

Common themes for Redfern & Waterloo in the future

Redfern

- A central hub of local shops, services, community and medical facilities on Morehead Street, or
- Shops and services on Redfern Street with apartments above, or
- Shops and services on Elizabeth Street south of Redfern Street with apartments above
- A pedestrian plaza at the heart of a community focal point
- Business space facing Elizabeth Street north of Redfern Street
- New streets or paths through long blocks, particularly Poets Corner
- Varied types and sizes of park
- Communal open spaces between buildings
- Underground car parking

Waterloo

- Central hub of local shops, services, community and medical facilities on George Street south of Raglan Street
- Larger shops/ showrooms on McEvoy Street with apartments above
- Pedestrian plaza at the heart of a community focal point
- Varied building heights
- New parks of varied types
- More open-canopied trees
- Underground car parking

Community representatives speak out at the design workshops

"A safe place to bring up our kids. A place where all walks of life are welcome and live together in harmony. A place so that we will never forget where our heritage came from. A place that has plenty of open spaces; parks with playgrounds for our kids and exercise facilities for all. Houses and units with community gardens included so that all can work together and get to know each other."

Redfern tenant representative Brian Parker

"Waterloo is a great place to live. Public transport is good but we need transport that takes us to where we want to go. We need more usable public spaces, parks and playgrounds for children. We need better access to shops, doctors, hospitals and schools with enough parking for residents. We want community facilities that are accessible, well designed and well located."

Waterloo tenant representative Diana Whitworth

"There were a diversity of backgrounds of people who are private residents or Housing NSW tenants. Thoughts and ideas were expressed willingly and generously about existing conditions, what was valued, and what was envisioned for any future redevelopment."

Patricia, long term resident of Redfern and Waterloo

"I was delighted at the depth and maturity of the community understanding, viewpoints and ideas."

Greg Dowling, urban planning team



Redfern Waterloo Update

December 2011

Residents become urban designers for a day!

Despite bad weather more than 140 people turned out for four sessions of the Redfern and Waterloo Preliminary Masterplan community design workshops on 23 and 24 November. Residents, including both new arrivals and long-time locals, were joined by service providers and local business people.

Participants discussed what they love about Redfern and Waterloo and the things they wanted to change through any redevelopment. Next they worked with planners and urban designers on ideas for renewing streets, community facilities, parks and other open spaces.

The workshops were run concurrently in English, Russian, Cantonese and Mandarin. Despite the language barrier, everyone was connected by a shared vision for Redfern and Waterloo.

A number of common themes emerged. Participants appreciate the closeness of Redfern Waterloo to the city and are keen to celebrate its diversity and Aboriginal history. They also value open spaces and want safe, quality outdoor spaces for different uses. Improving safety is a big issue as is the ease of getting around. Improved access to community facilities and better public transport. Participants also want better local shops, services and civic areas.

Kathy Roil, Housing NSW, General Manager for Central Sydney Region was pleased to see participants "embracing the challenge at hand so positively."



Waterloo residents brainstorm ideas



Clive Bradshaw, Area Director welcomed participants to Redfern day workshop

The masterplan story so far...

What it's about

The overall aim is to renew the areas of Redfern and Waterloo owned by Housing NSW (see map). As the first step, the preliminary Masterplan will identify opportunities for redeveloping buildings and open spaces in the two suburbs, which currently have about 3500 social housing homes.

Funding for the project is from both Housing NSW and the Australian Government.

What it means for the community

The preliminary masterplan will shape renewal by setting the framework for creating an attractive new environment for residents now and in the future.

Why your input is important

As a local resident you have expert knowledge that the urban designers lack. That's why, in working out how best to revitalise Redfern and Waterloo, they need your input.

How the community has been involved

The design workshops covered earlier in this newsletter are the latest in a series of NSW Housing events to engage the community. Other activities over the past 18 months have included:

- bus trips for residents to see other redeveloped areas
- workshops and street corner sessions
- presentations at community meetings
- Planning Expo
- tenant baseline survey

What happens next?

The urban design team will use the community feedback and suggestions put forward by participants, along with information from technical studies that have been carried out to further develop concepts for each area.

These will cover proposed locations for new shops and facilities, new and upgraded streets, paths and open spaces, and new residential buildings.

In February, residents and stakeholders will be invited to participate in capacity building activities which will focus on what buildings might look like in the future.

A draft plan will be then presented to the community in March 2012. This will form part of a second series of community design workshops intended to develop more detail around the concepts.

Finally, a preliminary master plan will be developed that will provide more detail about the nature of the proposed new and upgraded buildings, streets and open spaces.



3 bus trips to look at housing types and community facilities



3 workshops on planning controls, connections, streets and open spaces



Planning Expo

For more information about upcoming activities or the project in general please call 9268 3443 or email redfernwaterloo@facns.nsw.gov.au.

What makes a great neighbourhood?

Mark Sheppard, the lead designer for the project, suggests that residents think about what makes a great neighbourhood and the different ways this could be achieved — see the table below.

Features of a great neighbourhood	Ways to achieve a great neighbourhood
Convenient shops & services	Locate shops & services close to where people live Create new links between housing & shops / services
Good community facilities	Cater for different needs Provide places where people can meet, access support services & take part in group activities
Local parks & recreation & meeting places	Formalise open spaces Match recreation & leisure opportunities to community needs
Getting around is easy	Build / upgrade streets, footpaths & bikeways so that people can get around easily & safely Put in additional connections to shops, services, parks & public transport
Social, affordable & private housing	Offer higher quality housing & more housing choice Build new types of housing to attract different people Ensure more liveable housing by grouping housing better & improving entry areas
Business, employment & art spaces (especially along Cope & Elizabeth Streets)	Create space for new local businesses Provide better premises for existing businesses

Participants said these photos best represented their ideas of a great neighbourhood

