

Draft Light Square / Wauwi Master Plan Phase 2 Consultation Summary

Strategic Alignment - Our Environment

Public

Tuesday, 4 February 2025

City Planning, Development
and Business Affairs
Committee

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting on 6 August 2024, ([Link 1](#)) the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee considered and endorsed the draft Light Square / Wauwi Master Plan (draft Master Plan) for public consultation and requested further clarification in the draft Master Plan of the planning, detailed design and construction phases, and how a staged approach to implementation could also be considered.

The purpose of this report is to present the outcomes of phase 2 consultation (**Attachment A**).

The outcomes of the phase 2 consultation will be presented to the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority at their meeting on 27 February 2025.

The draft Master Plan ([Link 2](#)) presents two options for a pedestrian-centred, safe, activated, inclusive, and greener Light Square/Wauwi (the Square) that can be adapted to suit the level of ambition and change to the transport network and greening outcomes sought by the Council.

Phase 2 consultation sought feedback on draft Master Plan options and priorities, which occurred from 1 August 2024 to 20 November 2024. The consultation included meetings with key stakeholders, three community consultation sessions, and an Our Adelaide online survey, which had 220 responses.

Option 1 of the draft Master Plan, to reconfigure the road network and provide direct access to the Square on the western side, received strong support during the phase 2 consultation.

The City of Adelaide's 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget includes funding to complete detailed design and costings for priority elements in the draft Master Plan. Priority elements include a traffic impact assessment and safety audit to test the feasibility of the draft Master Plan options.

The proposed project is being undertaken in a staged process as set out in the draft Master Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation will be presented to Council on 11 February 2025 for consideration

THAT THE CITY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the outcomes of phase 2 consultation on the draft Light Square / Wauwi Master Plan as contained in Attachment A to Item 7.3 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee held on 4 February 2025.
 2. Notes the high level of stakeholder support for draft Option 1 in the draft Light Square / Wauwi Master Plan as contained in Attachment A to Item 7.3 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee held on 4 February 2025.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Environment The status, attributes and character of our green spaces and the Park Lands are protected and strengthened
Policy	The development of a Master Plan for Light Square/Wauwi is a priority ‘New Move’ in the <i>Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036</i> . The City Plan identifies activation and access to Light Square/Wauwi as important to creating an oasis within the city.
Consultation	Targeted stakeholder and community consultation has occurred in two phases as part of the development of the Master Plan. Phase 1 consultation held from February to May 2024 identified issues and opportunities to inform the draft Master Plan development. Phase 2 consultation from August to November 2024 sought feedback on the draft Master Plan to identify the level of support for the draft Master Plan options and to prioritise the project principles. Feedback was received via targeted stakeholder meetings, community sessions, written feedback and Our Adelaide online consultation platform. Of the respondents to the Our Adelaide survey, 40% were City of Adelaide residents. The outcome of phase 2 consultation is provided in Attachment A .
Resource	The draft Master Plan provides recommendations to guide future public realm investment according to community and Council priorities.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Consideration for existing public artwork and the ongoing programming of community sessions within the Square has influenced the program and development of design and planning principles. The staged approach to the Master Plan seeks to manage financial sustainability for the City of Adelaide.
Opportunities	The draft Master Plan provides a vision and framework to enhance Light Square/Wauwi and guide future investment. It addresses a broad range of matters from Kaurna culture, history, art, culture, greening, active transport, safety, access, inclusion, population growth, events and activation. The draft Master Plan provides an opportunity to implement sustainable, renewable and green systems, infrastructure, practices and materials in our projects. This includes an opportunity to test the market regarding the City of Adelaide’s sustainability targets, including circular economy and scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-owned businesses and social enterprises, inclusion and diversity, and buy local principles.
24/25 Budget Allocation	The 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget includes a \$250,000 capital budget allocation for detailed design and costings of priority elements of the draft Master Plan. Priority elements include a traffic impact assessment and safety audit to test the feasibility of the draft Master Plan options. Further detailed design is subject to the 2025/26 and future Annual Business Plan and Budget processes and Council decision.
Proposed 25/26 Budget Allocation	Future costs to implement the Master Plan will be identified through detailed design and be listed within the schedule of new and significant upgrades for implementation from 2026/27, subject to Council decision through budget deliberations.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Implementation of the Master Plan and the associated implications for the Long-Term Financial Plan will be considered further through the detailed design process.
24/25 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report.
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	While no direct costs are associated with the Master Plan, the enhanced/upgraded and new features will require corresponding asset and ongoing maintenance budgets. These costs are subject to future budget deliberations.
Other Funding Sources	External funding sources will be sought to implement the Master Plan. Council may prioritise its investment in delivery of the Master Plan contingent on external party funding support, such as State or Federal Government investment.

