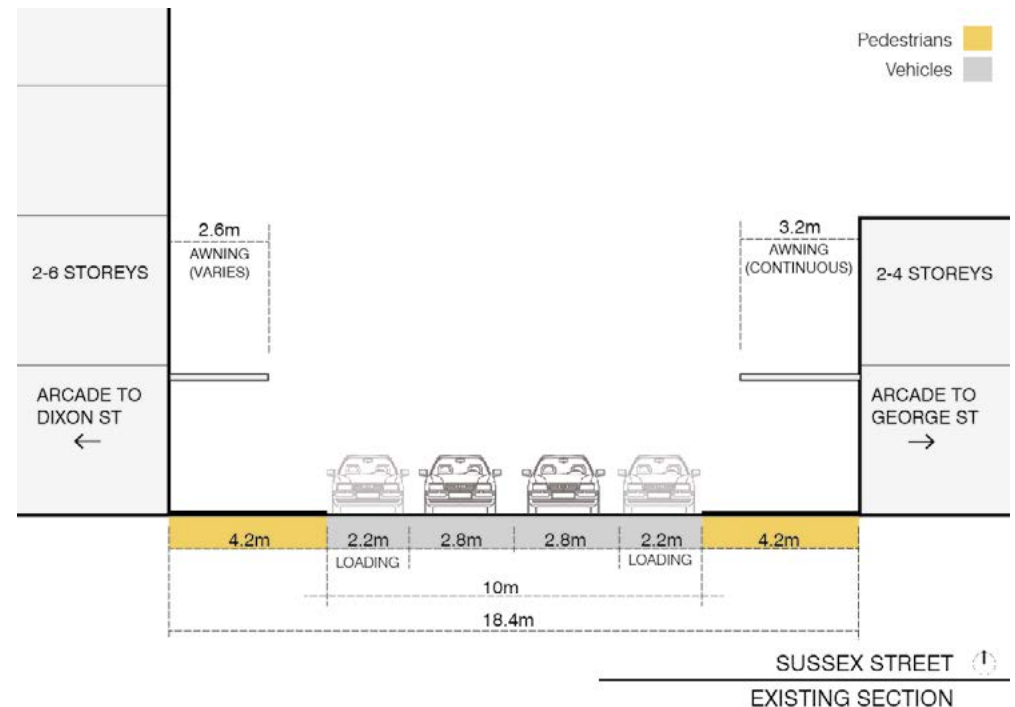
Sussex Street could be a green spine through the city and important cycling connection. Deciduous trees could invite people to linger in the winter sun and vibrant autumn colours.

Key Moves

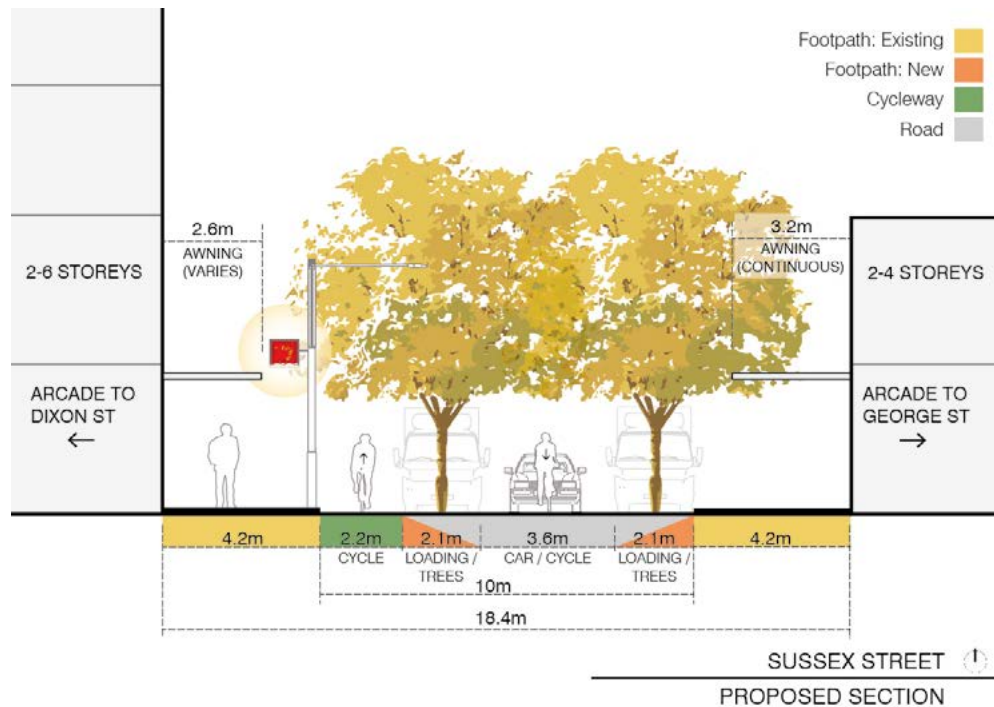
- Provide an integrated approach to street design, balancing the needs of all users.
- ~~Further investigate Conduct an Access Study~~ addressing loading, pick-up and drop-off, and on-street parking, to define the opportunity for road reallocation.
- Provide loading and parking facilities in response to precinct needs.
- Provide a regional cycling connection from Kent to Thomas Street, along Sussex Street or via an alternative route such as George Street, as shown in options below.
- Provide a continuous canopy of deciduous trees to create a green boulevard.
- Improve pedestrian amenity, including footpath widening, mid-block crossings, continuous threshold treatments at intersections (where feasible), street furniture and trees in the footpath.
- Provide creative lighting that improves the

legibility of arcade entries.

