

Roma Street precinct renewal strategy

December 2020



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Acknowledgement of Country

Brisbane City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and their unique relationship with their ancestral Country. We pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders of Brisbane, and recognise their strength and wisdom.

About this strategy

In late 2019, the Cross River Rail Delivery Authority (CRRDA) released the *Cross River Rail Precincts Delivery Strategy*, which articulates the strategic aspirations for the areas surrounding Cross River Rail stations. CRRDA is responsible for delivering the rail infrastructure and development on Queensland Government owned land immediately surrounding the stations. Council's responsibility is to plan for areas within walking distance of the stations and outside the CRRDA areas, in accordance with the city planning function that Council provides to Brisbane City.

This document focuses on renewal opportunities around the Roma Street Station and its role in Brisbane's knowledge corridor and as a revitalised major transit station. For further information on the broader knowledge corridor, refer to *Brisbane's knowledge corridor: a framework for connecting people, places and ideas*.

Council will continue to work with the community and stakeholders to shape the future of the Roma Street precinct.





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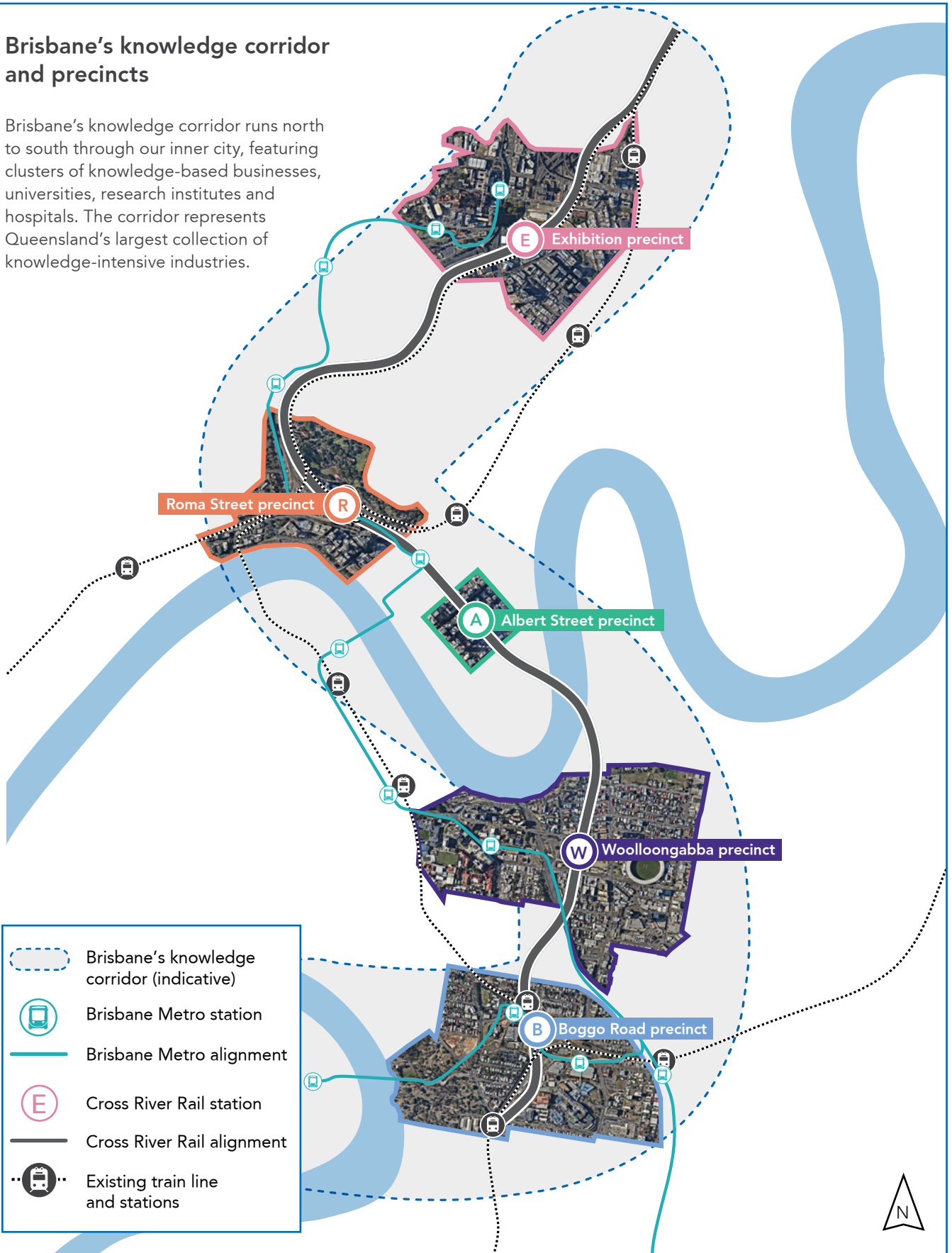
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1 Background

Brisbane's knowledge corridor and precincts

Brisbane's knowledge corridor runs north to south through our inner city, featuring clusters of knowledge-based businesses, universities, research institutes and hospitals. The corridor represents Queensland's largest collection of knowledge-intensive industries.



Renewal themes

Brisbane is entering a dynamic new chapter in its evolution. Driven by the rise of innovation, lifestyle and high-growth precincts, a distinct knowledge corridor is emerging through our inner city, connecting centres of employment, health and education. Investment in transformational infrastructure projects such as Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail will enhance public transport networks and provide a boost to the prosperity and liveability of the city and region.

As significant as these investments in public transport are, it is just the beginning. The combination of Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail provides a catalyst for change, a once-in-a-generation opportunity to take Brisbane to a new level in the knowledge economy.

People are at the centre of this opportunity. To sustain its competitive advantage as a hub of innovation and ideas, Brisbane needs to leverage its reputation as a lifestyle city that offers both high-value jobs and high-quality places that attract people and investment. While the key driver for both Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail is to connect people and places, these projects also represent a rare opportunity to renew our inner city. High-frequency public transport networks will stitch together the diverse precincts that comprise Brisbane's knowledge corridor and kick-start growth in jobs, housing and lifestyle opportunities.

The full economic and liveability benefits of these public transport investments will only be realised by implementing land use and placemaking strategies that facilitate ongoing growth, investment and revitalisation.

Council has been working closely with key stakeholders including the CRRDA to create a vision and framework for Brisbane's knowledge corridor as well as a series of renewal strategies for each of the five Cross River Rail precincts. These renewal strategies will provide a vision, actions and key projects to support development, placemaking and social wellbeing in each of the five precincts.

Roma Street precinct

With the addition of Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail's new underground station, Roma Street is set to become a major gateway for the city and region.

Following the completion of Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail, Roma Street will become Brisbane's busiest public transport interchange, adding to the nearly nine million transport passenger journeys recorded in 2018. The new Cross River Rail underground station will provide another transport option for commuters and visitors as they move between Brisbane Metro and existing local, regional and interstate bus and rail networks.

