

Terry Snow Outlines New Plan to Revitalise Canberra



Above - Living City from City Hill.



Above - Living City from Northbourne Avenue.



Above - Living City from City Hill.

Terry Snow has made public a bold and far-reaching plan that would give Canberra a dynamic world-class city centre.

Six months in the making, the Living City Project, brings together a team of eminent architects, town planners and economists committed to reviving the legacy of Walter Burley Griffin and reclaiming a city heart for the community.

The Living City Project proposes four key elements:

- The widening of London Circuit into a broad boulevard matching Constitution and Commonwealth Avenues;
- The removal of Vernon Circle as a through city expressway;
- The location of a new ACT Legislative Assembly within the City Hill precinct, and
- An independent Statutory Authority to manage the work.

By removing the expressway that divides the city into east and west, the plan would free land in and around City Hill for a wide range of community, cultural, commercial, residential and government developments.

Unveiling the plan, Snow said it would give the people of Canberra direct access to the centre of the city and enable the development of a modern and sustainable urban centre. "This plan is a stroke of genius on the part of architect Colin Stewart because it demonstrates that we can recover Civic and City Hill. Colin's contemporary interpretation of the 1918 Griffin Plan gives a vibrant heart to the city that is affordable and recoverable," Snow said.

Colin Stewart, a member of the project team, agrees. "This plan promises to breathe life back into Civic. It removes traffic from the heart of the city and makes it more liveable for people and this is why we called it the Living City Project."

According to Stewart, Civic does not work. "Civic is disconnected. The broad avenues of the city do not link. Northbourne Avenue is not connected to Constitution Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue has become an expressway."

Removing Vernon Circle and widening London Circuit would make the city heart a destination. "Instead of driving through Civic, the city will become a destination with widened boulevard, hotels, apartments, cafes, restaurants and cultural facilities," Stewart said. Parking for up to 8,000 cars would be provided underneath City Hill. "This will give people access to shopping, tourism, cultural facilities and the Sydney and Melbourne buildings, the two grand dames of Canberra."

"Civic is currently a disappointment", Snow said. "It's not the centre of town, it's not where people want to be. It's old, rundown and unloved. It needs a lot of work done to it. The expressway that divides it makes it soulless."

Reclaiming City Hill would enable it to be considered as a possible site for a new Assembly, he said. "City Hill is not accessible at the moment."

It's noisy and congested with traffic and you take your life into your hands if you try to reach it. Under our plan, City Hill would become a central park with landscaped gardens, fountains, outdoor cafes and pathways leading to the university, the lake and the central national area. A new people friendly city would unite around it."



Above - Living City artist's impression of City Hill.

The Living City Project is financially sustainable and achievable at no cost to taxpayers, Snow said. "Income obtained from land sales would provide the community with a new Assembly, convention centre, police station, aquatic centre, courts and extensive landscaping of the shabbier and rundown parts of Civic."

The project should be managed by a Statutory Authority staffed with some of the brightest minds in the country. "Statutory Authorities have been the critical element in all successful major urban renewal projects in Australia, including Melbourne Docklands, Sydney Harbour Foreshore, Darling Harbour, Southbank Melbourne, and Kingston Foreshore in the ACT."

The Living City Project would generate more than \$2 billion and, according to the Housing Industry Association, provide more than 20,000 jobs over the 10 to 15 year life of the project. "We need more than one person or one agency to run this project," Snow said. "We need the most experienced people in the country to work with the ACT government and give Civic back to the people. This is a plan that revives the genius of Griffin and gives our city the heart and soul it clearly deserves."

The Hub

Dancing In The Park!

This striking new bronze sculpture now takes pride of place in the plaza of the Brindabella Business Park.

More than three metres high, 'Dancer' is the work of renowned Croatian sculptor, Ante Dabro and portrays a female poised in a position that almost defies gravity.

Exquisitely balanced despite her weight the 'Dancer' is all about movement.

Formally launched by former National Gallery Director of Australia, Dr Brian Kennedy, before a crowd of 200 guests, the sculpture is one of three commissioned by Airport Executive Chairman, Terry Snow.