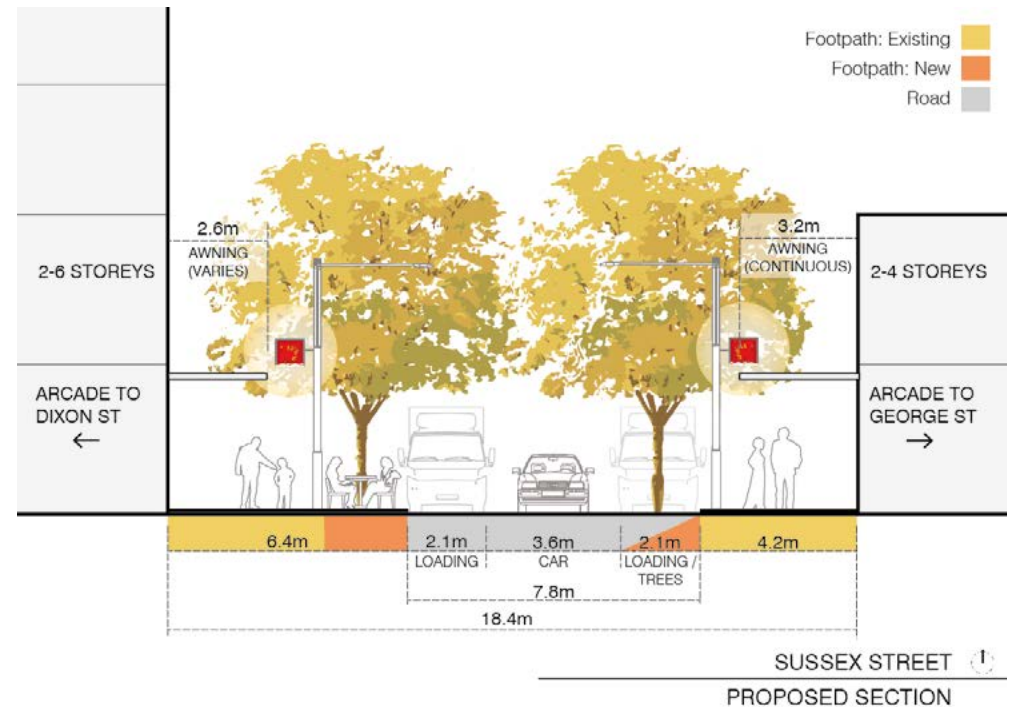
Sussex Street today: A street where cars dominate



Option 1: Street improvements with cycling route



Option 2: Street improvements with alternative cycling route



Sussex Street Public Art

Golden Water Mouth by Lin Li

Lin Li's *Golden Water Mouth* (1999) is a commissioned work by a female Chinese-Australian artist. The work brings together ideas of place and transplantation. The old eucalyptus trunk is evocative of the Australian landscape, while the water dripping from the golden embellishments high in the tree's branches is evocative of Chinese philosophical concepts of knowledge.

The reception of this work is mixed within the local community, however it has become a landmark in Chinatown for locals and visitors to orient themselves and as part of local tours.

The trunk is a Yellow Box or Eucalyptus *Melliodora* and due to the nature of the material and its prolonged exposure to the elements, the artwork is currently braced and monitored for structural stability. The future status of the artwork will be reviewed over the next few years. Sadly, the artist is now deceased.

Flow & Exchange

Trees have a strong presence in Sussex Street, through *Golden Water Mouth* and through the city's vision for a green boulevard that connects today's Chinatown with Sydney's first Chinatown at the Rocks.

Future artworks should respond to trees as a metaphor for dynamic systems of exchange. Their tissues facilitate the two-way movement of water and sugars, just like the cultural, culinary and economic networks that flow back and forth between Asia and Australia.

Artworks should respond to the rich, textured, interwoven and intergenerational threads of cultural and human exchange that occur in Haymarket. They should be in conversation with the evolution of *Golden Water Mouth* as a living system that grows and changes.

What Our Community Told Us

“[Chinatown was important for] the evolution of a distinct trans-cultural Chinese Australian identity”

“When I grew up [the Dixon Street hub] was the soul of Chinatown, along with Campbell Street. Not only was there food, but shops selling Chinese goods. You had the joy of being transported to Hong Kong.”

“[Activity in Haymarket included] regular special visits by Chinese migrants to clan buildings to submit remittances to extended family in China”

Public art celebrating trees (left to right)

Golden Water Mouth, Sussex & Hay Streets, Haymarket

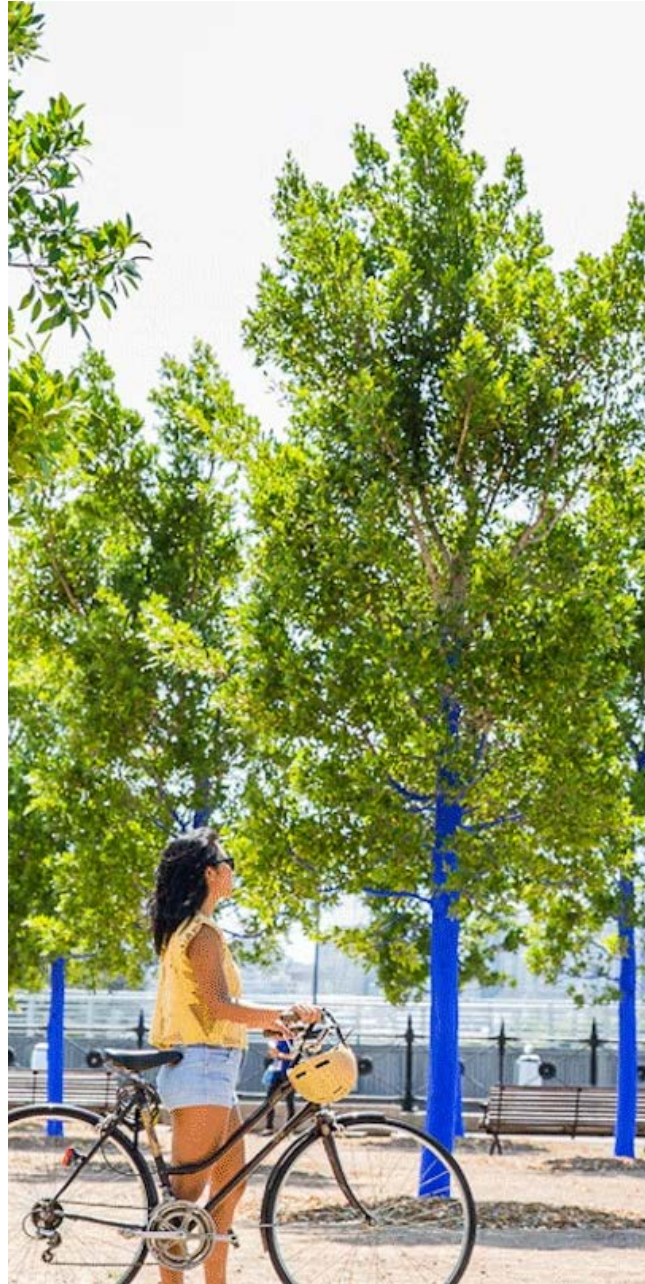
Photo: Abril Felman / City of Sydney

The Blue Trees by Konstantin Dimopoulos

Photo: City of Sydney

Arrow Spring by Bruce Munro, Japan

Photo: Bruce Munro



Goulburn Street

Goulburn Street is in need of amenity upgrades to match the high volumes of pedestrians it carries.

