

TREASURER TOM KOUTSANTONIS

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Investment to transform Central Market to Riverbank laneways

The State Government and Adelaide City Council have announced a joint investment of \$14.6 million to transform the network of small streets and laneways between the Adelaide Central Market and the Riverbank.

The 2016-17 State Budget includes \$7.3 million towards the project, with the Adelaide City Council contributing the same amount in partnership.

The project will upgrade Bank Street, Leigh Street, Topham Mall, Bentham Street and Pitt Street to create an exciting and vibrant pedestrian and cycling connection between the Central Markets and the Riverbank.

It will feature upgraded intersections, new paving, lighting, trees, landscaping, street furniture and public art.

The procurement of contractors and materials will be overseen by the Industry Participation Advocate to ensure as much local content as possible is used in the project.

Background

Up to 15,000 people already use the streets and laneways between the Central Market and the Riverbank each day.

The partnership between the State Government and Adelaide City Council follows on from the success of the Leigh Street demonstration project which began in July 2012, with the support of the Council, as part of the State Government's Vibrant Adelaide agenda.

Recent Adelaide City Council consultation on the laneways network has shown strong community support for further improvements, with the top five feedback responses looking for more greenery, prioritising pedestrians, improved lighting, art and supporting the character and atmosphere in these small streets.

The consultation also found many businesses have creative ideas for enhancing city space, ranging from lighting to street closures for outdoor dining.

The project will begin immediately with design work and feedback sought from traders and the local community on those designs.

Capital works are expected to start in late 2016. This project is identified as a priority in Council's draft 2016-2020 Strategic Plan.

Quotes attributable to Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis

2016-17
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There has been an incredible transformation on Leigh Street and Peel Street over the past three years and we want that excitement and activity extended all the way from the Central Markets to the Riverbank.

This project will add to the huge amount of public and private investment in the city in recent years in terms of infrastructure developments, new hotels and apartment complexes.

It also builds on the State Government's City Vibrancy agenda, which has helped make Adelaide a destination for world-class restaurants and bars.

Investing in the streets and laneways between the Adelaide Central Market and the Riverbank will continue that work and be a boon for businesses in the precinct.

Quotes attributable to Lord Mayor Martin Haese

Investing in the public realm to create more welcoming spaces for people and encourage private investment is good for the city, and we're delighted the State Government shares our vision.

This exciting project is all about upgrading the main small street spine stretching from the Market to Riverbank, with the co-funding expected to spark further private investment.

This investment has the potential to realise up to \$70 million in economic activity and utilise local procurement to create new jobs.

Sixty nine new small venues have already sprung up around the city, bringing our evening economy to life, creating jobs and fostering a revived city atmosphere.

The project will help build the momentum the city needs to continue to grow and encourage unique retailers and businesses to invest and thrive.

Quotes attributable to City of Adelaide Minister John Rau

The revitalisation of Adelaide's underutilised small streets and laneways is energising the city – reinforcing the unique qualities that make Adelaide accessible, liveable and affordable.

Improvements to this important pedestrian link through the City will complement the Government's changes to encourage more people to invest in our CBD.

About 70 new venues located across Adelaide's smallest streets and laneways have generated an estimated 800 jobs and \$65 million in economic activity since the introduction of the Small Venue Licence in 2013.

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