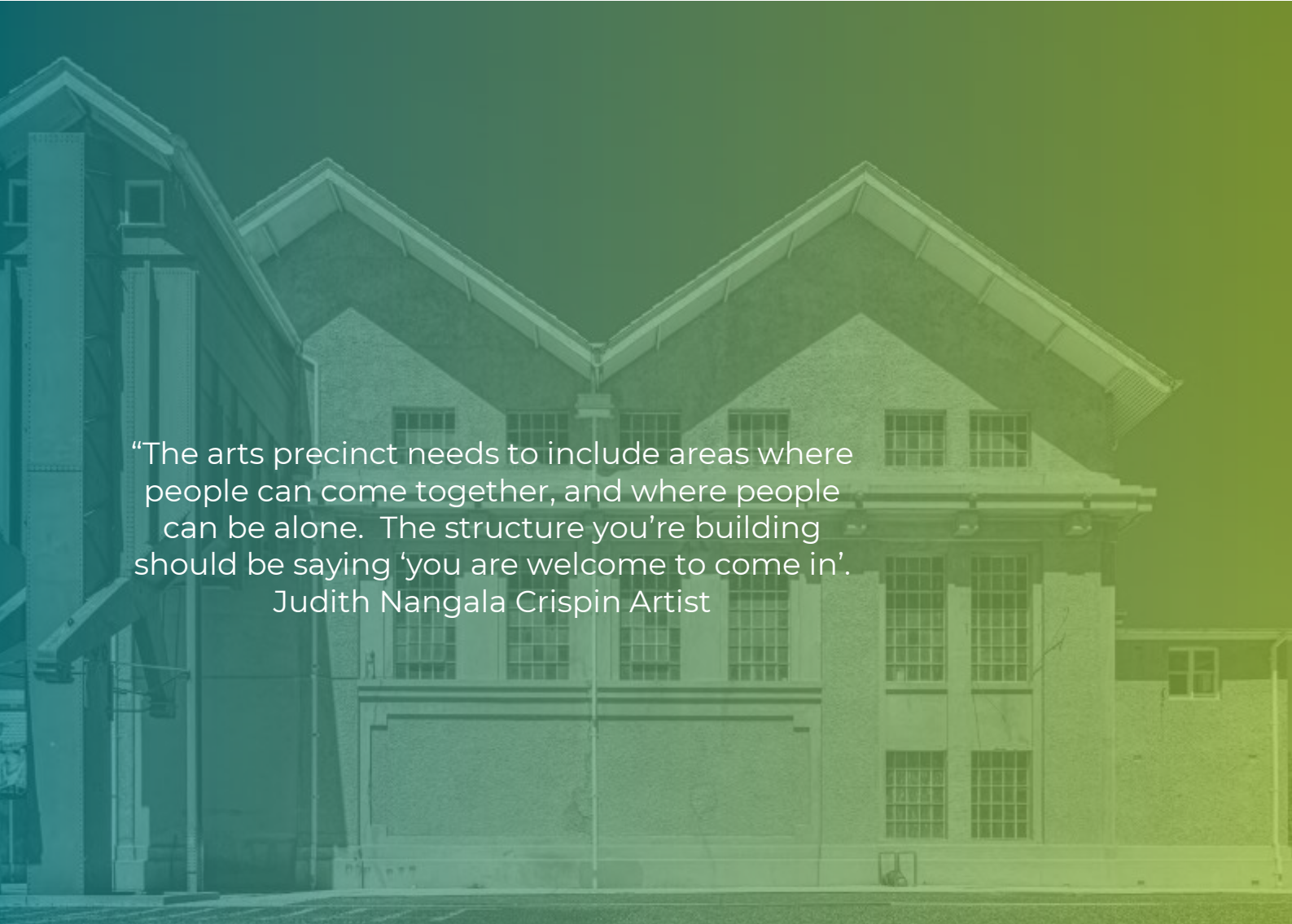


KINGSTON

Arts Precinct

Report on engagement to inform the Kingston
Arts Precinct Place Brief





“The arts precinct needs to include areas where people can come together, and where people can be alone. The structure you’re building should be saying ‘you are welcome to come in’.
Judith Nangala Crispin Artist

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the ACT, the Ngunnawal people. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

Introduction

Purpose of this report

This report contains the findings of the first phase of community engagement for the Kingston Arts Precinct (Arts Precinct) by the Suburban Land Agency (SLA). This phase of engagement focussed the development of the draft Kingston Arts Precinct Place Brief.