Enhanced public transport services will attract new investment and development to Roma Street, providing the opportunity for the precinct to transform and deliver a grand arrival experience as outlined in the *City Centre Master Plan 2014*. The revitalisation process for the precinct will enliven the city centre's north-western edge and open access to the rich collection of entertainment, recreational, cultural and heritage activities on offer.

With outstanding public transport connectivity and lifestyle attractions such as the Roma Street Parkland, the potential Brisbane Live arena and Victoria Barracks, the Roma Street precinct is set to emerge as a place of choice for business and a key destination for locals and visitors. This document sets out a series of strategies and actions that will help the city capitalise on the opportunities and benefits that Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail create for business, residents and visitors.

2 Vision

The Roma Street precinct is the western gateway to the city centre, combining a regional transport function with an expanded commercial, retail and leisure offer to create an attractive destination for business and visitors. The precinct boasts outstanding connectivity, a vibrant public realm and exemplary subtropical architecture.



Renewal themes

Sharing knowledge and ideas

Connecting professionals and knowledge workers promotes innovation through a culture of collaboration and exchange of ideas.

By unlocking the potential of development sites and delivering Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail, the precinct is primed for significant investment that will contribute to its evolution into a major hub for business and innovation.

As redevelopment occurs and the mix of land use and activities diversifies, the western quarter of the city centre will see a resurgence in economic productivity and an uplift in the quality of urban life.

Creating great places

World-class lifestyle and amenity are key to attracting knowledge workers from across the globe.

With Roma Street Station functioning as a major gateway, the precinct has potential to be structured around a network of public and open spaces that will increase the amenity and appeal of the broader precinct.

By realising opportunities such as Brisbane Live, the adaptive re-use of the historic Roma Street Station and enhanced connectivity to Roma Street Parkland, the identity of the precinct will begin to shift. Investment in placemaking outcomes will create a precinct characterised by leafy streets, vibrant civic spaces, heritage landmarks and cultural destinations.

Moving people around

High-quality public transport, pedestrian and cyclist connections between key destinations will create a seamless user experience and enhance accessibility for all.

Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail will help to stitch the inner city together, providing greater connectivity between our education, health, and professional services industries.

Centred on a major city station and regional interchange, the Roma Street precinct will be one of the best connected and most accessible areas in the state. The precinct will prioritise pedestrians and connect residents and visitors to surrounding destinations such as the Roma Street Parkland and the Brisbane River.

3 Context and opportunity

52,500+

capacity at
Suncorp Stadium

**8.8
million**

passenger journeys
at Roma Street
Station in 2018

Renewal themes

240+

event days at Roma Street Parkland 2018-2019

1873

original Roma Street Station building built

2

million

visitors to Roma Street Parkland each year

17,000

potential capacity at Brisbane Live

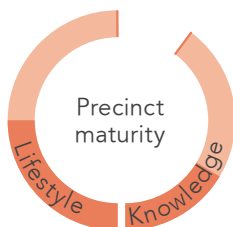
Corridor role and context

The Roma Street precinct's role as a transport hub and cultural destination stretches back to pre-settlement times when Aboriginal people used the area for campsites and fighting grounds. In 1875, the Roma Street Railway Station was completed as the terminus of the newly constructed Brisbane-to-Ipswich line. Following the opening of the railway, the Brisbane Market began operations on Roma Street where they operated until 1964. During the latter decades of the 20th century the precinct became home to a cluster of state courtrooms as well as the police headquarters. The western end of the precinct has also emerged as a backpacker hub.

Roma Street's importance as a regional transport interchange has grown over time. Investment in major public transport infrastructure such as the expansion of railway lines, construction of the Riverside Expressway and Northern Busway has enhanced accessibility for public and private vehicle transport. However, these major infrastructure projects have reduced pedestrian and cyclist access to the area.

The Roma Street precinct boasts a diverse collection of parks and open spaces. Wickham, King Edward and Hardgrave Parks, Emma Miller Place, E.E. McCormick Place and the popular Roma Street Parkland all feature within the precinct. The parkland network features a diverse collection of cultural and heritage features from iconic sites such as the the Old Windmill Tower and Victoria Barracks through to hidden jewels including the Spring Hill Reservoirs and the original Roma Street Station. Over many decades, accessibility challenges have limited the use of these spaces. Overcoming the physical barriers to movement and topographical changes are essential to realising the potential of these open space and heritage assets.






Looking forward, the construction of Cross River Rail will see the temporary relocation of the Brisbane Transit Centre Coach Terminal to the parking area adjacent to Platform 10, making way for a new station entry and public plaza that will greatly enhance the commuter experience. Cross River Rail will also be the catalyst for other potential development opportunities and the repurposing of existing heritage places. With much change and growth anticipated for the precinct, Roma Street is set to reclaim its place as a city centre destination.



The knowledge–lifestyle synergy

While the precinct features a range of destinations, there is potential for lifestyle and knowledge industries to grow by providing more office space, better links to nearby hospitals and institutions and more day and night time activities and services for visitors, workers and residents. The Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail stations, and their accompanying investment in public realm and spaces improvements, will help accelerate the realisation of this potential.



-  Brisbane Metro line and station
-  Precinct boundary
-  Train line and stations
-  Cross River Rail station
-  Cross River Rail alignment



Precinct insights

As a traditional meeting place for Aboriginal people and the site of Brisbane’s first railway station, Roma Street has long been a hub for travellers. With new transport infrastructure and urban development on its way, the precinct will experience a major increase in workers, residents and visitors which will redefine the precinct as a destination and as the city centre’s primary gateway for international, interstate and local travel.