Existing Condition

Goulburn Street is a vital east-west route in the City's street network. It carries considerable traffic volumes and has little capacity for changes to the travel space. At its eastern end, the Goulburn Street car park provides a courier hub, and there is a potential for additional courier facilities at World Square.

Goulburn Street is also a vital east-west link for pedestrians, particularly between George and Harbour Streets. The public domain carries high volumes of people and is often overcrowded, particularly at the intersections of Dixon, Sussex and George Streets. ~~A paving update has recently been completed.~~ The existing row of plane trees provide important amenity to this busy street ~~however it is in need of improvements, including upgrades to paving and lighting.~~ Some outdoor dining occurs between Pitt and George Street.

Opportunities

~~There is an opportunity to upgrade public~~

~~domain fixtures and finishes, consistent with the City's Street Code palette for the City Centre. This could include a footpath upgrade from asphalt to granite, provision of more street furniture east of George Street and improvements to lighting.~~

Future projects that intersect with Goulburn Street could consider improvements to intersections, including kerb extensions, continuous threshold treatments, countdown timers and longer pedestrian crossing times, to alleviate pedestrian congestion.

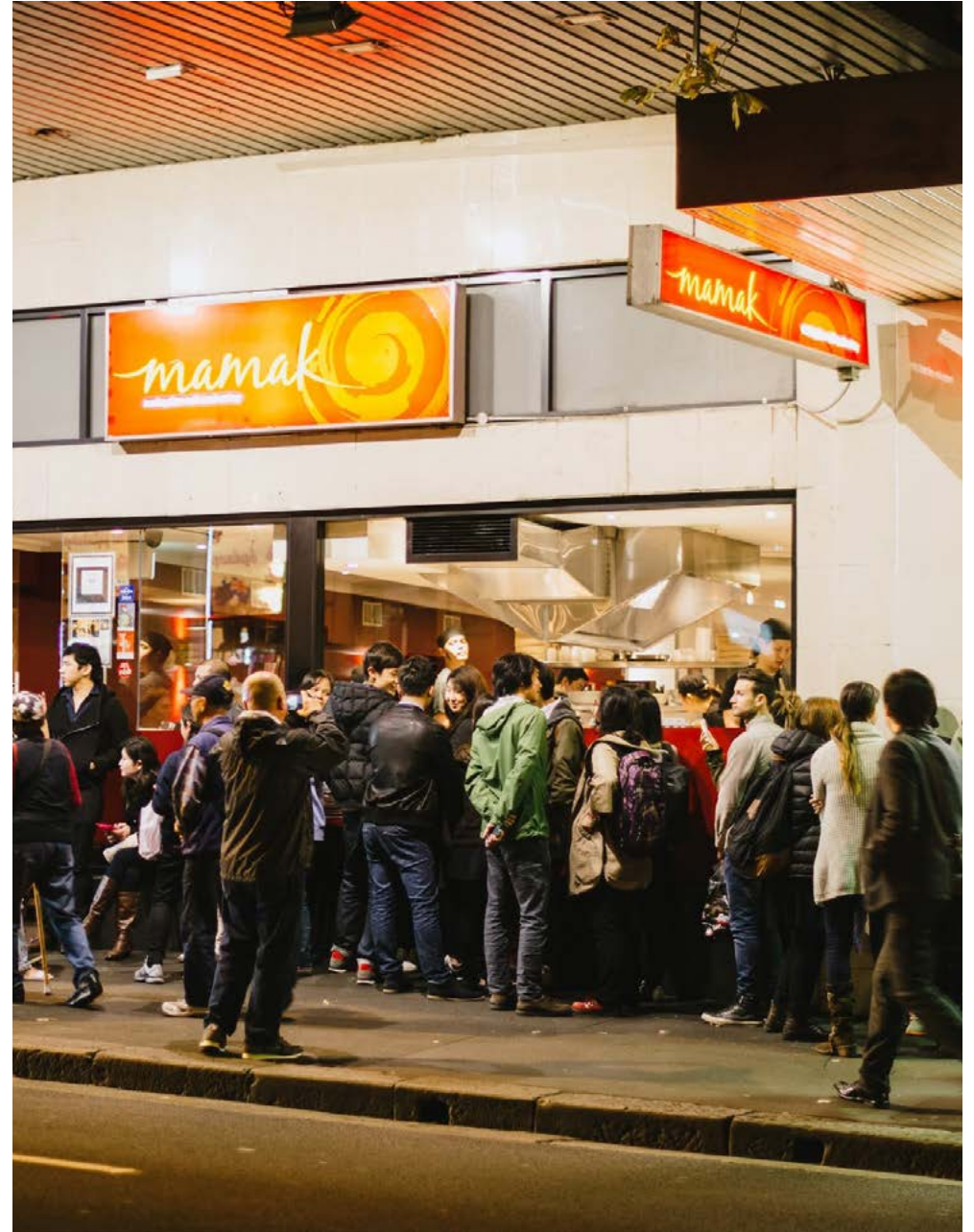
Bike access should be maintained and enhanced to support courier hubs.

Right: Asphalt paving on Goulburn Street is in need of an upgrade

Far Right: Many people queuing for restaurants on Goulburn Street

Photo: Destination NSW

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



Ultimo Road

Ultimo Road provides an opportunity to significantly increase space for pedestrians, cycling and greening.

Existing Condition

Ultimo Road runs east-west through southern Haymarket, connecting George to Harris Street. The road is **currently** four lanes wide, including parking and loading, with one-way traffic movement. Changes to the local street network **have changed the functionality of mean that** Ultimo Road and it now has low volumes of predominately local traffic.

Ultimo Road has a consistent three-storey street wall and red-brick facade between Thomas and Quay Streets, framed by Market City on the northern side, and a local heritage building, formerly market stores, on the southern side. Three turrets mark the entries to the street.

Building frontages have moderate activation on the southern side. Uses include restaurants, karaoke, bars, and retail. Popular restaurants often attract queues of people on the street. Currently there is little outdoor dining or public amenities to support local businesses and street life. Market City addresses the northern side of the street, however its blank windows and level changes create an inactive facade.

The *2022 Bike Network Map* identifies Ultimo Road as a key link in the regional cycling network. Work is currently underway for new bike lanes, which provide opportunities for footpath widening, street trees and public amenities.

Solar access is low-moderate, with less than 2 hours of winter sun and 6 hours of summer shade. The Urban Forest Strategy recommends the deciduous tree species Chinese Rain tree and Tulip tree for Ultimo Road.