This engagement phase comprised of two community workshops, stakeholder workshops, two Community Panel meetings, a creative panel discussion, a public pop-up, employee surveys and the YourSay collaboration page. Communication Link has prepared this report to provide a record of these inputs.

Project context

The ACT Government's Arts Facilities Strategy, developed in 2003, outlined the Kingston Foreshore as "leading visual arts production and activity".

From its inception, the Arts Precinct has been a key element in the planning of the Kingston Foreshore as a

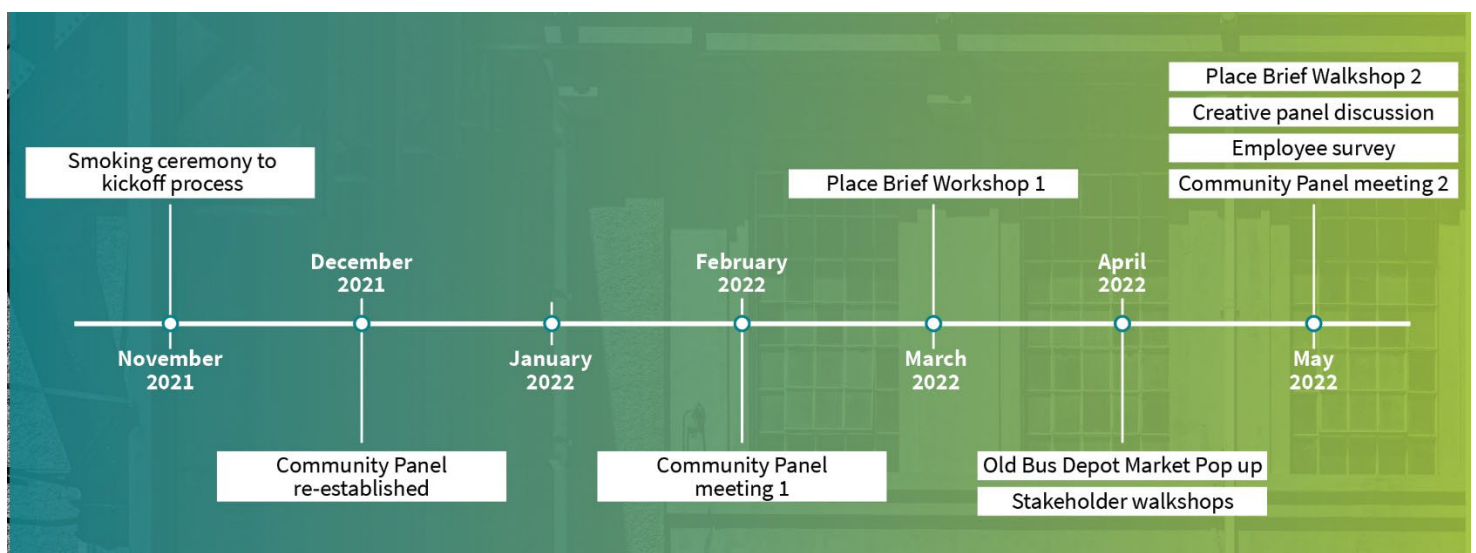
leading destination for contemporary arts and culture in the ACT region. The ACT Government has made a commitment to delivering a precinct of value to the highest standards, that is sensitive to its surroundings, its cultural heritage and future sustainable living.