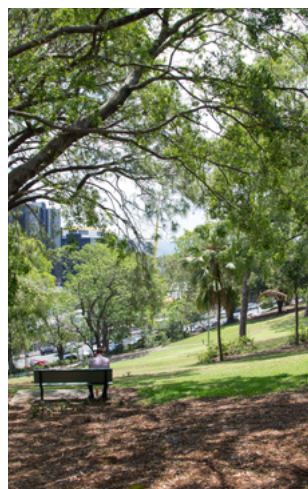
Railway workers 1919



Roma and Turbot Streets 1955

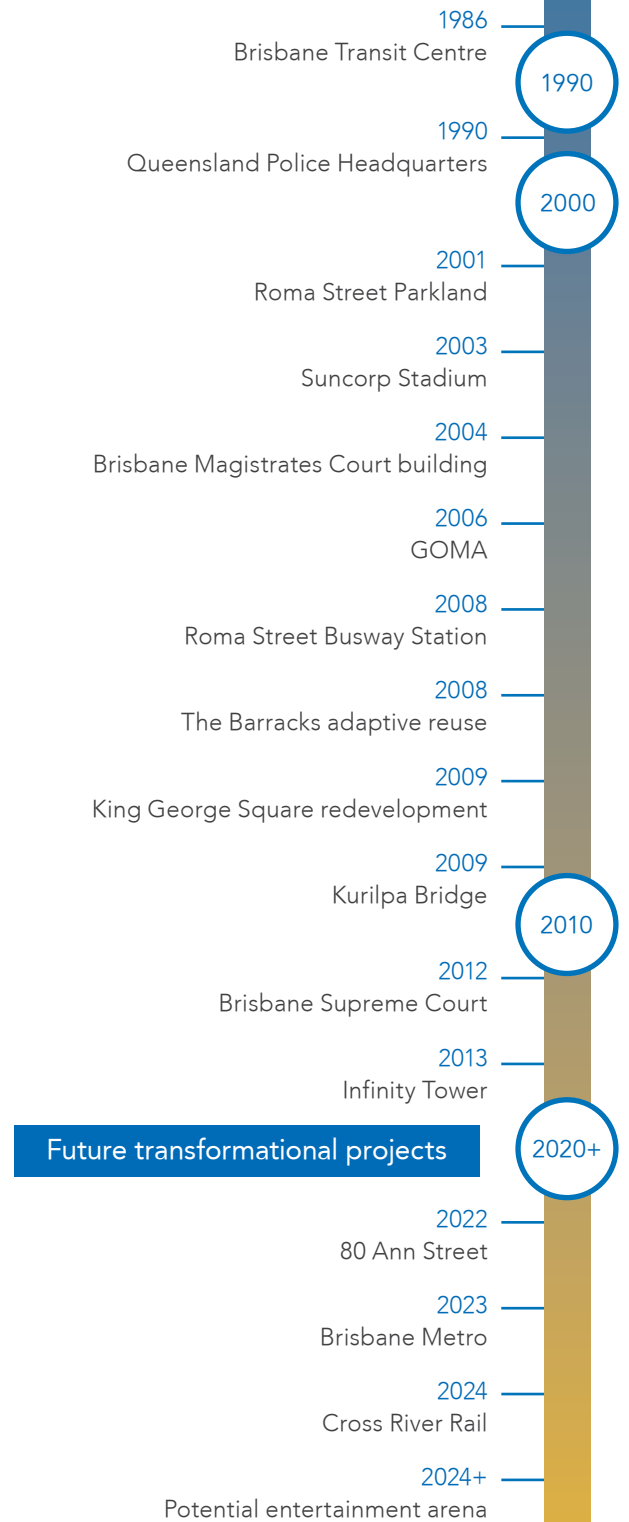


Brisbane Transit Centre 2018

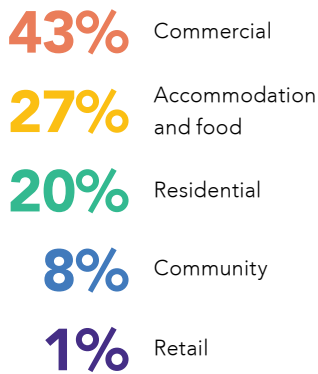


Wickham Park 2018

Home to Traditional Owners of the land in the past, present and future



Land use mix and trends



There is significant development potential in the precinct with many buildings nearing the end of their commercial life, and the substantial State Government and private land holdings. The Roma Street precinct offers opportunities for a new mix of commercial, retail and accommodation services. Recent development activity suggests a demand for more residential and short-term accommodation given the convenience to major destinations and services, and the amenity provided by Roma Street Parkland and the Brisbane River.

Transport



3.2 million
rail passengers per year
at Roma Street Station
(2018-2019 financial year)



16.8 million
Cross River Rail passengers
predicted per year at Roma
Street Station in 2041



3.3 million
bus passenger journeys in 2018
at Roma Street Busway Station



Interchange

Roma Street will be a key interchange between Brisbane Metro, bus services, Cross River Rail and broader rail networks.

Heritage



Site of the former
**Brisbane
Municipal
Markets**



**Heritage
train station**



Aboriginal

fighting ground and
three campsites located
historically within and
bordering the precinct



Windmill Tower

Oldest European structure in
Queensland and oldest windmill in
Australia (it was also the location of
Queensland's first TV broadcast)



Realising the opportunity

The precinct can transform into an attractive urban locale with vibrant street life, urban renewal and strong connections to the city centre and nearby suburbs. The new Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail stations will trigger development opportunities, increased connectivity, enhanced green space and better connected cultural assets in the broader precinct. The following challenges and opportunities provide the starting point for this renewal strategy.

Improve pedestrian and cyclist experience



The Roma Street area is traversed by major transport infrastructure including the Roma Street railyards, the Inner Northern Busway and an arterial road network linking to several major tunnels and bridges. In addition to this infrastructure, the hilly topography reduces pedestrian and cyclist comfort. As the precinct grows, walking and cycling need to be prioritised to create safer and more direct connections between the station and surrounding destinations.

Improve the public realm



The Roma Street precinct features a range of public spaces, including Roma Street Parkland, however, there is an opportunity to improve pedestrian connections between them and establish the precinct as a distinctive gateway to the city centre.

There is a unique opportunity to leverage redevelopment in the precinct to revitalise public spaces and create engaging places which encourage people to spend time in the precinct, increasing vibrancy. This redevelopment will also help improve public realm, support economic growth and inspire new recreational offerings.

Establish precinct identity



Building on its excellent location, public transport access and parkland assets, the Roma Street precinct is still in the process of reaching its potential as an inner-city destination. The precinct requires redevelopment and refurbishment to capitalise on its existing qualities and develop a precinct identity that fits with Brisbane's liveable subtropical city aspiration.

Inner city stitch



Stitching the precinct together via improved connections to adjoining inner-city areas such as Kurilpa and Spring Hill will facilitate new lifestyle opportunities and support increased movement and exchange for workers, residents and visitors. Investment in pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure is required to unlock development potential, elevate the precinct's role and catalyse the city centre's western growth corridor.

A grand arrival



Enhancing the Roma Street corridor will be an important driver for precinct rejuvenation. As a major gateway for workers and visitors arriving into the city, Roma Street needs to be enhanced as a subtropical city boulevard, celebrating the arrival experience and elevating pedestrian comfort and amenity. There is also an opportunity to create a pedestrian-focused green corridor between Turbot Street and Roma Street Parkland.

Catalyst sites and renewal areas



A series of catalyst sites and renewal areas present significant potential for re-use or redevelopment to enhance the overall diversity and vitality of the precinct. Opportunities include government land parcels made available as a result of Cross River Rail, consolidated government landholdings and a range of other under-used sites. Facilitating these revitalisation opportunities will enable a greater mix and intensity of land uses, increased activation of public spaces, a more inclusive sense of community and a stronger day and night time economy.

4 Precinct strategies



Renewal themes

The full economic and liveability benefits of planned public transport investments will be realised by integrating land use and placemaking strategies that facilitate ongoing growth, investment and revitalisation.

The vision for the Roma Street precinct is supported by five strategies that organise and prioritise critical interventions for precinct renewal. Within this framework, specific sub-strategies and actions have been identified that directly address its challenges and opportunities.



Connectivity

Deliver efficient movement networks that enhance public transport journeys and improve the walking and cycling experience.



Public realm and placemaking

Create a network of pedestrian-friendly streets and generous public spaces that support urban life and provide diverse leisure and recreation options.



Economic development

Facilitate economic growth and development, expanding our knowledge base and lifestyle offer to attract global talent and investment.