Opportunities

Changes in traffic use provide the opportunity to reallocate road space for cyclist and pedestrian use, promote a low-speed traffic environment, extend pedestrian areas, deliver part of the Ultimo to Surry Hills regional cycleway, improve lighting and amenity, and increase activation.

There is community support for an expanded market offering in this area.

Building uses on the southern side of the street have the potential for outdoor dining.

There is an opportunity for Market City to improve its interface with Ultimo Road by modifying windows for displays or views into the building, to provide facade lighting to celebrate heritage qualities, to highlight building entries, and to improve levels for accessibility.



Above: People queuing for popular restaurants on Ultimo Road

Photo: Sydney City Guide

Right: Ultimo Road streetscape at night, framed by heritage buildings



Ultimo Road

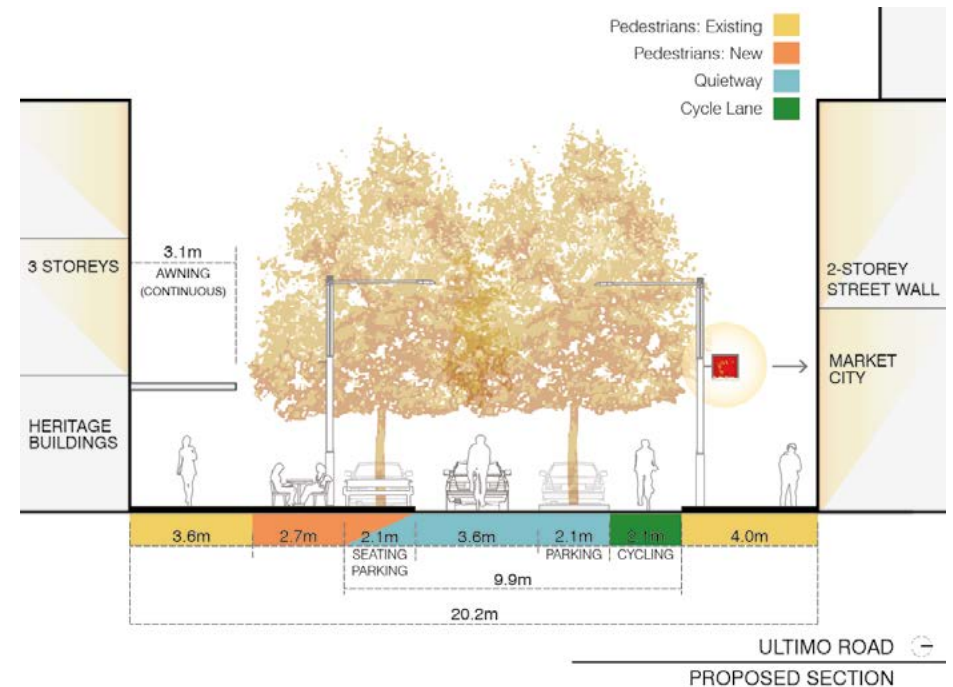
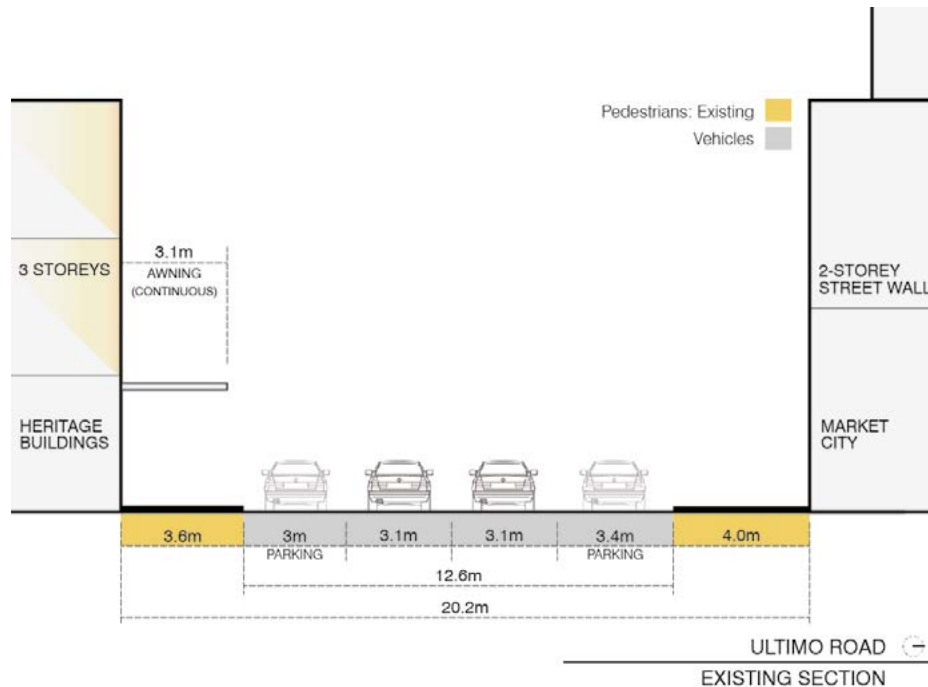
Ultimo Road could be celebrated as a distinct street, characterised by consistent building heights, materiality, and turrets framing its entries. It could provide generous spaces and amenities for street life with calm traffic. It could further celebrate local histories, including the role of markets in Sydney's Chinatown.

Key Moves

- Upgrade the street with high-quality materials to slow traffic and provide westbound-only traffic and two-way cycle movement.
- Retain the majority of parking and loading.
- Narrow the visual carriageway with trees and gardens to promote low-speed traffic.
- Widen the southern footpath to provide space

for events, outdoor dining, public seating, **markets**, and cycling amenities.

- Upgrade paving, poles, trees and furniture.
- Support events and programming with power in poles and public water supply.
- Support improvements to Market City building interface, including accessible entries, window displays, and facade lighting to increase street activation.