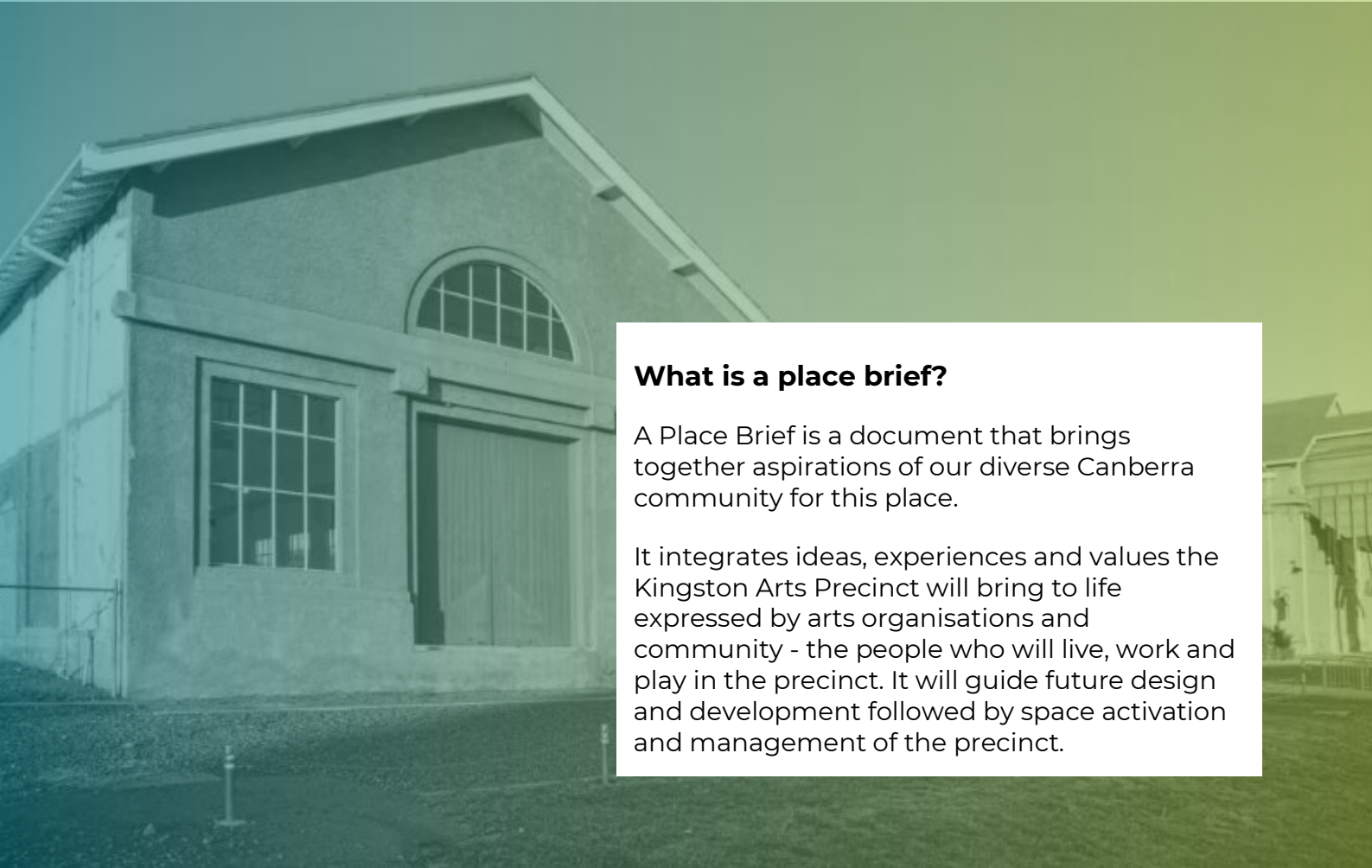
The Kingston Arts Precinct is the final stage in the ongoing development of the Kingston Foreshore. It will celebrate existing heritage values and deliver a dedicated arts hub for Canberra and the wider region. It will bring together geographically dispersed arts groups and their venues into one precinct and delivers outdoor event and activation spaces.

The ACT Government, artsACT and the SLA are now moving forward with the development of the Arts Precinct, with completion planned for end of 2025

Engagement timeline

The following timeline provides an overview of the engagement process being undertaken by the SLA to deliver the Arts Precinct.





What is a place brief?

A Place Brief is a document that brings together aspirations of our diverse Canberra community for this place.

It integrates ideas, experiences and values the Kingston Arts Precinct will bring to life expressed by arts organisations and community - the people who will live, work and play in the precinct. It will guide future design and development followed by space activation and management of the precinct.

A place led process

For this stage of engagement, the SLA has adopted a place-led approach to developing the Arts Precinct. The development of a Place Brief is an important step in this approach. Consultants Place Design Group were appointed to collaborate in the engagement process and create a draft Place Brief for the Arts Precinct.