Community and culture

Work collaboratively with local communities and stakeholders to guide the placemaking process, revitalise heritage places and enhance our lifestyle.



Land use and built form

Enable exemplary architecture and design, creating buildings and places that embrace our subtropical climate and support vibrant, mixed-use communities.



Connectivity

Roma Street will be enhanced as a grand arrival point and regional transport interchange for the city centre, bringing together multiple public transport modes to connect people with workplaces, key institutions and inner-city destinations.

Alongside the redevelopment of the Brisbane Transit Centre and enhancements to Roma Street and Albert Street, Brisbane Metro and the new Cross River Rail station will greatly improve passenger accessibility and interchange, opening up the precinct to a range of exciting revitalisation opportunities.

The short-term priorities for the precinct are to elevate the commuter experience, ensuring commuters can move safely and seamlessly between transport services and nearby destinations via quality streets and broader pedestrian and cycle networks.

Enhanced precinct connectivity will be fundamental to the success of the station and broader precinct, driving growth and optimising development potential.

Responsibility: ● Council ● State ● Private

C1 Deliver an exceptional commuter experience

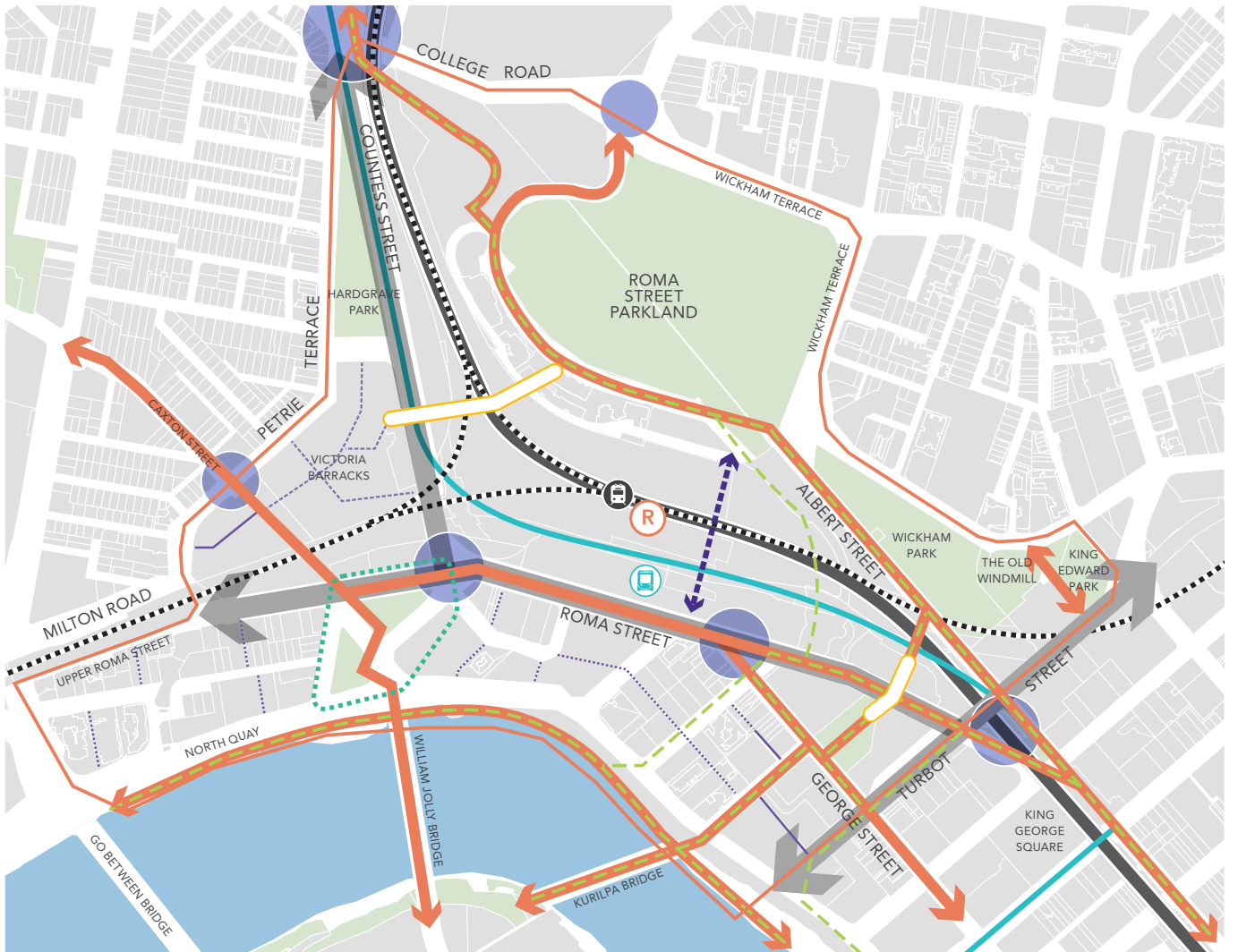
- C1.1 ● ● Deliver a world-class public transport station that is well integrated with local, regional and interstate bus and rail services as well as the new public plaza.
- C1.2 ● ● Establish seamless and safe pedestrian connections along key pedestrian desire lines, between the station, surrounding streets and destinations.
- C1.3 ● ● Provide safe all-hours pedestrian links through the station between Roma Street and Roma Street Parkland.
- C1.4 ● ● Develop wayfinding to assist commuters and visitors navigate between the station and surrounding employment and recreational destinations and broader public and active transport networks.















C2 Improve pedestrian and cyclist networks

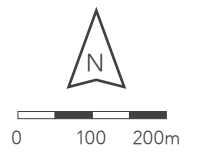
- C2.1 ● ● Provide direct and continuous cycle routes between the Bicentennial Bikeway, Normanby Bikeway, the Kurilpa Bridge and the city centre.
- C2.2 ● ● ● Investigate the potential for pedestrian and cyclist bridges to increase precinct access and traverse major road and transport corridors, including:
 - Roma Street Parkland to Petrie Terrace over the rail corridor and Countess Street
 - Brisbane Magistrates Courts to Albert Street over Roma Street and Emma Miller Place.

C3 Review transport networks and road safety

- C3.1 ● ● Review the road configuration around Skew Street, E.E. McCormick Place and surrounding city blocks. The review should explore opportunities to simplify the road network, improve pedestrian and cycle movement and enhance the accessibility and useability of parks and public spaces.
- C3.2 ● ● Review kerbside allocation in the precinct and identify opportunities to consolidate loading zones, provide passenger drop-off zones and allocate existing on-street parking to alternative uses such as activations, outdoor dining and footpath build outs.
- C3.3 ● ● Build flexibility into street cross-sections and design to allow for future technologies and infrastructure such as new car sharing modes, autonomous vehicles and e-wheeling.
- C3.4 ● ● ● Deliver laneways and arcades through redevelopment to facilitate movement along pedestrian desire lines between the station and surrounding destinations.