SPACE FOR PEDESTRIANS & CYCLISTS

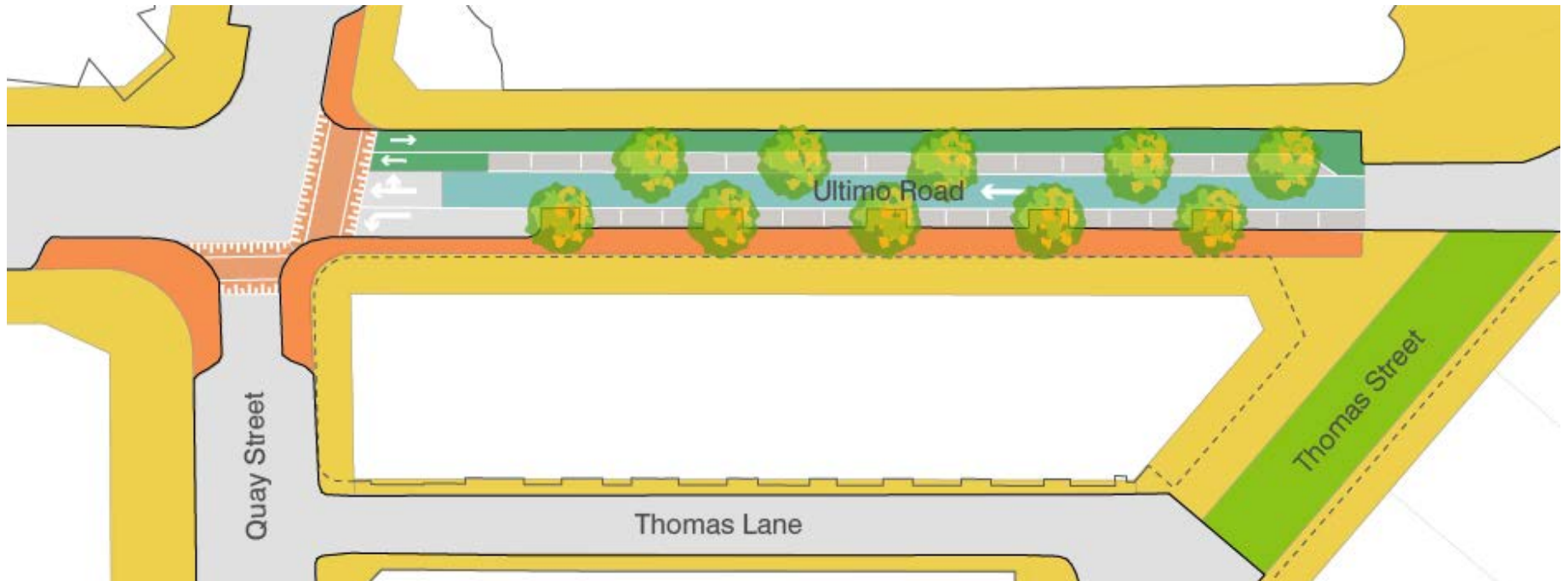


TREES



KEY

- EXISTING PEDESTRIAN SPACE
- PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN SPACE
- QUIET SHARED TRAVEL
- BIKE PATH
- SHARED ZONE
- EXISTING TREE
- PROPOSED TREE: CHINESE RAIN TREE
- ROAD
- PARKING
- RAISED CROSSING



Quay Street

Quay Street is an important connection between Central and Darling Harbour and provides opportunities to increase outdoor dining and street activity.

Existing Conditions

The development of Darling Square and forthcoming development of Tech Central has increased the importance of Quay Street as a pedestrian connection between Central and Darling Harbour.

The City has a strategy to change the southern section of the street, near Broadway, to one-way northbound and reallocate road space for pedestrian amenity and street life. The strategy is supported by recent changes to the street network, which have reduced traffic volumes.

Private development has widened the southern section of the street between Ultimo Road and Thomas Street and provided more space for outdoor dining, however there are few healthy trees in this section and street alignments are now inconsistent.

Quay Street has a mix of grocers, cafes, restaurants, student and education services, some retail and pubs which has resulted in considerable foot traffic. There is a high

proportion of active frontages between Broadway and Ultimo Road, however there is limited outdoor dining, public seating and other invitations to stay on the street.

Between Ultimo Road and Hay Street, Quay Street is owned by the State Government. Paddy's Markets addresses this section of the street with loading docks, car park entries and shutters, and there are few active frontages. The street is closed at the northern end and provides a potential site for a public square.

Quay Street has good solar access, with 2-3 hours of winter sun and only 1 hour of shade in summer. Mature plane trees provide an existing canopy cover across about 50% of the street. The City's *Urban Forest Strategy* recommends Chinese Rain Tree for Quay Street.

Opportunities

Local traffic changes provide the opportunity to widen footpaths at the southern end of the street and provide continuous street alignments that strengthen the role of Quay Street as a primary pedestrian connection between Central and Darling Harbour.

Wider footpaths provide the opportunity to invite people to stay on the street with more outdoor

dining, public seating, and a continuous tree canopy that makes the street a comfortable place in summer.

There is an opportunity for a public artwork near the intersection with Thomas Street that is in conversation with Lindy Lee's New Century Garden and that draws people into the core Chinatown area.

Photos of Quay Street (left to right)

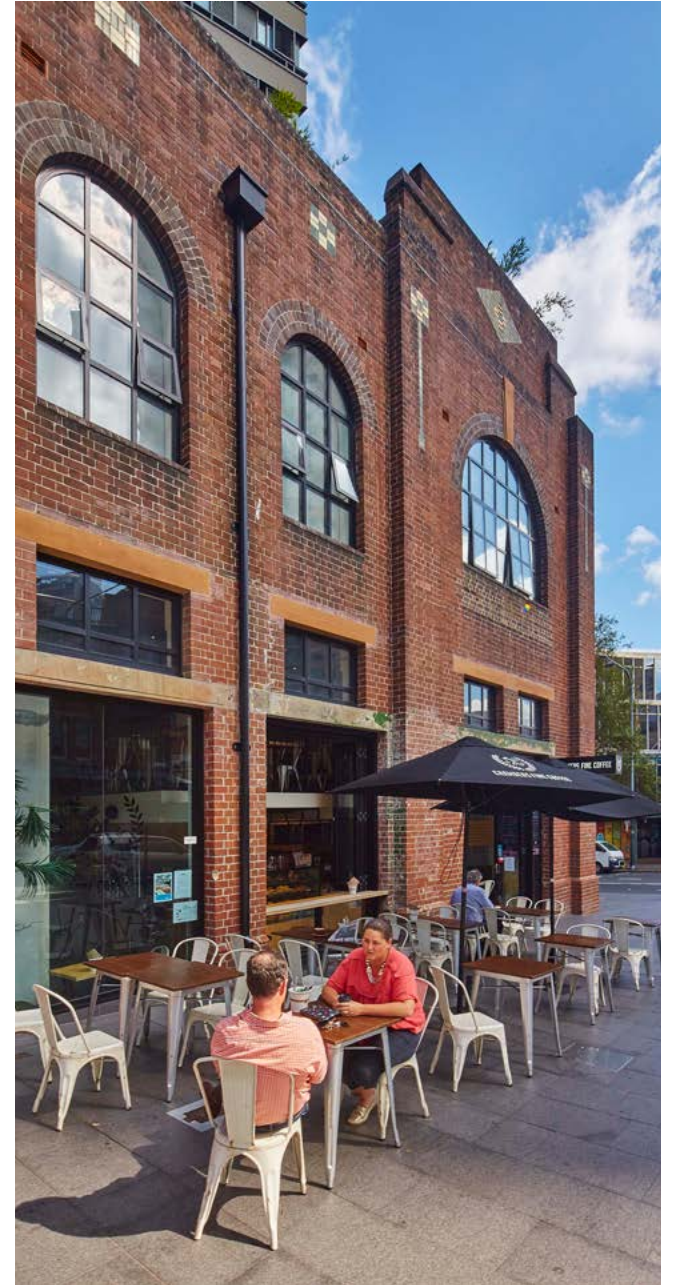
Quay Street in 1955, looking north-west from George St
Photo: City of Sydney Archives