The Place Brief is a set of high-level principles which shape the future development of this site. It is a place-based approach and brings together the ideas and ambitions of the arts organisations and community - the people who live, work and play in the precinct - in a way that brings the precinct to life. In simple terms, the place brief approach means people first and design second.

The aim of this stage of engagement was to gather meaningful input from the community, arts

organisations and key stakeholders to inform the development of the draft Place Brief. This included re-establishing contact and consultation with the existing Community Panel along with delivering broader engagement activities for the general community and other key project stakeholders. It also sought to acknowledge previous engagements and build upon these insights and inputs to contribute to the draft Place Brief.

In parallel to this process artsACT, as the ACT Government's art agency, continued to work closely with founding resident arts organisations, the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Network, and the arts sector to ensure the Arts Precinct meets the growing needs of Canberra's arts community.


Engagement methods

The following details the engagement activities undertaken from December 2021 to May 2022. These were delivered in collaboration with the Suburban Land Agency, artsACT, Communication Link and Place Design Group.



“I would like to see a development that embraces and celebrates art for all ages.”

YourSay contributor



“This is an opportunity to create a 'place' in Canberra where people will want to meet, where a range of opportunities and activities can be found.

– Co-create Workshop participant.

What we did

Community Panel | December 2021 – May 2022

The Kingston Arts Precinct Community Panel had been established in previous stages of engagement on the Arts Precinct. The Kingston Arts Precinct Community Panel is made up of spokespeople from organisations that represent impacted and interested stakeholders.

The Community Panel was invited to comment on the proposed engagement approach before it commenced. The role of the Community Panel during this phase was to contribute to the development of the Place Brief by sharing insights and defining what the future public space could bring to the Canberra community.

Co-create Workshop 1 | 31 March 2022

Two Place Brief Co-create Workshops were held to engage with key stakeholders and the community about the Arts Precinct development. 37 people attended this workshop. Of these attendees, 9 joined the session online. This session gathered input from the broader community and community stakeholders on Visions for the precinct and Place Pillars. It was designed to gain initial feedback on the experiences people value in places like the Arts Precinct.

Stakeholder Walkshops | 31 March and 1 April 2022

A series of stakeholder walking workshops (Walkshops) were held with key stakeholder groups.

These stakeholder groups represented the following interest groups: Community groups and residents, heritage, transport and infrastructure, education and tourism and events, arts organisations

Old Bus Depot Market Pop-up | 3 April 2022

A community pop up event was held at the Old Bus Depot Markets on 2 April to provide the community with an update on the Place Brief design process and provide an opportunity for the community to share ideas about their visions and aspirations for the precinct. Conversations were also held with stall holders to gather feedback and insights.

The purpose of Co-create Workshop 2 was to update participants on the elements of the draft Place Brief that was prepared based on their input. This workshop was held on 7 May. 44 people attended this session, with 12 of these attendees participating online. This session sought further contributions on design pre-requisites and uses and activities within the precinct.

To help inform the Place Brief, the YourSay website hosted a platform for those who have a connection or vision for the Arts precinct to share their experience with the site.

Experiences could include fond memories from the past or visions and aspirations for future development, uses or space activation for the precinct. These stories were publicly posted to the page.

The Creative Panel Discussion gave voice to a range of stakeholder perspectives and reflected on the 'Pillars', created in the first Co-create session. It explored the importance of reaching a balance by getting behind a shared vision. 45 people attended this session. This session provided an opportunity to build understanding and excitement within the community and provided an introduction to the subsequent Co-create workshop.

The image below was created during the panel discussion by a live scribe and represents the key discussion topics.

A survey was distributed to employees and volunteers who work in and nearby to the Arts Precinct. The activity was designed to gain insights from participants on their vision for the precinct, and how they would like to experience it (once complete) before, during, and after a workday.





Promotion

The following promotional activities were undertaken to let the community and stakeholders know of the various engagement activities with a focus on reaching a diverse audience to contribute to the development of the draft Place Brief.

Letterbox drop

Targeted letterbox drops to 6,000 Kingston, Barton and Griffith residents enabled interested stakeholders to

find out more about the project and opportunities to get involved or ask questions.

