



Media Release

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Lyons to design Dandenong Civic Centre

Lyons architects have been appointed to design a new Civic Centre for Dandenong following a public tender.

The Centre will incorporate a new Library, Council Chambers and Administration Office, Community Meeting Space, Performing Arts and Gallery space and a new Civic Square, on the corner of Walker and Lonsdale streets.

The project is a key part of the State Government's \$290m "Revitalising Central Dandenong" initiative to rejuvenate the city centre and create a fresh, new future for central Dandenong.

Greater Dandenong Mayor Roz Blades says the project is key to growing the appeal for Dandenong as a place in which to live, work, learn, visit, socialize and invest.

"At the heart of Melbourne's growing south east corridor, Dandenong produces almost half of Victoria's manufacturing output, is home to one hundred and forty thousand culturally diverse people and provides one in every three jobs in Melbourne.

"The Civic Centre design process will feature extensive consultation to ensure the development not only complements the 'Revitalising Central Dandenong' Master Plan but also delivers the best outcome for the community.

"Lyons has an excellent track record in Australia of designing iconic, award-winning public buildings.

"They have completed a number of design projects in the commercial, education and public sector including the award winning Hume City Council offices," she said.

Lyons director, Carey Lyon, said the design consultation process would look to engage with the community on a broad level.

"We will be looking at what makes a public space work in the twentieth century, and how does Council best engage with a diverse community that includes people from over 150 different birth-nations, with many people from Sudan, Hanoi and Afghanistan.

"We'll be considering how these major public spaces, including the library and drop-in centre, can provide successful gathering points for such a diverse community. This centre will be a living room for Dandenong, with a focus on the city square as a venue for community events.

“And we’ll be determining how this project can best facilitate future investment in the area, and how best to incorporate leading sustainability benchmarks,” Mr Lyon said.

Cr Blades said Council has had a long-standing goal to place the governance and administration functions of the City of Greater Dandenong in a single site.

“It has been more than 15 years since the formation of the City of Greater Dandenong following the Council amalgamations, and the time is right to move towards bringing the Council’s administration into one building,” Cr Blades said.

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