

# COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

## Lyons to play big part in Dandenong's renewal

PHILIP HOPKINS

LYONS Architects has been appointed to design a new civic centre for Dandenong after 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 \$290 million "Revitalising Central Dandenong" initiative to rejuvenate the city centre.

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

Lyons has won numerous awards, including the Harry

**Country's  
second-  
biggest  
urban  
renewal  
project**

Seidler National Architecture and Royal Australian Institute of Architects Victorian Chapter awards in commercial architecture for the Hume City Council offices.

Revitalising Central Dandenong, Australia's second-biggest urban renewal project after Melbourne Docklands, is a 15-to-20-year project.

Overseen by VicUrban, it

involves \$290 million in state government spending and is expected to generate \$1 billion in private investment.

Seven hectares are being redeveloped between Lonsdale Street and the railway station. Grocon is building a \$55 million government services office in the city centre, and has won the right from VicUrban to build a \$100 million office

building on a site next door.

Development of the seven-hectare block is expected to act as a catalyst for renewal within the wider Dandenong CBD.

VicUrban is the referral authority for 170 hectares of land — an area south of the railway line to Dandenong High School on the Princes Highway — that is a "declared" state government project.