DISCUSSION

Background

1. Council approved the development of a Master Plan for Light Square/Wauwi as part of the 2023/24 Annual Business Plan and Budget.
2. The development of Master Plans is a priority 'New Move' in the *Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036*.
3. The City of Adelaide developed the draft Light Square/Wauwi Master Plan (draft Master Plan) with the support of Oxigen Landscape Architects (Oxigen) with subconsultants Yellaka – Karl Telfer who provided Kaurna cultural inputs and Wallbridge Gilbert Aztec (WGA) who provided strategic transport planning inputs.
4. The draft Master Plan presents two options for a pedestrian-centred, safe, activated, inclusive and greener Square.
5. At its meeting on 27 June 2024, Kadaltilla considered the draft Master Plan for the purposes of phase 2 community consultation.
6. At its meeting on 9 July 2024 ([Link 3](#)), the Council requested that the Administration provide advice on how the Master Plan could be delivered through a staged approach before approving its release for public consultation.
7. At its meeting on 13 August 2024 ([Link 4](#)), the Council received staging options and endorsed the draft Master Plan for the purposes of public consultation subject to further clarification in the draft Master Plan of the planning, detailed design and construction phases, and how a staged approach to implementation could also be considered.

Consultation

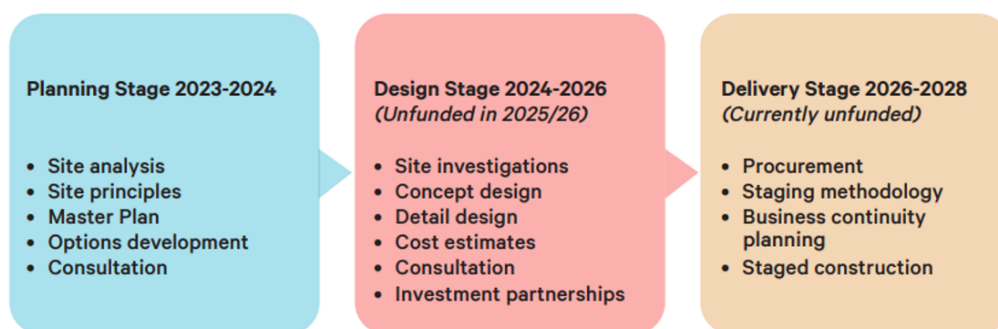
8. Targeted stakeholder and community consultation occurred in two phases as part of the development of the Master Plan.
 - 8.1. Phase 1 consultation to inform development of the draft Master Plan occurred from February 2024 to May 2024 and included extensive site visit meetings with key stakeholders and an online survey which opened on 18 March 2024 and closed on 15 April 2024.
 - 8.1.1. Phase 1 consultation revealed an expectation that the draft Master Plan be bold and transformational for the west end and invite increased use and enjoyment of the Square.
 - 8.2. Phase 2 consultation to seek feedback on the draft Master Plan options and priorities occurred from August 2024 to November 2024 and included meetings with key stakeholders, community consultation sessions, and an Our Adelaide survey which opened on 4 September 2024 and closed on 14 October 2024.
 - 8.2.1. Phase 2 consultation revealed strong support for Option 1 of the draft Master Plan to create an accessible and people friendly space.
9. Phase 2 consultation included:
 - 9.1. 16 workshops / site meetings facilitated by the Administration
 - 9.2. One community information session at Wauwi Inparrila (Housing Choices)
 - 9.3. Two pop-up community sessions in Light Square/Wauwi
 - 9.4. 4,000 postcards to residents and businesses near Light Square/Wauwi
 - 9.5. 1,749 letters to residents and businesses near Light Square/Wauwi (with an approximate 200 metre radius).
10. Written feedback included:
 - 10.1. 220 Our Adelaide survey responses
 - 10.2. 11 written submissions.
11. A summary of participation by the community follows:
 - 11.1. 40% of respondents to the Our Adelaide survey were residents in the City and North Adelaide, as well as residents from adjoining local government areas (30%), other metropolitan local government areas (15%) and residents from regional local government areas (4%).

