



Fact Sheet West Gippsland Arts Centre Upgrade Project

Project Overview

In June 2015, Council appointed Williams Ross Architects Pty. Ltd. to provide design services for the Wests Gippsland Arts Centre (WGAC) upgrade project. As part of the design work, extensive and frequent consultation and communication occurred through the Project Reference Group to agree on the revised concept design and the final design details.

In February 2017, Council accepted the tender from Building Engineering Pty. Ltd. to undertake the construction of the major upgrade project.

The WGAC is currently closed to make way for the \$13.4 million redevelopment project, with works commencing in March 2017 and expected to continue until approximately July 2018.

Council has been successful in receiving \$4 million in funding from the State Government, as well as an additional \$4 million from the Federal Government towards the redevelopment project. The remainder of the project is being funded through Council's Capital Works program.

Scope of Works

The project includes works to demolish, upgrade and extend various parts of the existing Arts Centre infrastructure.

The project will see major improvements to the community facility, including:

- Increasing the seating capacity from 510 to 760.
- Creating a new access foyer to the south side of the auditorium, along with foyers for the rear stalls and balcony seating.
- Upgrade of the the orchestra pit, scene and delivery dock, change rooms and toilets.
- Reorienting the centre and café space so that it takes advantage of the beautiful outlook provided by Civic Park.
- Achieving Universal Design Principles, with accessible wheelchair spaces, assisted access aisles and an elevator, as well as improved seat spacing, particularly in the new balcony.
- New meeting spaces to allow for hosting major regional conferences.
- Technical improvements to accommodate major productions on a larger scale.

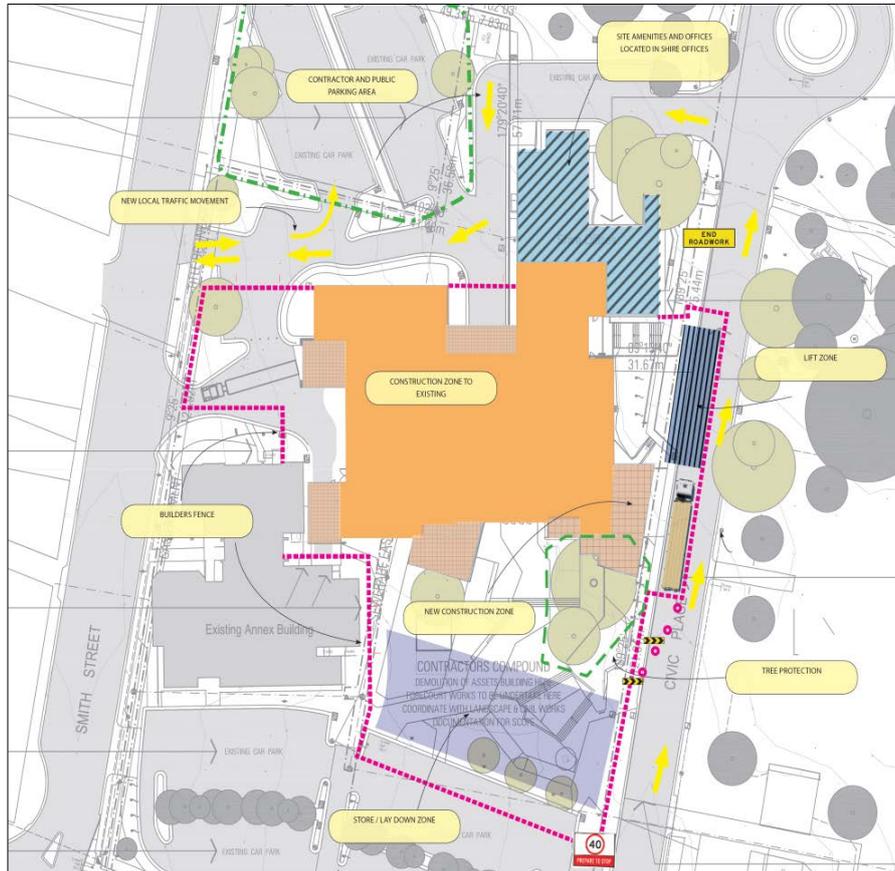
On Site Preparations

Preparation for site works to commence is in progress. Installation of the worksite perimeter fencing and signage will be the first works to take place on the site. These works are scheduled to commence on **Wednesday 22 March 2017** and will take approximately two days to complete.

Traffic Management

During the ongoing redevelopment works, full traffic management will be in place at all times. Council and contractors will be making every effort to minimise delays and reduce the levels of noise that come with the construction works.

Access to Warragul's Civic Park will remain available, however the works will require part of Civic Place to be closed to one north bound traffic lane with 40km/h speed restrictions. Works will be carried out between 7.30am and 6.00pm from Monday to Friday, weather permitting.



Relocation of Council Staff and Services

As of Monday 6 March 2017 the Warragul Customer Service Centre, Arts Centre Team and Box Office have been temporarily relocated around the corner to the Annex Building located at 91 Smith Street. The Arts Centre café will be closed for the duration of the works.

Council meetings normally held in the Chambers at the WGAC have been temporarily relocated to the Trafalgar Business Centre, until further notice.

Contact Us

For enquiries about the relocation of Council's Customer Service Centre, Box Office or Council Chamber during the redevelopment, please speak to our Community Information and Service Team on 5624 2411.

For enquiries about the redevelopment project works, please contact Council on 5624 2411.

Council apologises for any inconvenience which may be caused to residents and users of Civic Park during the construction period.