Quay Street in 1975 on the last day of trading at the Haymarket Produce Markets

Photo: City of Sydney Archives

Quay Street has the potential for more outdoor dining
Photo: Tyrone Branigan

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



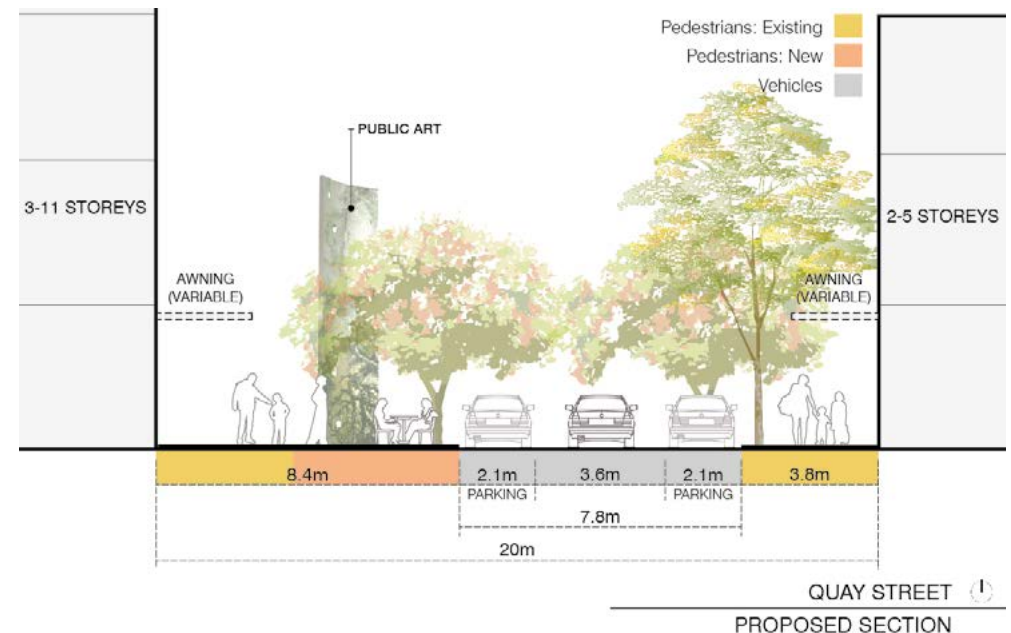
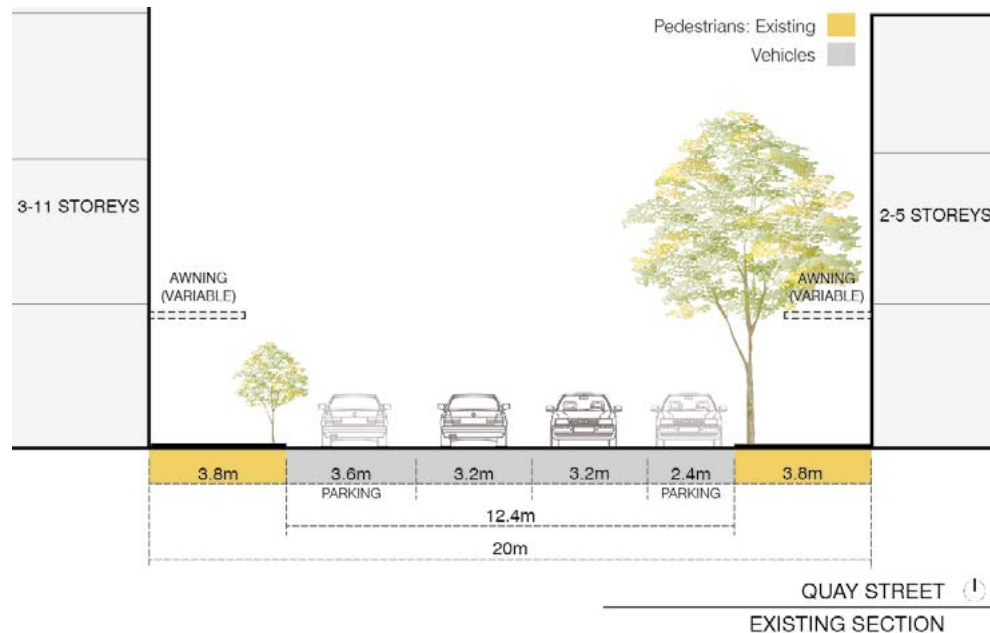
Quay Street

Quay Street could be a comfortable and legible pedestrian connection that brings together Central Square and Darling Harbour and that provides an engaging journey with many opportunities to stay on the street.

Key Moves

- Convert the southern end of street to one-way, northbound traffic and widen the western footpath for continuous street alignments, outdoor dining, public seating, an interlocking tree canopy, improved lighting and paving.
- Retain the majority of kerbside parking on both sides of street.

- Expand the plaza addressing 187 Thomas St.
- Provide continuous threshold treatments at cross streets to increase pedestrian priority and strengthen the connection between Central Square and Darling Harbour.
- Investigate a public artwork that responds to the Thomas Street *New Century Garden*, by artist Lindy Lee.