-  Brisbane Metro line and station
-  Cross River Rail station
-  Cross River Rail alignment
-  Precinct boundary
-  Train line and station
-  Key intersection pedestrian/cycle upgrades
-  Future active transport bridges
-  Skew Street future traffic investigation and enhancement opportunities
-  Key pedestrian and/or cycle desire lines, footpath widening and streetscape enhancements
-  Existing and new cycle connections
-  Key public transport and vehicle movement streets
-  Existing/under construction arcade
-  Potential future arcades delivered through development (as per Brisbane City Plan 2014)
-  Enhanced station link





Public realm and placemaking

The precinct is home to some of Brisbane’s most recognisable parks and heritage sites and offers significant potential to boost community enjoyment of inner-city public spaces, unlock critical movement networks and provide a range of distinctive local destinations and experiences.

As a city centre gateway for thousands of commuters and visitors each day, investment in quality public realm and authentic placemaking will elevate Roma Street’s contribution to our liveable, subtropical city status, creating diverse and engaging experiences.

Overcoming the barriers of topography and infrastructure dislocation, investing in high quality streetscapes and enhancing the function of existing parks and open spaces will be key to improving public realm quality and establishing memorable destinations.

With such high levels of redevelopment and renewal on the horizon, existing park assets need to be enhanced and supported by a network of plazas, small urban spaces, laneways and pedestrianised streets. These public realm upgrades will add to the visitor experience and elevate Roma Street’s appeal as a lifestyle hub.

Responsibility:



Council



State



Private

P1 Deliver a network of quality streets and public places

- P1.1 Prepare a master plan for the Roma Street corridor to accommodate increased public transport, pedestrian and cyclist use and guide future planning, urban design, placemaking and transport outcomes.
- P1.2 Investigate opportunities for new and enhanced public spaces in the precinct to increase public places including a new arrival plaza through Cross River Rail, new Brisbane Live forecourt plaza and enhanced public space outcomes through the redevelopment of Victoria Barracks.
- P1.3 Enhance and upgrade existing parks in the precinct to improve accessibility, safety and meet the needs of a growing city centre population. Key parks requiring upgrades include E.E. McCormick Place, Wickham Park, King Edward Park and Jacobs Ladder, Emma Miller Place and Hardgrave Park.

P1.4 Upgrade upper Albert Street as a green spine and adaptable events space in keeping with the intent of Council’s Albert Street Vision.

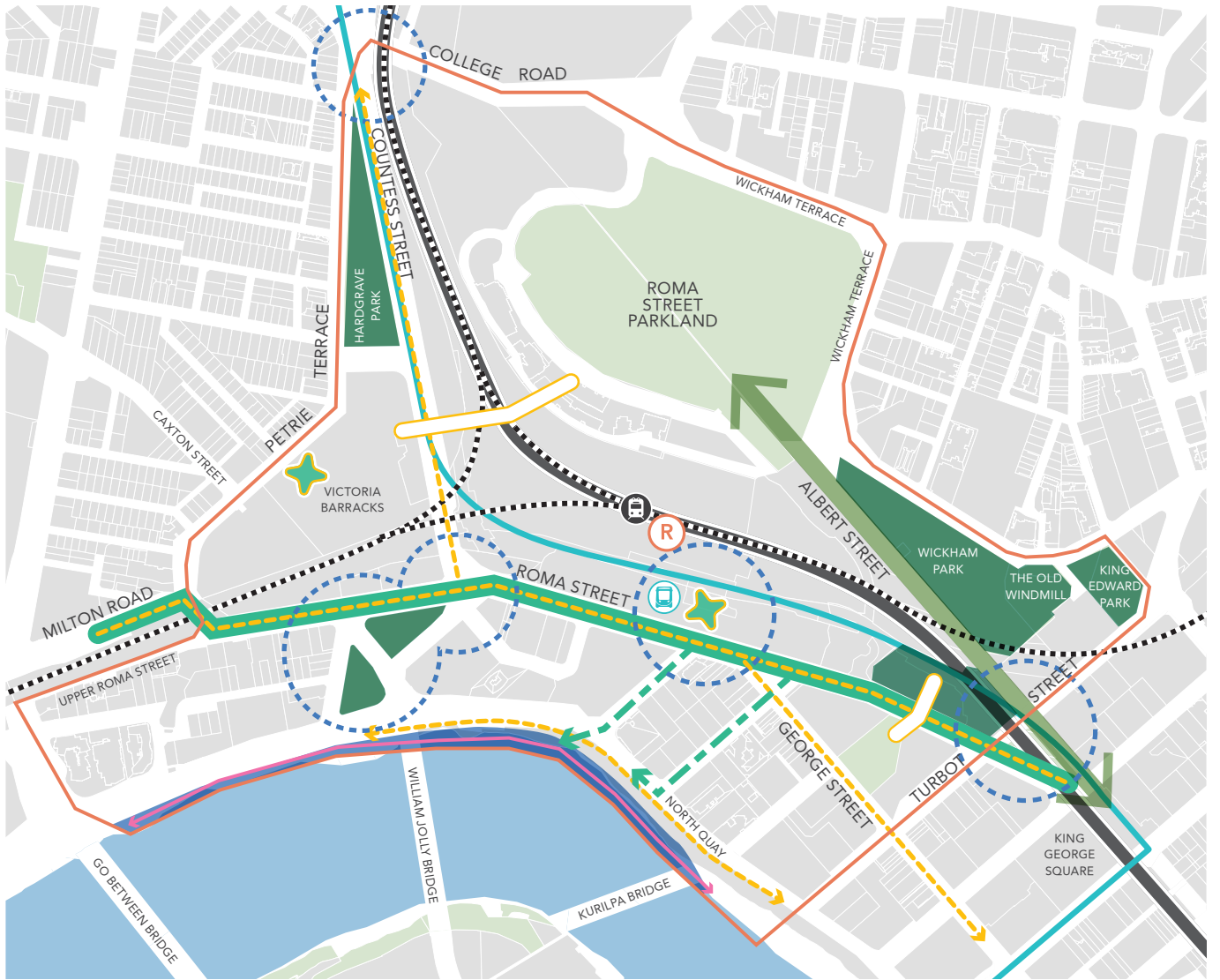
P1.5 Enhance Roma Street, George Street, Countess Street and North Quay as pedestrian-friendly subtropical boulevards.

P2 Establish a layered and diverse public realm experience

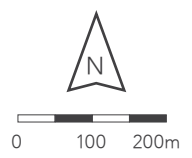
- P2.1 Facilitate the delivery of new urban laneways and small urban spaces through redevelopment. Work with the private sector and stakeholders to revitalise the Turbot Street underpass as an enhanced public space and potential shared zone.
- P2.2 Create flexible spaces within the public space network that can be used for informal, pop-up and curated public events.
- P2.3 Increase connectivity to the river’s edge and enhance the quality and useability of riverside spaces through landscaping, lighting, public art and the creation of passive recreational spaces.

P3 Create a sense of arrival

P3.1 Enhance key city gateways at Brisbane Live, E.E. McCormick Place and the new Roma Street Station plaza. Enhancements should include lighting, public art and signage.



