

Media Release



23 August 2018

Design framework for Camden Town Centre

Council is now taking steps toward realising the concepts of the Camden Town Centre Urban Design Framework.

The framework was adopted by Council last week and outlines the design principles and ideas for the future use of the public domain, key places and accessibility through the town centre.

“Camden is a vibrant rural town that successfully supports the social and physical needs of the local community through its good design and clever planning,” said Mayor Lara Symkowiak.

“We want to enhance the way the town functions and protect the cultural heritage while ensuring that it can respond to the wishes of a contemporary community,” Cr Symkowiak said.

“This framework has been created in consultation with the community and incorporates ideas raised by residents, visitors and business operators as well as town planning experts,” she said.

“The document provides direction for future planning controls and concepts to inform the economic success and appeal of the town centre.”

The framework addresses the built form, current use of spaces, access and movement through the town centre and looks at the economics, natural environment and public domain with the underlying goal of maintaining Camden’s rural heritage and charm. Four town centre precincts have been identified to test the proposed town centre strategies. These are: -

Larkin Place – connecting John Street and Elizabeth Street. Investigate a flexible ‘town square’ and accommodate a variety of events, social activities and offer more commercial opportunities.

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John Street Precinct – from Camden Town Farm to St Johns Church. A creative community precinct with a strong heritage character unified as a pedestrian-safe, public domain.

Murray Street – the arrival point from the south west. Hospitality and commercial 'eat street' with indoor and outdoor dining options.

Nepean River Link – cycling and pedestrian link between the Nepean River and the town centre – Establish formal paths to link Camden to the river and its surrounding natural environment as well as improve connectivity to Camden South and Spring Farm.

Some of the other key strategies that Council is now working on are: -

- Prepare a signage and wayfinding strategy;
- Prepare a public art strategy;
- Investigate underground power to improve entry appearance to the town centre;
- Explore use of Larkin Place car park for events; and
- Further investigate planning controls within the town centre.

Council is now developing a program to deliver the initiatives outlined in the framework.

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