SPACE FOR PEDESTRIANS & CYCLISTS

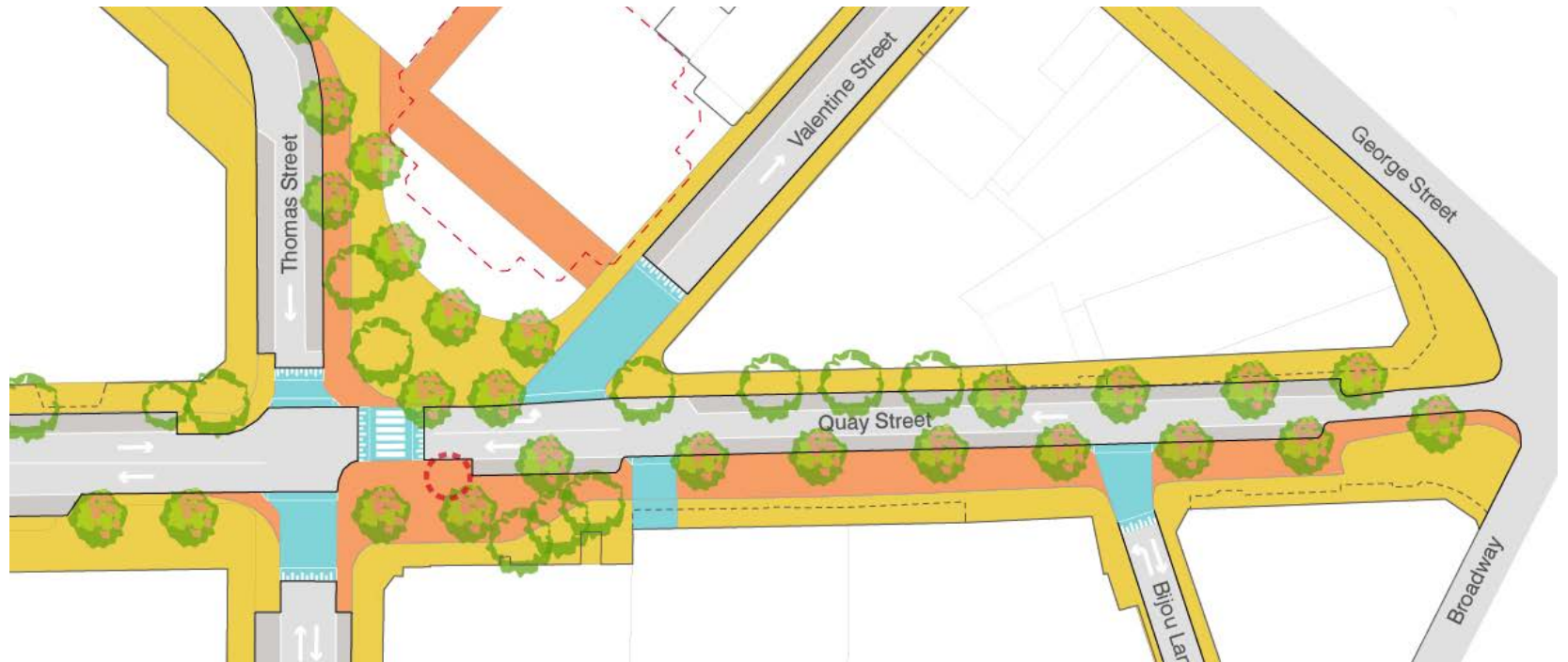


TREES



KEY

- EXISTING PEDESTRIAN SPACE
- PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN
- DRIVEWAY & TRAFFICABLE FOOTPATH
- PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
- PUBLIC ARTWORK
- EXISTING/RETAINED TREE
- PROPOSED TREE: CHINESE RAIN TREE
- BUILDING AWNING
- ROAD
- LOADING & PARKING ZONE



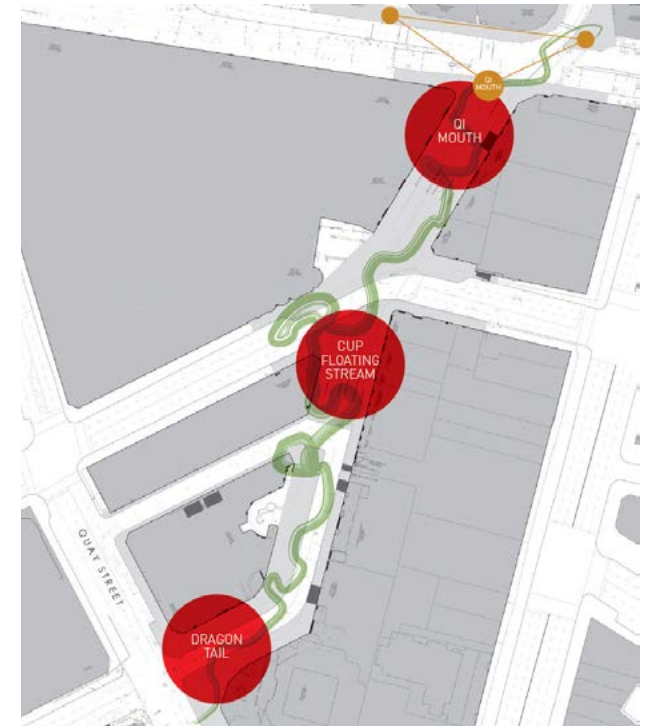
Quay Street Public Art

In Conversation with Dragon Tail

A new public artwork at the intersection of Quay and Thomas Streets could be in conversation with the dragon tail, which was intended to complete the New Century Garden on Thomas Street. From Lindy Lee, artist on the New Century Garden public art project:

“The predominant image for the New Century Garden is The River. A river flows, finds its own course and acts as a conduit. It contracts and expands, provides nourishment, sustains life and gives respite and movement. If given enough water, a river overcomes all obstacles. Pre-1788, the current site of Chinatown was actually at harbour’s edge. The natural slope from Quay Street to Hay Street could easily be imagined as a rivulet running downstream to meet the ocean.

The site at the intersection of Thomas and Quay Streets acts as a natural belvedere with views down into Chinatown. A tall vertical work is proposed. The imagery on the sculpture will be taken from Sung or Tang dynasty landscape painting etched into steel and be burned through with holes to denote interpenetrating cultural, historical and contemporary realities.”



Above: New Century Garden Feng Shui, by Lindy Lee

Images on Right (left to right)

Cup Floating Stream by Lindy Lee

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Scholars Rocks by Lindy Lee

Photo: Katherine Griffiths / City of Sydney

Cloud Gate by Lindy Lee

Photo: City of Sydney

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan



Laneways

Lanes provide a fine grain network to the city and should be safe to use for pedestrians and vehicles, well activated, and good looking.

The following principles apply when development occurs alongside lanes or when lanes have been identified for an upgrade:

- Retain servicing and access to support businesses.
- Create a laneway network that is safe to use, day and night.
- Consider opportunities for shared zones or pedestrian-priority treatments such as paved roadways that promote pedestrian activity and increase liveliness and safety.
- Express the special history and location of lanes through public art, creative lighting and heritage interpretation.
- Improve building activation where they address lanes to ensure that lanes are safe and well used.
- Support lanes as venues for cultural events and activation programs.