Stakeholder invitations

Emails were distributed to key stakeholder organisations with information and supporting materials to help them promote the workshop and creative panel registration through their networks.

Social media

SLA Facebook, and LinkedIn platforms were used to provide project and engagement updates. Social media posts were also used to promote the public workshops and public events.

YourSay

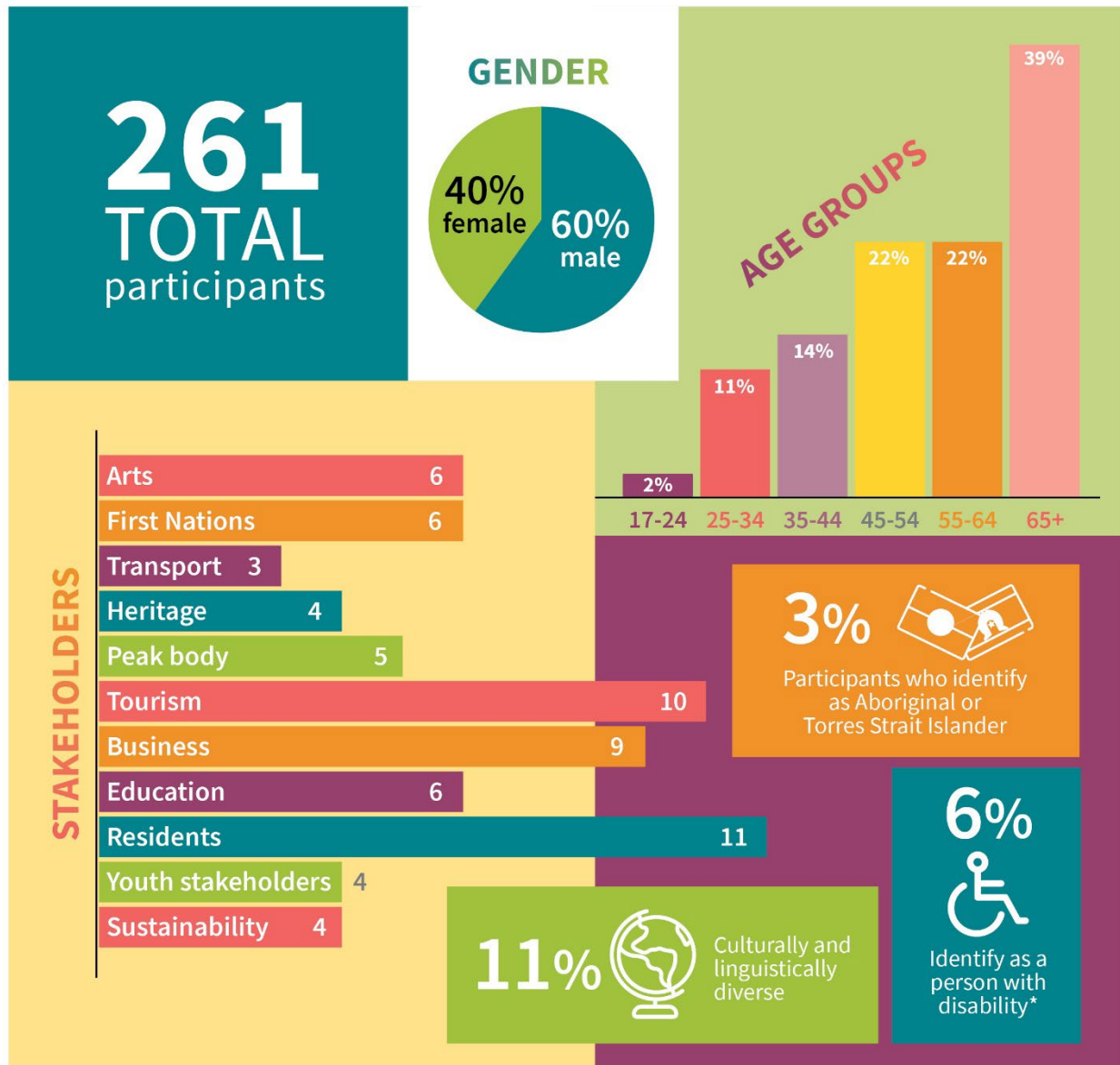
A project page was set up on the ACT government's YourSay Community Conversations webpage to enable interested stakeholders to find out more about the project and to provide opportunities to get involved or ask questions.