-  Brisbane Metro line and station
-  Cross River Rail station
-  Cross River Rail alignment
-  Precinct boundary
-  Train line and station
-  Existing parks and open space
-  City gateways
-  Enhanced riverside spaces
-  Future active transport bridges
-  Future park upgrades
-  Prepare a master plan for Roma Street corridor
-  Staged implementation of Council's Albert Street Vision
-  Enhance connectivity to the river's edge
-  Subtropical boulevards
-  Existing Bicentennial Bikeway
-  New public realm opportunity





Economic development

The Roma Street precinct has the foundations to transform over time into a strong city centre growth corridor. New and upgraded transport infrastructure will make way for redevelopment opportunities and support renewed investor confidence. The renewal process will transform the precinct into a destination for business, culture and entertainment.

The precinct offers considerable redevelopment potential through underused riverside blocks and government landholdings which will help to intensify the knowledge economy in this location.

As redevelopment occurs, there is an opportunity to diversify land use by creating exciting lifestyle and leisure activities in the area, which will help to activate the precinct outside of normal business hours. One key aspect of the renewal process will be the adaptive re-use of heritage buildings, which will add to the identity and authenticity of the precinct and provide a stronger sense of place. Over time, increased visitation will boost the night time and weekend economies, improving the viability of retail, dining and entertainment businesses that enhance the precinct’s lifestyle offering.

Responsibility: ● Council ● State ● Private

E1 Support the growing knowledge economy

- E1.1 ● ● ● Redevelop key State Government land holdings in the precinct to catalyse urban renewal.
- E1.2 ● ● Encourage development sites to deliver larger office spaces to extend commercial activity along North Quay and Roma Street, to attract new business and knowledge workers to Brisbane.

E2 Destination Roma Street

- E2.1 ● ● ● Facilitate adaptive re-use of the Roma Street Station, Victoria Barracks, Dental Hospital and Spring Hill Reservoirs to enhance heritage values and encourage precinct revitalisation.
- E2.2 ● Encourage revitalisation of the Quay Street precinct to realise redevelopment potential and improve the area’s accessibility and amenity.
- E2.3 ● ● Strengthen connectivity between Roma Street and key visitor destinations including Caxton Street, Suncorp Stadium, the Queensland Cultural Centre, Queen Street Mall and Queens Wharf Brisbane.
- E2.4 ● ● Investigate opportunities to establish Roma Street precinct as a lifestyle hub featuring entertainment, events, revitalised heritage sites and appealing green spaces to create a vibrant street with a flourishing visitor economy.
- E2.5 ● Investigate options to deliver Brisbane Live and support the Roma Street lifestyle hub. Consider ways to activate the street and enhance pedestrian safety and comfort on the edge of the precinct.



Community and culture

Celebrating and enhancing key heritage places and cultural facilities will be essential in transforming the precinct into an authentic and welcoming destination.

The precinct boasts a wealth of heritage places, buildings, structures and parks in addition to Aboriginal cultural heritage values. As the precinct evolves, there will be opportunities for celebration, adaptive re-use and education that will bring greater focus and appreciation of these elements, but also drive the creation of a distinct character and precinct identity.

Revitalising the precinct in a way that builds on its unique identity and sense of place will help to attract visitors, investment and activity. Investing in the precinct’s cultural function will bring more life into the streets and parks and strengthen connections to nearby cultural locations such as Kurilpa, South Brisbane and Spring Hill.

Responsibility: ● Council ● State ● Private

CC1 Conserve, integrate and adapt heritage assets

- CC1.1 ● ● ● Work in partnership with government, community and private sector stakeholders to protect, enhance and increase public access to key heritage assets.
- CC1.2 ● ● ● Increase the functionality and appeal of heritage assets through design initiatives such as improved physical access, lighting and storytelling.

CC2 Celebrate and educate

- CC2.1 ● Extend the city centre subtropical heritage loop into the Roma Street precinct.
- CC2.2 ● ● Develop a heritage strategy which embeds Aboriginal history and Brisbane’s early settlement story into public realm design, public art and community programs.
- CC2.3 ● ● Expand on the curated program of events, festivals and cultural experiences to take advantage of the precinct’s public spaces, heritage places, world-class parks and venues.

CC3 Increase opportunities for social access and inclusion

- CC3.1 ● ● Design the station and surrounding precinct to deliver universal access and to ensure safe, welcoming spaces for all.
- CC3.2 ● ● Ensure a range of community services, amenities, and indoor sport and recreation facilities are provided through future redevelopment to meet the needs of a growing population in the precinct.

CC4 Enhance precinct identity with creative lighting and public art

- CC4.1 ● Work in partnership with public art curators to develop a curatorial strategy for the precinct, concentrating on key cultural and heritage sites, public places, the river and key links between these sites.
- CC4.2 ● Activate and enliven the river’s edge through dynamic art installations including creative lighting, street art and cultural events as per Council’s *River Art Framework*.



Land use and built form

Brisbane Metro, Cross River Rail and other revitalisation projects are set to transform the built environment and land use mix in the precinct. Enhanced public transport access will help Roma Street realise its potential as a vibrant, mixed-use city centre location. High quality architecture and urban design is a key attractor for talent, innovation and investment in our globally competitive city. Redevelopment of riverside sites will provide greater access to the river's edge and capitalise on the views and amenity the river provides.

The increased levels of accessibility and amenity achieved through the upgrade of the Roma Street Station and redevelopment of the Brisbane Transit Centre will attract investment and kick-start the precinct revitalisation process, bringing in higher densities and a greater mix of activities.

Existing institutional buildings such as the Law Courts will be supported by increased commercial office space with the potential for larger floor plates and increased retail at street level. The adaptive re-use of key heritage sites such as the Victoria Barracks will increase the cultural and entertainment values of the precinct, further establishing it as a visitor destination.

The Cross River Rail station and catalyst development sites will set a new benchmark for architectural quality, creating buildings that embrace our subtropical climate and support our outdoor lifestyle. New standards in integrated transit design, sustainable development, street activation and subtropical living will be hallmarks of the precinct.

Responsibility: ● Council ● State ● Private

L1 Deliver a world-class station development and arrival experience

L1.1 ● ● Deliver landmark architecture and subtropical design through Cross River Rail that contributes to precinct identity and creates a grand sense of arrival from the new station through to the broader precinct.

L1.2 ● Improve views and connections to the historic Roma Street Station to reinforce its importance as a heritage and architectural landmark.

L2 Establish a diverse range of activities within the precinct

L2.1 ● ● Broaden the mix of businesses and land uses in the area to transform the precinct into an active, diverse urban neighbourhood with appealing retail, accommodation, entertainment, education and community opportunities.

L2.2 ● ● Facilitate future redevelopment that enriches the pedestrian experience, activates street edges and integrates with adjoining streetscapes and public spaces.

L2.3 ● ● Determine the mix of uses and built form outcomes within the College Road Investigation Area. Ensure the area comfortably accommodates movement to and from the surrounding Roma Street Parkland, Parkland Residences and the local communities of Petrie Terrace and Spring Hill.

