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NORTH PERTH TOWN CENTRE VISIONING WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

Monday 6 December 2022





Project so far

- A comprehensive context analysis was conducted earlier this year to assess the area as it currently stands and compare this to the future needs of the community at a local and state level to support the long-term success and viability of the town centre.
- The context analysis was discussed with the design review panel to introduce this information and seek considerations for the consultation and preparation of frameworks the Design Review Panel will inform each part of the project.
- An initial survey was on Imagine Vincent from 18 November 2022. A follow up survey will be posted on 13 January 2023.
- The first community workshop was conducted on 6 December 2022. This is a summary of the comments received. A second design workshop will be held on 1 February 2023.
- These workshops and surveys will result in a draft Planning Framework and Place Plan.

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Question Wall

We heard your questions at the start of the workshop.

We answered these questions and have included them as a separate attachment in this email.

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What do you love about North Perth?

What we heard at the workshop:

1. North Perth has an unquantifiable village feel that residents love and want to retain.

2. North Perth has a distinctive character – both with regards to cultural diversity and built form.

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What do you love about North Perth? (continued)

3. North Perth has a variety of independent and unique businesses and services that make it possible for residents to shop, eat and play locally. There is strong support for improved offerings in supermarket and fresh fruit and vegetables.
4. Residents love the centrality of North Perth and being in the middle of everything in inner city Perth.
5. North Perth has excellent access to public transport and residents love not having to rely on cars. Improvements to east-west public transport routes are strongly supported.



What could be improved?

What we heard:

1. North Perth residents understand that infill is required. The preferred location for infill was on main roads and in proximity to green space. All development should be of high quality and sensitive to the surrounding character and amenity of the neighbourhood.
2. Buffer and transition zones may need to be investigated to ensure densities and heights in residential neighbourhoods gradually increase.

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What could be improved? (continued)

3. North Perth residents want greater heritage protection for significant buildings. New builds should honour the existing built form of North Perth.
4. High levels of through-traffic and trucks on residential streets needs to be addressed.
5. The pedestrian experience on Fitzgerald Street is poor and needs to be improved. Angove Street is a more pleasant environment although minor improvements including formalising pedestrian crossings are still required.

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What will North Perth look like in the future?

What we heard:

1. North Perth should strive to be a unique destination for residents and visitors and not attempt to replicate or challenge Leederville or Beaufort Street.

2. The rich heritage of North Perth is retained and embraced in all new development.

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What will North Perth look like in the future? (continued)

3. North Perth residents wish to remain in North Perth as they age, and the maintenance and upkeep of their larger dwellings becomes too much work. A more diverse housing mix including apartments and town houses will allow this to occur.
4. A long-term vision is required for both infill development and public transport.
5. North Perth has a relatively weak night-time economy. Attracting night-time businesses is integral.



Place Visioning: Transport

What we heard:

1. The walkability of residential streets in North Perth are generally a strength. Installing additional street furniture would support ageing residents to walk further and stay active.
   The walkability of the town centre itself can be improved. Crossing Fitzgerald Street is challenging – particularly for North Perth Primary School students, the elderly or people on bikes, with prams or in wheelchairs.
   Conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists or eScooters on narrow footpaths also need to be managed.

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Place Visioning: Transport (continued)

2. Whilst public transport is a strength for North Perth, service improvements are supported including east-west connections and advocating for mid-tier transit on Fitzgerald Street.
3. Cycling on Fitzgerald Street and Charles Street is unsafe and unpleasant. Developing safe cycling routes on quieter streets through North Perth was generally supported. Connecting these cycling routes to the town centre and installing more bike racks was also deemed important.
4. Fitzgerald Street was seen as a poor environment for both pedestrians and cyclists due to narrow and constrained footpaths, inconsistent awning coverage and tree canopy and high traffic speeds and volumes on the carriageway.
5. Through-traffic on residential streets and rights-of-way needs to be addressed – particularly if additional dwellings and shops are proposed in the Town Centre.



Place Visioning: Public Realm

What we heard:

1. The hub of hospitality venues and associated alfresco areas on Angove Street create a great place and feeling. This should be replicated elsewhere on Fitzgerald Street whilst managing conflict points between pedestrians and al fresco dining areas.
2. The human scale of the shopfronts and awnings on Angove Street and the east side of Fitzgerald Street between Alma and Raglan Road are great. This should be replicated elsewhere on Fitzgerald Street.

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Place Visioning: Public Realm (continued)

3. Street lighting and safety in the town centre and adjacent residential streets surrounding streets can be improved.
4. Street trees are important to North Perth residents and underground power should improve the canopy coverage. Further work is required to protect trees on private land and encourage and maintain landscaping on verges.
5. Woodville Reserve and Hyde Park are popular public open spaces in or near North Perth. North Perth Common has not had the same immediate success although the addition of an activated neighbouring tenancy and/or al fresco would improve its usability.



Place Visioning: Development

What we heard:

1. North Perth residents love the heritage buildings and the diversity of uses that they offer. These buildings are important anchors of the town centre and offer a sense of place and connection, and development should ensure that this character is maintained.
2. Whilst residents love the diversity of retail and hospitality options, a greater mix of night-time uses, and amenity enhancements would improve the vibrancy of the town centre.
3. North Perth is loved for its walkability, with a diversity of land uses within a walkable catchment. Pedestrian safety and amenity should be prioritised.

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Place Visioning: Development (continued)

3. There is a lack of consensus on an increase in density within the North Perth Town Centre. While some view this as necessary to increase vibrancy, there are differing views on where development should occur, and at what height development should be limited. Residents spoke of the need for consideration of overshadowing and solar access, transition and buffer zones, quality of design and sensitivity to adjacent heritage houses.
4. Environmental issues are extremely important to the North Perth community. Deep soil planting zones to provide greater canopy coverage, water management, environmentally sensitive design (including green walls and roofing), landscaping and the provision of more public open space should be a priority with both new and existing development.

Next Steps…

You:

- Review verbatim comments and provide additional context where necessary
- Send photos of buildings you like within and outside of the study area
- Complete the follow-up survey (to be released on Imagine Vincent – 13 January 2023)
- Save the date for Workshop 2 – **Wednesday 1 February 2023, North Perth Town Hall, 6pm-8pm**

Us:

- Finalise follow-up survey
- Review additional feedback collected from ongoing survey, new survey and photos
- Design and organise Workshop 2 (1 February 2023)

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