- 11.2. City of Adelaide resident survey responses were reflected in the overall responses with 74% who prefer Master Plan Option 1, 13% prefer Option 2, 7% prefer neither option, 4% prefer elements from both and 2% unsure.
12. Stakeholders were invited to meetings and community sessions to hear about and provide feedback on the draft Master Plan. Stakeholders included:
 - 12.1. State Government departments and agencies
 - 12.1.1. Art Gallery of South Australia
 - 12.1.2. Arts South Australia
 - 12.1.3. Department for Infrastructure and Transport
 - 12.1.4. SAPOL
 - 12.1.5. South Australian Public Transport Authority
 - 12.2. Community
 - 12.2.1. Adelaide West End Association
 - 12.2.2. Community members
 - 12.2.3. Local residents and businesses, through attendance at the community information session and pop-up sessions
 - 12.3. Non-government organisations
 - 12.3.1. Encounter Youth
 - 12.3.2. Housing Choices South Australia
 - 12.3.3. Lions Arts Centre, Creative Industries
 - 12.4. Education
 - 12.4.1. Youth Inc
 - 12.4.2. TAFE SA
 - 12.4.3. University of South Australia, Enterprise Hub
 - 12.5. Council Committees and Subsidiaries
 - 12.5.1. Adelaide Economic Development Agency
 - 12.5.2. City of Adelaide's Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel
 - 12.5.3. City of Adelaide's Reconciliation Committee.
13. The responses from the Our Adelaide online survey and written feedback for preferred draft Master Plan options show that the majority of respondents supported Option 1 with a range of other preferences:
 - 13.1. 77% prefer Option1
 - 13.2. 10% prefer Option 2
 - 13.3. 7% prefer neither option
 - 13.4. 2% prefer elements from both
 - 13.5. 2% were unsure
 - 13.6. 1% support the draft Master Plan (but did not specify an option in particular)
 - 13.7. 1% provided other feedback
 - 13.8. One person objected to Option 1.
14. The Our Adelaide online survey responses provide a ranking for the principles for each of the three draft Master Plan themes. The highest ranked principles for each theme are listed below:
 - 14.1. Greener – Greening, including an increase in tree canopy, provides shade, cooling and planting diversity, including seasonal colour and celebration of Australia's native flora.
 - 14.2. Safer – The useable area of the Square is expanded with reconfigured road geometry to prioritise pedestrian access to the lawns, pathways and facilities whilst reducing traffic speeds and enhancing safety.

- 14.3. Inclusive – Activity, event and exhibition spaces are built into the design, working with adjacent creative and arts industries to brand the area as a place of creativity and innovation.
15. Consultation feedback highlighted a range of matters for further consideration in future proposed project stages. Key topics that emerged under the three draft Master Plan themes include:
- 15.1. Greener**
- 15.1.1. Hardstand and Greening – ensure that hardstand is minimised and responds to climate change impacts. Support for more greening and retaining trees.
- 15.2. Safer**
- 15.2.1. Active Transport – opportunity to improve safety and access for walking, wheeling and cycling.
- 15.2.2. Safety – investigate how business activation can improve safety and how nighttime, cycling and pedestrian safety can inform the detail design stage.
- 15.2.3. Traffic, Parking and Access – investigate how road related changes will impact traffic movement, flow, safety and access. Integration of parking and vehicle access needs for surrounding residents and businesses.
- 15.3. Inclusive**
- 15.3.1. Accessibility – opportunity to improve access to the Square and inclusion through path and crossings design.
- 15.3.2. Culture and Heritage – protect Heritage Values, incorporate many cultures in the design.
- 15.3.3. Eastern and western frontage – investigate the benefits and disbenefits for the eastern and western frontages as a result of moving the western carriageway to the eastern side of the Square.
- 15.3.4. Inclusiveness – consider how the needs of those experiencing homelessness can be incorporated in the design.
- 15.3.5. Event space/layout – investigate events space location options to minimise noise and disruption to surrounding residents and consider the design of a potential exhibition space in context of the surrounding arts district.
- 15.4. Other considerations**
- 15.4.1. Implementation – minimise construction duration and impacts and continue to engage with stakeholders.
- 15.4.2. Alternative options – a number of alternative options were suggested including traffic tunnels, a cruciform layout and overpasses.
16. A summary of targeted and community consultation is provided in **Attachment A**.

Next Steps

17. The City of Adelaide's 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget includes funding to complete detailed design and costings for priority elements in the draft Master Plan. Priority elements include a traffic impact assessment and safety audit to test the feasibility of the draft Master Plan options.
18. The proposed project is being undertaken in a staged process as set out in the draft Master Plan and shown



Planning and Design Staging

Timelines and staging are indicative only and subject to modification.

Factors affecting timing and delivery include available funding, annual budget and service delivery priorities.

below:

19. The detailed design outcomes are scheduled to be presented to Council in 2025, ahead of a decision on the Master Plan.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – [City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee – Minutes – 6 August 2024](#)

Link 2 – [Draft Light Square/Wauwi Master Plan – released for public consultation](#)

Link 3 – [Council – Minutes – 9 July 2024](#)

Link 4 – [Council – Agenda – 13 August 2024](#)

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Phase 2 – Light Square/Wauwi Master Plan – Public Consultation Summary Report

- END OF REPORT