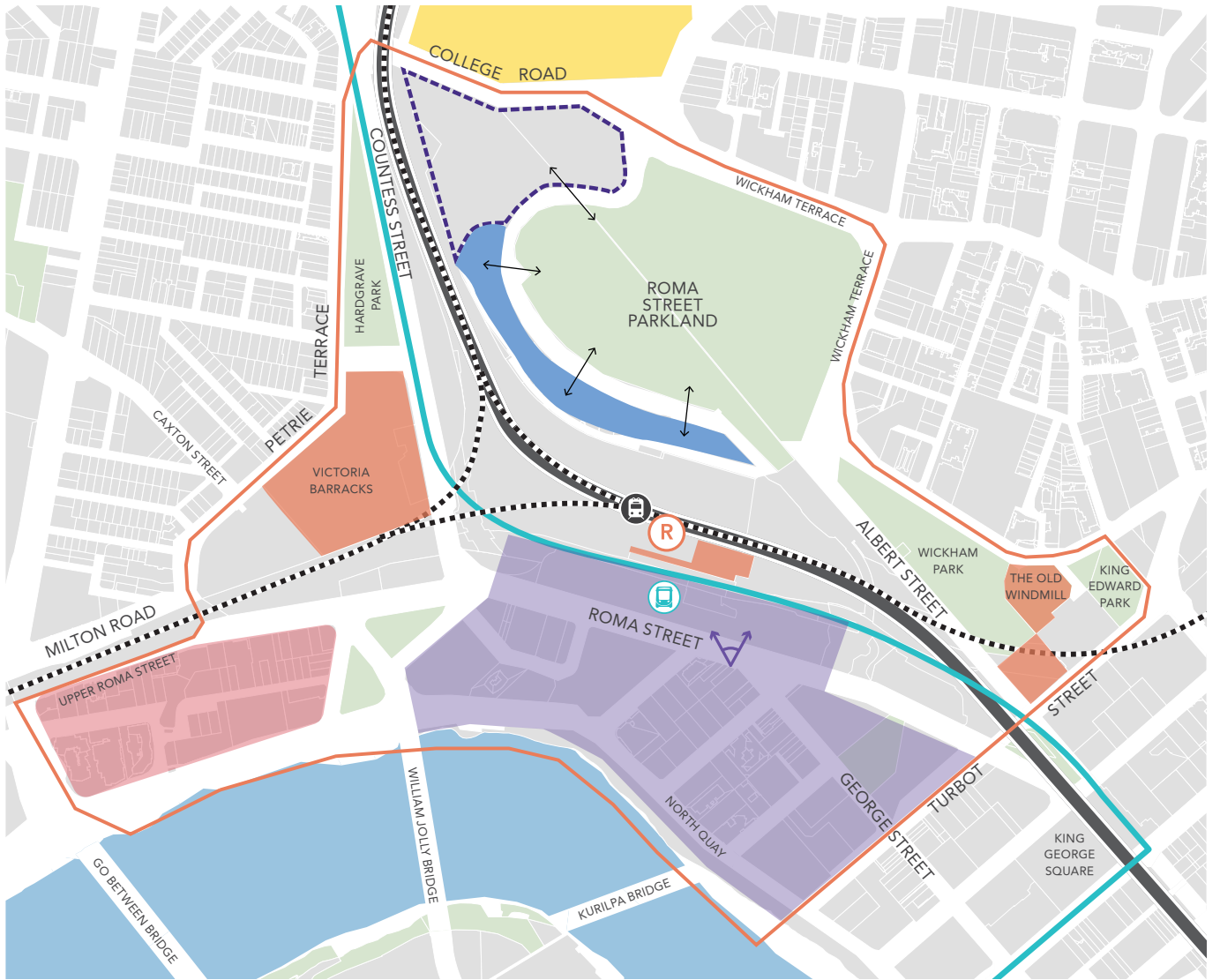
L3 Facilitate high-quality, subtropical design suited to the locality














L3.1 ● ● ● Redevelop key State Government landholdings and other redevelopment sites to facilitate street level activation and the integration of indoor and outdoor spaces.

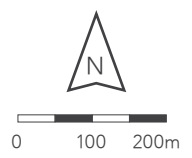
L3.2 ● ● ● Facilitate redevelopment of riverside and Roma Street sites, ensuring appropriate building setbacks and ground level treatments that allow clear sightlines through to the Queensland Cultural Centre.

L3.3 ● ● ● Ensure development in the precinct delivers subtropical design by providing shade, shelter and passive surveillance of the street.

L3.4 ● ● ● Encourage development to feature living green infrastructure such as vertical and elevated gardens, internal planting and green walls.



-  Brisbane Metro line and station
-  Cross River Rail station
-  Cross River Rail alignment
-  Precinct boundary
-  Train line and station
-  Parks and open space
-  College Road Investigation area
-  High rise apartments
-  Conservation and adaptive re-use of heritage places
-  Quay Street Precinct
-  River focussed development, permeability and sightlines, with activated ground level
-  Education
-  Draw on subtropical character of the parkland
-  Improve sightlines to the old Roma Street train station



5 Catalyst projects



Renewal themes

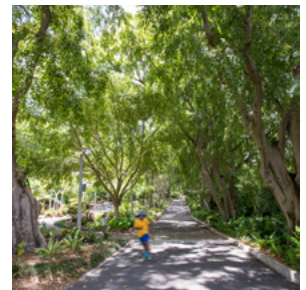
Delivering on the long-term vision for the Roma Street precinct requires the combined efforts of government, stakeholders, business and the local community.

The precinct vision will be realised through a range of mechanisms including statutory actions, placemaking projects, infrastructure delivery, governance changes and a range of other initiatives. Priority actions have been organised under three catalyst projects in order to kick-start the revitalisation process and begin to unlock the immense potential of the western city centre.

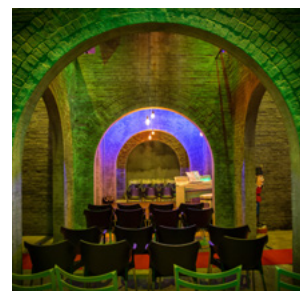
1 Roma Street corridor



2 A green ribbon



3 Revitalised cultural sites



1

Roma Street corridor

As a major transport interchange and civic street, the Roma Street corridor connects the core of Brisbane's city centre to the north-western suburbs and beyond. Stretching 1.8km between King George Square and Petrie Terrace, the Roma Street corridor links together a number of high-profile infrastructure and redevelopment projects currently in planning. Projects such as Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail and opportunities such as Brisbane Live and the Victoria Barracks will all rely on a high-functioning and well-designed Roma Street to connect, activate and revitalise the western fringe of the city centre.



Roma Street

An improved pedestrian experience along Roma Street is key to the precinct's success.

Catalyst sub-projects and priority actions

Responsibility: ● Council ● State ● Private

Short-term (1-5 years)

Cross River Rail station and arrival plaza ●

Implement Cross River Rail and the new Roma Street Station, providing a high quality built form and public realm outcome, creating a sense of arrival and a new landmark destination within the city centre. Include streetscape upgrades to the Roma Street frontage and improvements to pedestrian crossings.

