

# Onslow Town Centre Streetscape Renewal Concept Design

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### **What is the Onslow Town Centre Streetscape Upgrade Project?**

The purpose of town centre and streetscape upgrade projects is to not only renew and enhance the existing features of the street, but to provide a range of amenity improvements which create a vibrant and pedestrian friendly environment which caters to the needs of both residents and visitors. As has been proven with similar projects around the country, town centre and streetscape renewal projects of this kind provide for multiple benefits, but in particular, they stimulate new opportunities for private investment within the town; creating a better mix of businesses which cater to the growing population and growing popularity of the town.

A number of significant developments are to occur in and around Onslow over the next few years. In addition, the popularity of Onslow as a tourist destination has increased significantly in recent years with caravan parks filled to overflowing during peak holiday periods. It is expected that the provision of new tourist infrastructure will continue to deliver an increase in tourist numbers. However, the town's main street, which has some major features that set it apart from other locations, is showing its age and is in need of a significant makeover.

The Design Objectives for the Town Centre Streetscape Upgrade are:

- Reinforce the major avenue of tree plantings along the street.
- Create a pedestrian friendly and low speed traffic environment.
- Provision of shade, seating and gathering spaces along the street.
- Provide for convenient and accessible parking.
- Create a sense of place through landscape planting and public art.
- Create an environment that will assist in stimulating private investment.
- Be sustainable and affordable to maintain

### **What work has been completed to inform the Concept Design?**

- A CCTV inspection of the stormwater pipe network within the subject area to determine its condition and structural rating.
- A flood modelling exercise to determine if the configuration and capacity of the pipe network
- A detailed feature survey of the subject area (pipes, pits, kerb lines, services infrastructure etc) which will be necessary for detailed design purposes.
- A Safety Audit of the proposed road layout.

### **Are trees going to be removed?**

No, the majority of existing street trees and vegetation will be retained and have been designed into the concept plan. To ensure they continue to thrive, the space around existing trees is proposed to be increased which will allow for deeper/wider growing space. New tree planting will extend and enhance the tree planting theme along Second avenue south and Third Street. New tree planting to be provided with designed planting median beds and root barriers as opposed to simply putting the trees into a hole. Some of the new trees will be different, more tropical, species which will provide additional shade and green foliage.

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### **Will the concept improve the overall 'sense of place' through planting and artwork?**

Yes, in addition to new planting beds, trees and gardens, locations for public art have been identified. Council will engage with both traditional owners and the local community for an indigenous artwork inlays throughout the paving. New art features are being considered for the new roundabouts at First Street and Third Street, themes for the proposed sculptures include the Mulla Mulla flower, the Spanish Mackerel, the Star Finch and Green Bird Flower and the Ashburton Pea flower. Further enhancing local sense of place, coastal industry themes have been proposed for the design of the shade structures and street furniture. New tree planting will extend and enhance the tree planting theme along Second Avenue to create shade and sense of place.

### **Are you removing car parking?**

No. Approximately 85 parking bays exist in the Second Avenue currently. An additional 74 formal car parking bays and 8 caravan / trailer parking bays are proposed across the project, an increase of 51%. This includes 25 new car bays and 8 caravan/trailer bays being proposed at the new car park located at the intersection of Third Street and Second Avenue and 20 new car bays being proposed on the vacant lot adjacent the Shire Administration Building (all in Stage 1). Staged carparking delivery will need to occur on the Third Street IGA verge as this is currently the loading dock for the IGA. Any additional parking in this location would only occur in conjunction with any proposed redevelopment of the IGA site.

### **Is the street lighting going to change?**

No, the existing street lighting is in good condition and is considered adequate for the new streetscape project. Some poles may need relocation to suit the revised road layout.

### **How will it change how I walk around the main street?**

The concept plan would improve walkable access along Second Avenue and around the town centre. The existing footpaths are narrow (1.2m) and uneven these are proposed to be replaced with a wider (2.5m) ochre-coloured concrete and feature paving footpaths for the entire length of the streetscape, on both sides of the road.

New pedestrian crossing points are proposed, near the new roundabouts, which will add safe crossing points. The pedestrian routes will be cooler thanks to new shaded arbour structures. Additionally, a new footpath is proposed heading North East from Third Street on the northern side of the road which will improve access to the Visitors Centre, Museum and Sun Chalets.

Adjustment to the road layout also provide additional public space for comfortable shaded walkways, community activities and events, and make the street safer for pedestrians.

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### **Where will the market go once the existing location (the road front of the information/visitor's centre) changes?**

Council will work directly with market operators to find a suitable location for the market if the existing location is no longer ideal. There are numerous options available for consideration including the new car park at the intersection of Third Street and Second Avenue, or to the open space planned north of the caravan park, adjoining ANZAC Memorial Park.

### **Will caravans and trucks still be able to use Second Avenue?**

Yes, both the road and roundabouts have been designed to accommodate caravans and trucks.

### **Will the plan fix the stormwater issues on the street?**

Yes, existing issues with water ponding at road intersections and along the street due to the uneven nature of the pavement will be fixed as a part of the project.

### **When will construction start?**

Delivery of the proposed concept plan is dependent on securing budget through future Council budget processes. When funding is secured, the project will be delivered in three stages:

Stage 1: from Simpson St (Beadon Bay Hotel) to Third St (Onslow Beach Resort) – FY 2024/25

Stage 2: from Simpson St to new Ocean View Caravan Park – FY 2025/26

Stage 3: from Third St to Cameron Ave – FY 2027/28

### **How much is the project expected to cost?**

An estimate, based on the concept design and current Pilbara market prices has been developed.

The following future budget allocations are proposed:

- Financial Year 2024/2025 – Stage 1 - \$18.0m
- Financial Year 2025/2026 – Stage 2 - \$10.0m\*
- Financial Year 2026/2027 – Stage 3 - \$6.0m\*

Total Project Cost - \$34m

*\* Note that the timing for delivery of Stages 2 and 3 is dependent upon the available budget at the time. It may be that Stages 2 and 3 will need to be delivered over an extended timeframe.*