Self-led workshops

As part of the promotion and registration process, interested parties and workshop participants were encouraged to undertake a self-led workshop on site at Kingston.



Who we heard from



* Demographic information was collected from participants of the workshops, panels and employee surveys.



What we heard

Co-create Workshop 1

The first co-create was held on 31 March 2022. The workshop was a public event and members of the broader community were encouraged to attend and provide input. Members of the Arts Precinct Community Panel, key stakeholder groups and arts organisations were also invited to attend.

The Vision for the precinct

Referencing a 'word wall' where outcomes of previous consultations and vision statement of key stakeholders were displayed, workshop participants were asked:

Q. Consider the words you would use to describe your vision for the precinct

The key terms and words identified to define the precinct vision were:

- Accessible
- Creative
- Vibrant
- integrated with the existing community and connected with surrounds.

Identifying precinct pillars

Workshop participants were asked to complete an activity to develop 3-4 pillars that could form the foundation for the Arts Precinct.

Q. Consider the theme that might be the basis for a place pillar - What priorities relate to this theme?

The following consistent themes and priorities were identified as part of this activity:

- A place to support the Arts
- Inclusive and accessible
- A place for multipurpose and vibrant community participation

Experiences from other precincts

Workshop participants were asked to consider other places they have visited that have a range of integrated uses and share the details of these places.

Q. Think about other sites or precincts. How would you describe them and what activities occur there?

The consistent key themes and experiences that participants would like to see at the Arts Precinct were:

- integrated, exciting, interesting and having an element of discovery
- experiences around food and wine, the arts and a vibrant location

The following locations included were highlighted as popular or aspirational spaces.

- New Acton, Canberra
- Dairy Road, Canberra
- Southbank, Brisbane
- Salamanca, Hobart
- The Rocks, Sydney
- Oranienburger Strasse, Berlin
- Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Copenhagen
- Las Ramblas, Barcelona

Precinct front door

Workshop participants were asked to select a location from a map of the precinct where an ideal entrance or 'front door' for the precinct should be located.

The majority of participants nominated the area in front of the **Canberra Glassworks (Powerhouse Building, on the Wentworth Avenue side)** as the preferred 'front door' location.

Completed worksheets and comments from Workshop 1 can be found in Appendix A



Integration of development with surrounding neighbourhood

There was a clear preference to focus on the arts and community elements of the precinct and applying an arts-led approach as the priority compared with residential developments.

Participants highlighted the need to recognise and connect well with existing uses, connecting through to the wider precinct and surrounding neighbourhood.

Stakeholder Walkshops

Key stakeholders were invited to walk the precinct site with representatives from the SLA and Place Design Group.

The Walkshops were held on-site on 21 March and 1 April 2022 and explored particular issues, considerations and aspirations from key stakeholder groups including arts organisations, neighbouring residents, local retailers, creative and events organisations and government agencies (including transport, environment, heritage, and planning).

Following is a summary of the key discussion points from these sessions.

- Ensure view corridor at night through to the stack to create a link to Kingston foreshore
- View corridor to Wentworth Ave not a heritage requirement
- Need to consider future active transport options –links to rail, etc
- Multiple egress points to manage traffic
- Noise concerns - rigid noise regulations in ACT
- Consideration of interpreting the building facades at night
- 4 + 2 density in existing residential has gradually increased
- Need to increase amenity, not reduce it
- Should be a destination
- Need to consider shared zones
- Need to consider connection with surrounding neighbourhood
- Everyone will need 'back-of-house' zones
- Public realm is the innovation space –needs to be curated
- Meandering walkways to attract, discover, invite
- Short and long term parking is important
- Makerspaces do better when attached to other institutions
- Shortage in Canberra of 400-600 pax venues
- Wet weather events and public realm spaces need to be considered
- Community v commercial spaces –consider how public realm is curated and managed

Old Bus Depot Markets Pop-up

A pop-up stall was held at the Old Bus Depot Markets on 3 April 2022 to engage with both stallholders and market visitors.

Participants were handed flyers on the project with links to share their stories on the YourSay page.

Participants were also asked to provide input in terms of what they would like to see in the precinct and what their priorities were.