Thai Town Lanes

Thai Town Lanes include Cunningham Street, Parker Street and Parker Lane. Laneway improvements in this area could focus on expression of Thai culture as well as the diverse Asian village of Haymarket. The community has told us that they would like to see more public art in Thai Town lanes including murals and creative lighting, and improved pedestrian connections between Cunningham Street and Campbell Street. Cunningham Street plays a role in Lunar New Year festivities. Parker Street has been used in the past for 'Cinema Alley' a popular pop-up cinema hosted by Gallery 4A, and provides parking for the Capitol Theatre.

Valentine Street

Valentine Street is aligned with views to the Christ Church St Laurence and future improvements should be sensitive to this vista. A continuous footpath treatment has recently been installed at George Street, and should be matched at Quay Street in coordination with local development and new through-site links.

Further improvements should include investigating conversion of the street to a shared zone, with continuous paving raised flush to the

kerbs (subject to a more detailed traffic study).

Thomas Lane

Thomas Lane is part of a one-way loop in southern Haymarket and plays an important role in access and servicing to the local area. Some building activation occurs in this lane and should be further supported with pedestrian improvements including consideration of a shared zone, roadway treatments, public art and creative lighting.

Images opposite page (left to right)

Corner of Cunningham and Pitt - Thai restaurants provide free meals to international students

Photo: @lukehgnomes

Bar in Thomas Lane

Photo: Isagenix Int'l

Parker Street today

Photo: City of Sydney

Parker Street Cinema Alley

Photo: City of Sydney

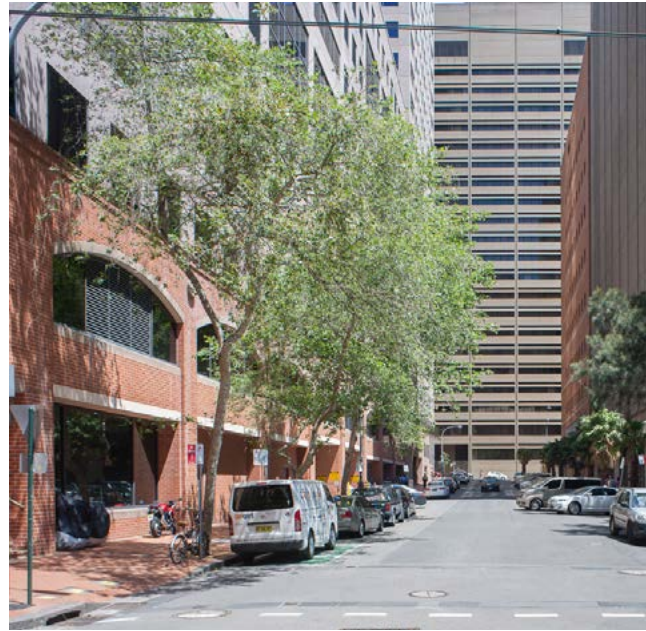
Valentine Street continuous footpath being installed on George Street

Photo: City of Sydney

Valentine Street vista in 1910

Photo: City of Sydney Archives

Haymarket and Chinatown Public Domain Plan





Locals celebrating Children's Day during Chinese New Year 2005, Belmore Park
Photo: City of Sydney Archives

5 References

References

Atlas Urban Economics & City of Sydney, 2022, *Haymarket and Chinatown Economic and Land Use Study*.

China-Australia Heritage Corridor, 2019, www.heritagecorridor.org.au

City of Sydney, 2023, *Bike Network Map*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2023, *City North Public Domain Plan*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2023, *draft Access Strategy and Action Plan 2023*.

City of Sydney, 2023, *draft Haymarket and Chinatown Revitalisation Strategy*.

City of Sydney, 2023, *Street Tree Master Plan 2023*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2023, *Urban Forest Strategy*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2022, *A Community vision for Haymarket: what we heard from you*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2022, *Belmore Park Plan of Management*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2022, *Community Strategic Plan: delivering Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2022, *Haymarket vision outcomes report*.

City of Sydney, 2022, *Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050: continuing the vision*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2021, *Sydney Streets Code 2021*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2021, *Town Hall Precinct Public Domain Plan*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2021, *City South Public Domain Plan*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2020, *City Plan 2036: Local Strategic Planning Statement*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2020, *Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan November 2020-November 2023*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2018, *Cycling strategy and action plan 2018-2030*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2016, *Central Sydney Planning Strategy 2016-2036*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2015, *Chinatown Public Domain Plan*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2015, *George Street 2020: a public domain activation strategy*, City of Sydney,

Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2015, *Sydney Lights: Public domain design code*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2013, *Barani Barrabugu Yesterday Tomorrow, Sydney's Aboriginal Journey*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2012, *Chinatown Public Domain Plan*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2012, *Sydney Development Control Plan 2012*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

City of Sydney, 2011, *City Art: Public Art Strategy, City of Sydney*, Sydney.

Committee for Sydney, 2023, *Everyday Culture: Plug and Play City*, Committee for Sydney, Sydney.

Gehl Architects & City of Sydney, 2021, *Public Spaces Public Life Study 2020*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

GML Heritage & City of Sydney, 2023, *Chinatown Gates, Haymarket: draft heritage assessment report*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

GML Heritage & City of Sydney, 2023, *Chinatown Thematic History*.

Investment NSW, 2020, *Tech Central Prospectus*, NSW State Government, Sydney.

Lee, L. & Urban Art Projects, 2013, *New Century Garden: Thomas Street and Hay Street Improvement Project - Public Art*.

Seeto, A. & City of Sydney, 2015, *Public Art Plan for Chinatown*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

Seeto, A. & City of Sydney, 2012, *Public Art Plan for Chinatown*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

Seeto, A. & City of Sydney, 2010, *Public Art Plan for Chinatown*, City of Sydney, Sydney.

Transport for NSW, 2022, *Future Transport Strategy: Our vision for transport in NSW*, State of New South Wales, Sydney.

Transport for NSW, 2021, *Central Precinct: Strategic Framework*, NSW State Government, Sydney.

Transport for NSW, 2020, *Cycleway Design Toolbox: Designing for cycling and micromobility*, NSW State Government, Sydney.

Transport for NSW, 2013, *Sydney City Centre Access Strategy*, NSW State Government, Sydney.

Wong, A., Anderson, K., Ang, I., & McNeill, D., 2016, *Sydney's Chinatown in the Asian Century: From ethnic enclave to global hub*, Western Sydney University, Sydney.