Speaking at the official unveiling, Dr Kennedy, described Terry Snow and Ante Dabro as two remarkable men who had become soul mates.

"Both men assiduously reject fashion, despise hypocrisy and lack of candour. Terry is showing signs of becoming passionate about the arts," he said. "Maybe it is because he is ageing fitfully, with a few surgical improvements, amid all the bike riding, but Terry is showing us that he likes artists and creative types. This is no doubt creating shock waves in business circles but in truth it is only the private Terry going on public display. Canberra can only benefit by this extraordinary personal development in the life of one of its most notable entrepreneurs."

Of Ante Dabro, Dr Kennedy said he was born in the rocky landscape of Croatia, had set up residence in the studios of Auguste Rodin in Paris and has an appreciation of the dance theatre of Japan all of which has influenced his work the 'Dancer'.

"His work is uncompromising and identifiable as his own - always the mark of a strong artist. He is without doubt, one of if not the foremost standard bearers in Australia for the figurative bronze sculpture tradition," Dr Kennedy said.

'Dancer' is one of Ante Dabro's largest works.

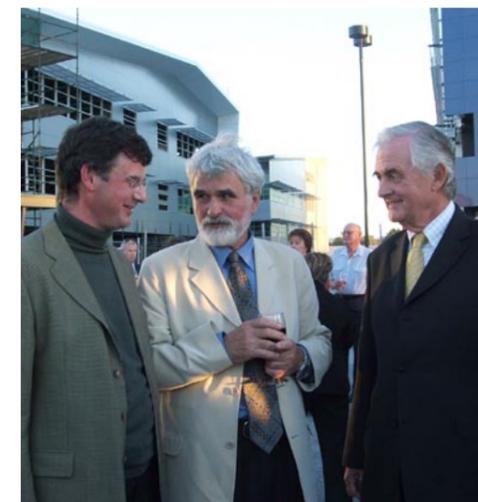
Dr Kennedy said it required a brave patron to commission bronze work on this scale. This abstract piece is visionary and adventurous.



Above - "Dancer's" pride of place in Brindabella Business Park

"Ante does not plan his sculptures in advance, instead choosing to let them evolve during the process of making. The 'Dancer' is a major piece of work which has consumed much of the artist's time. It is full of the emotions of the artist, invested daily in moulding, hacking and chipping at the plaster to develop the form you see before you," he said.

Brian Kennedy has taken up a new role as the Director of the Hood Museum, New Hampshire in the United States.



Above - Brian Kennedy, Ante Dabro and Terry Snow at the "Dancer's" unveiling

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Good Morning Vietnam



Above - A Vietnam Airlines Boeing 767 carrying Prime Minister Khai Van Phan and official party touches down at Canberra International Airport for bilateral talks with the Australian Government.

Major Turnaround For Hertz at Canberra Airport

Hertz Australia has opened a major new rental car turnaround facility and offices at Canberra International Airport, more than doubling the size of its previous preparation area, and substantially reducing the time taken to deliver cars ready for use.

major national accounts including the Department of Defence, one of the biggest car rental customers in Australia.

“With our business growing strongly in the ACT, and significantly more vehicles requiring preparation, we needed to consolidate all of our vehicle preparation operations at one location to minimise turnarounds and ensure timely delivery of cars to our customers,” said Mr Gravenall.

“Our new turnaround facility is less than one kilometre from the domestic airport terminal, within the Canberra Airport site, and occupies 5,100 square metres, more than double the size of our previous site.

“It can comfortably accommodate up to 200 vehicles, and includes an automatic car wash, two more washing bays and up to six dedicated bays for detailing vehicles.

“It also includes the Hertz Canberra sales office, which is responsible for all of our rental business in the ACT.

“And most importantly, with all tasks now performed at one location, the change has enabled us to reduce significantly the time taken to prepare our cars and return them to the airport holding bay ready for the next customer.”