Q . What would you like to see in the Kingston Arts priorities? What should we prioritise?

The key themes which emerged are listed below

- Food and wine
- Public access to art facilities such as print making, kilns and workshops
- Accessible and free parking
- Facilities and spaces for families and children
- Connection with surrounds including the Foreshore
- Open spaces
- A precinct led by art and the artists



Creative Panel Discussion

Without reflection there is no place to work out next steps. The only way to understand our world is to immerse yourselves. We want you to hear it from our mouths, see it through our eyes. When you see it that way, that's when you belong to something and when it feels like home."

Richie Allan - Artist and Ngunnawal Knowledge Holder

A key activity during the engagement program was a Creative Panel Discussion event that provided opportunities to inform the Place Brief concepts and celebrate the future precinct and the character and culture it is set to provide. The Creative Panel Discussion was facilitated by Fourfold event group and was held to facilitate stakeholder involvement and contributions throughout the Arts Precinct engagement journey.

The following six panel members participated in the panel discussion.

- Richie Allan Artist and Ngunnawal Knowledge Holder
- Ketura Budd Managing producer 'you are here'
- Dr Kenneth Heffernan Chairperson, ACT Heritage Council
- Dr Hannah Hoyne Artist and Current artsACT Artist In Residence
- Judith Nangala Crispin Artist
- Catherine Townsend ACT Government

Through their discussion the following key themes were considered – each feeding into further engagement activities to develop the Place Brief:

- First Nations voices
- Perspectives and practices
- Diversity and access
- Co-existence
- Place
- Nurture

Post event worksheet

At the conclusion of the Creative Panel Discussion, participants were invited to complete a worksheet to on what they think should be considered in the design and development of the precinct and the type of activities they would like to see in the precinct.

Q. What are three key things you think should be considered in the design and development of the precinct?


→ The key themes were outdoor activities/spaces and gardens, welcoming and inclusive, importance of connection to surrounds and an arts led and arts focused precinct.

Q. Imagine KAP was built and up and running. What are the activities and events you would like to see happen? These may be small or large, permanent or temporary. These may include artistic events, community gatherings, first nation shared stories, heritage activities, children's events or something different.

A broad range of activities and events with similar and consistent themes listed below:

- Focus on food and wine and markets, including the retention and expansion of the Bus Depot Markets
- Opportunities to interact with artists including demonstrations, workshops, and exhibitions
- Opportunities for performance and music from buskers through to festivals
- A focus on landscaping that is inviting, sustainable and incorporates First nations connections
- A space that is inviting and inclusive for children and teenagers
- Installations and outdoor sculptures





“Creativity should be allowed to flourish – allow room for creative people to create their own spaces”

- Workshop 2 participant

Co-create Workshop 2

A second co-create workshop was held on 7 May 2022. The workshop was facilitated and coordinated by Communication Link and Place Design Group and followed the Creative Panel Discussion.

The purpose of this session was to gather input from the broader community and community stakeholders to inform the development of the Place Brief by building on the insights gathered from workshop 1, with specific focus across:

- Testing the draft precinct vision
- Testing the draft precinct pillars
- User group experiences
- Design considerations

Participants joined the workshop both online and in-person. They worked in small groups to consider options and statements from worksheets and further explore the focus areas as listed above.

Q. Other thoughts on the vision and pillars? Please add your thoughts to the worksheets

Vision

- Artistic and cultural destination
- Connection
- Leading in sustainability
- Community
- Vibrant
- Discovery

Participants were asked to consider the visions and provide any additional thoughts. Comments relating to the vision included:

- Human scale
- A place to challenge and subvert
- Removing barriers to participation across age, gender, race, class, nationality. Art is for everyone
- Respecting built heritage
- Request for specific mention of existing Foreshore community
- Should include First Nations culture

Other comments were of a more general feedback including:

- Funding – how will it be sustained, will rents be subsidised?
- Provision of housing, particularly social housing
- Realism – it can’t be everything to everybody

Pillars

Participants were asked to consider the following draft pillars:

- Integrated Offering
- Creatively Led
- Inclusive and Accessible
- Cultural – Past, Present and Future
- Connected
- Dynamic and Sustainable