Brisbane Metro ●

Deliver Brisbane Metro stage one, providing interchange opportunities between Metro, bus and rail and an integrated outcome for Roma Street Station.

Roma Street corridor plan ●

Prepare an integrated master plan for the Roma Street corridor to guide planning, urban design, placemaking and transport outcomes. Use traffic modelling to test scenarios for streetscape improvements to optimise street function for public and active transport users.

Brisbane Transit Centre redevelopment ● ●

Redevelop the Brisbane Transit Centre to reinforce the station address, improve street interface and attract new knowledge businesses.

Medium-term (5-10 years)

Streetscape improvements ●

Investigate the opportunity to deliver future streetscape upgrades between Herschel and Countess Streets following station redevelopment.

Brisbane Live and forecourt plaza ● ●

Investigate the delivery of Brisbane Live and forecourt plaza to support the Roma Street lifestyle hub, activating the street frontage and enhancing pedestrian movement, safety and comfort along the Roma Street edge.

Long-term and ongoing

Facilitate redevelopment of key sites along Roma Street ● ● ●

Work with the private sector to leverage redevelopment to create improvements to the function and streetscape amenity of Roma Street.

Improve the pedestrian and cyclist experience ● ●

Complete the pedestrian and cycle link between the Brisbane Magistrates Court and Albert Street over Roma Street and Emma Miller Place.

2

A green ribbon

The Roma Street precinct boasts a diverse collection of parks and recreational assets that are fundamental to the precinct's future as a destination. Centred on the award-winning subtropical gardens of Roma Street Parkland, the precinct also includes a number of under-used parks and heritage spaces that need to be adapted to meet changing city needs and ongoing population growth. To realise the long-term potential of the precinct's park network, enhanced connectivity, targeted park upgrades and placemaking approaches are required.

Investment in these key inner-city green spaces will create the amenity and comfort needed to elevate the reputation of the Roma Street precinct and boost visitor numbers.

Catalyst sub-projects and priority actions

Responsibility: ● Council ● State ● Private

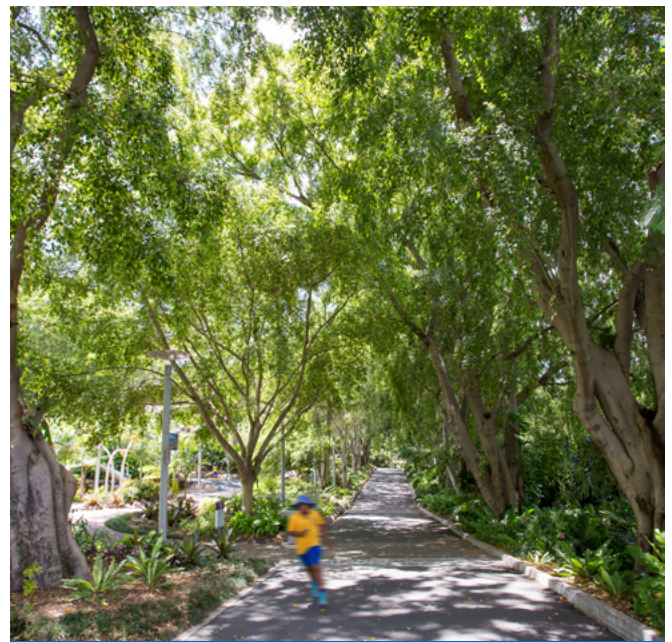
Short-term (1-5 years)

Ridgeline parks ● ●

Deliver upgrades to Wickham and Observatory Parks to increase activity levels, improve safety and reinforce the heritage values of the Old Windmill and Spring Hill Reservoirs, elevating their status as city landmarks.

Enhancing the green spine ● ●

Upgrade upper Albert Street as a green spine and adaptable event space that supports Roma Street Parkland and other nearby event spaces. Investigate a dedicated cycle connection to the city centre and other nearby destinations including Brisbane Live.



Roma Street Parkland

Roma Street Parkland is a showcase for subtropical landscapes and has become a major tourism destination, attracting around 2 million visitors per year.

Medium-term (5-10 years)

A revitalised Emma Miller Place ● ●

Redesign Emma Miller Place as a contemporary urban park, public gathering space and entry plaza to Brisbane Live.

Enhanced pedestrian links ● ● ●

Improve pedestrian connectivity between Roma Street Parkland and adjoining areas such as the city centre and Spring Hill.

Shaded, subtropical streets ●

Implement street tree plantings, landscaping, seating and other streetscape enhancements on key connecting streets to increase shade, comfort and amenity for pedestrians.

Long-term and ongoing

A green western gateway ●

Review traffic circulation at the intersection of Roma, Countess and Skew Streets to improve the accessibility and useability of E.E. McCormick Place and adjoining parks, creating a welcoming gateway into the city centre.

3

Revitalised cultural sites

Within a short walk of Roma Street Station, visitors can experience some of Brisbane’s most significant cultural sites and destinations. From heritage places such as the original Roma Street Station and the Old Windmill through to event venues such as the Albert Park amphitheatre and Suncorp Stadium, the precinct is home to an emerging cluster of cultural activity. Brisbane Live, along with stronger connections to the Queensland Cultural Centre, will inspire locals and visitors to explore and experience the western fringe of the city centre. The combination of world-class cultural facilities and revitalised heritage sites will give the city a competitive advantage in attracting visitors and highly skilled workers.

Catalyst sub-projects and priority actions

Responsibility: ● Council ● State ● Private

Short-term (1-5 years)

Spring Hill heritage ●

Investigate the adaptive re-use of the Spring Hill Reservoir and Dental Hospital to create new life for these significant heritage landmarks.

Showcase the old station ● ●

Open up views and public connections to the old Roma Street Station and investigate its adaptive re-use restoring its place as an architectural landmark and heritage feature.

Medium-term (5-10 years)

Revitalise the Victoria Barracks ● ●

Facilitate the adaptive re-use of the Victoria Barracks site. Investigate improved pedestrian and cycle connections including a new bridge connecting Roma Street Parkland/ historic Brisbane Dental Hospital and College and Caxton Street via the Victoria Barracks.

Cultural connections ● ●

Improve pedestrian and cyclist connections between Roma Street and the South Brisbane Cultural Precinct to extend the visitor experience and link together key cultural destinations.



Spring Hill Reservoir

Since 2015 the Spring Hill Reservoir has been transformed from an empty shell into a unique city venue that is utilised for theatre, opera, visual art and music over 200 days per year.

Long-term and ongoing

Reactivate the river’s edge ● ●

Deliver a curated program of public art and creative lighting along the river’s edge to showcase Aboriginal and contemporary Brisbane artists and enhance the visitor experience.

Curated events and activations ● ●

Deliver a curated program of events, festivals and cultural experiences that take advantage of the precinct’s public spaces, heritage places and world-class venues.

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South East Queensland 2018/19 financial year patronage, Translink

More information

For more information contact Council.



Visit brisbane.qld.gov.au and search 'Brisbane's knowledge corridor'.



Send an email to:
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