

Gosford Hospital - Health and Wellbeing Precinct

Landscape Design - Stage 1 - SSDA

PROJECT APPRECIATION

Gosford is a city located on the Central Coast of New South Wales, Australia, approximately 76 km north of Sydney's CBD. Gosford has been designated as an important growth centre under the NSW Metropolitan Strategy.¹ In addition to this, Gosford's City Centre Masterplan (adopted in 2010), identified the Hospital Precinct as an area that should 'reinforce the health services for both the public and private hospital sectors within this precinct close to the Station'. The Masterplan also outlines that the Gosford Hospital Precinct is 'the largest employer in the region'.²

The objectives of the landscape design is to:

1. Encourage safe and enjoyable movement between the Health and Wellbeing Precinct and the Hospital, and also along Showground Road to the Gosford Railway Station.
2. Activate passive recreation in Hospital Forecourt, within the covered pedestrian link between the Hospital and the new carpark and Showground Road.
3. Pedestrianise Holden Street.
4. Enhance and compliment the architecture of the Health and Wellbeing Precinct and connect the Hospital to the Health and Wellbeing Precinct.

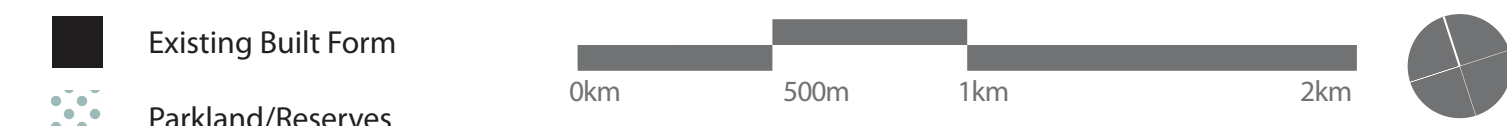
These broader strategies are outlined within the Gosford City Centre Masterplan and have formed the framework for the landscape and urban design for Gosford Hospital 'Health and Wellbeing Precinct'.

DESIGN VISION

The Gosford Hospital 'Health and Wellbeing Precinct' is an opportunity to rethink the interface of street and hospital. Working collaboratively with the architecture to create a vibrant retail and commercial health precinct. Key aspects of the project are:

- Green Space: for passive recreation contributing to physical and mental wellbeing.
- Therapy Gardens: that provide respite and stillness for hospital staff and patients.
- Sustainability: a landscape response that requires minimal ongoing maintenance.
- Social Areas: that encourage interactions and provide meeting points.
- Endemic and Native Planting: to increase visual connections to the existing context of Rumbalara and Presidents Hill. This will also provide additional habitat for native fauna.

The 'Health and Wellbeing Precinct' will have obvious benefits for the health community, not to mention many other benefits for the people of Gosford and Central Coast Region.



Context map: Highlighting the existing form in relation to the key landscape features; President's Hill, Rumbalara Reserve and Brisbane Waters. (Source: 'Rehab' 2013, Georgouras. A)



Site Photo: Highlighting the existing condition of Beane Street (Source: Spackman Mossop Michaels)

1. "Cities Taskforce". NSW Government Planning & Infrastructure. Retrieved 11 May 2013.

2. "Gosford City Centre Masterplan". Gosford City Council. Adopted 2010