The project was managed by Sinclair Knight Mertz, one of Australia’s largest engineering and technology consultants, which also provided architectural and engineering design for the new facility. SKM manages the

upgrade and development of all Hertz facilities throughout Australia.

The turnaround facility was built for Hertz by Manteena Pty. Ltd. an ACT-based company specialising in construction and project management services within the ACT, Wollongong and NSW South Coast Regions. Manteena has also recently been awarded the contract to construct the new Fuel Farm Facility on behalf of the Canberra International Airport adjacent to the Hertz site at the Canberra International Airport.

The Executive Chairman of Canberra Airport, Mr Terry Snow, welcomed the decision by Hertz to consolidate its airport rental operations within the Capital Airport Precinct.

“This is a major investment by Hertz not only in real estate but in customer service,” said Mr Snow. “The scale of commitment is a great vote of confidence in the future of the Capital Airport Precinct, not only as a transport hub but as a convenient and effective site for associated businesses. We wish Hertz every success with its new facility.”

Hertz operates from approximately 7200 locations in more than 150 countries - including more than 220 locations in Australia.

For more information, or to make a booking, please call Hertz on 13 30 39, visit hertz.com.au or contact an AFTA or licensed travel agent.

Although this has required Hertz to shift its main vehicle support functions to a new site, there will be no disruption to customers, who will continue to collect and return cars outside the airport terminal, as they always have.

The turnaround facility is used to wash the exterior, clean the interior, and address any detailing or maintenance requirements when cars are returned by customers.

With the rapid growth of its business in the national capital, Hertz needed to expand its airport infrastructure to accommodate much greater activity, while continuing to ensure the timely preparation of vehicles.

Damien Gravenall, Hertz Branch Manager Australian Capital Territory (ACT), said rentals increased dramatically last year when the company secured several

Airport’s New Fuel Farm

Work is all but complete on a new \$4.7 million underground aviation fuel farm at Canberra International Airport.

Located off Fairbairn Avenue, the new facility will operate around the clock and has a capacity to store around 550,000 litres of aviation fuel.

It will replace the soon to be demolished, outdated and unsightly above ground fuel tanks in the Airport’s general aviation precinct located off Nomad Drive.

“Placing the fuel tanks underground makes sense because it’s safer, more aesthetically pleasing and involves a better use of land,” Steve Conway, Project Manager said.

“The farm employs advanced technologies and adheres to the most stringent environmental controls,” he said.

Buried deep underground, the farm’s five steel fuel tanks are protected with two skins and host a range of sophisticated environmental monitors.

The new fuel farm will eliminate the need for aviation fuel trucks to leave the precincts of the Airport in order to fill their tanks.

The new fuel farm is expected to be operational in August this year.



Above - New fuel farm - a work in progress.

Gateway Indonesia



Above - Indonesia’s President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono leaves Canberra after 2 day official visit.

Rewarding Business



This is the exciting new Rewards Card introduced by Canberra International Airport for employees and tenants of the Brindabella Business Park.

Canberra International Airport has introduced an exciting new Rewards Card for employees and tenants of the Brindabella Business Park.

Designed to save cardholders hundreds of dollars every year, the free card offers a wide range of discounts both on and off the Airport.

The Airport Rewards Program includes:

- Dining discounts of up to 50% at selected Canberra restaurants
- Admission savings of up to 50% at sporting events
- 20% off the entry price to the National Zoo and Aquarium
- Concession entry to exhibitions at the National Gallery of Australia
- Hoyt’s adult movie tickets for just \$10
- 25% off the cover price of The Canberra Times (Monday to Friday home delivery package)
- 50% off the entry price for all children at the Fun Factory
- 15% off fully flexible flight tickets and 10% off trial introductory flights with Brindabella Airlines (conditions apply)
- 20% off any kind of hair service at Adrian Charles Hair Design

“The benefits of working at the Brindabella Business Park should not end when you leave the office,” Tori Murray, Airport Marketing Manager, said. “The Airport’s Reward Program is designed to be taken home and shared with friends and family.”

Conditions apply. Please see www.canberraairport.com.au for further information.