Q. Consider - what is missing, what should be moved or adjusted

Comments included:

- Expanding on Pillars suggested (eg examples, specific groups)
- Public space not commercialised public space
- Supporting the 'business of art'
- Friction that energises
- Recognition of industrial /utilitarian/non-utilitarian craft and history
- Valuing social return on investment
- First Nations culture
- Welcoming

Draft Design Principles

Participants were provided a worksheet of design principles for consideration and review. Each table received one (or more) of the following to discuss as a group:

Q. Provide comments on the design principles

- Connection to Place and Country
- Celebrating Heritage Values
- Precinct Activity
- Multifunctional Outdoor Space
- Movement Experience and Convenience
- Arrival and Legibility
- Vehicular Access and Circulation

Discussion points raised by attendees across the activity included:

- Diversity of transport options, adequate and hidden parking, accessibility and traffic flows are consistent themes.
- Specific mention and consideration of existing residents, including noise and light
- Vistas not laneways v laneways and discovery – competing views
- Leave some space empty for the future
- Consideration of activations and scheduling

Completed worksheets and comments from Workshop 1 can be found in Appendix C


Key Outcomes

Participants were provided the opportunity to discuss and refine the vision and pillar elements of the Place Brief for the second time, building their understanding of the journey of how these were developed

Design Principles and the underlying considerations were discussed and explored, encouraging participants to think more deeply and broadly about the development of the precinct

The exploration of user groups and their potential experiences encouraged participants to consider other users and their perspectives

The community was updated on the project program and timeframes.



“It’s important that we achieve an outcome that includes a clear vision for the site.”

– Community Panel member

Community Panel Meetings

The following summarises the key themes and areas of discussions of the community panel meetings.

Meeting 0 – Re-establishing the Community Panel

Key themes and topics of conversations:

- Traffic management planning
- Need to factor in nearby projects that could impact the site eg along Eastlake Parade bike track
- Update on Conservation Management Plan timing and Heritage Council involvement
- A coordinated approach across ACT Government
- Importance of sharing of information and transparency
- SLA offered to be directly involved in community conversations, including presentations to local resident groups
- Direct engagement with key decision makers
- Recognise that sharing ideas, thinking and information that may not be complete
- Aiming for optimal outcomes – recognising that in this type of process it is not always possible for everyone to get everything that wish for

Meeting 1 – Stakeholder engagement and Community Panel protocols

Key themes and topics of conversations:

- Transparency of process and information
- Inclusive and respectful process
- Noting previous consultation
- History and heritage
- Integrated approach across government
- Clarity of outcome of process
- First Nations contributions

Meeting 2 – Review of place brief process

Key themes and topics of discussion

- **Clarity on the Place Brief Process** – An overview of the Place Brief was provided was summarised as a people first approach, meaning engagement first, design second.
- **Inclusion of the Old Bus Depot Markets and Megalo in the precinct** – SLA noted these sites will be considered as boundary member to the precinct’s future design.
- **Integrated approach across government** – a key consideration particularly in relation to planned cycleways and traffic management and interfaces with nearby projects.
- **Future planning for growth** – Any plan or design must provide for future needs. SLA noted that ongoing management of the precinct tenants and future uses will be overseen by artsACT.
- **Interaction with arts groups** – Explore opportunities for more interaction between arts and community groups. It was noted that the arts organisations are represented on this Community Panel.

Share your stories

To help inform the Place Brief, Canberrans were invited to share stories about the Arts Precinct on the YourSay website. This included experiences with the site, whether it be fond memories from the past or visions and aspirations for future development, uses or space activation for the precinct.



Fun outdoor art spaces for kids

Posted by Melanie | 3 months ago

I would like to see the development embrace and celebrate art for all ages. The design needs to be bright and fun. I love the artspace playground in Green square in Sydney

♥ 3 Likes 💬 0 Comments



Music venue and galleries

Posted by Jenelle S | 2 months ago

When I hear 'arts precinct' I think of a place that is beautiful, architecturally interesting, easy to navigate by foot and open to all. It would include small galleries and/or museums, working visual artists, cafes, open spaces with interesting sculptures, and a dedicated place for performances. In particular, I would love to see a small to medium sized that would support musicians, actors, dancers and exhibitors, with an emphasis on local Canberran and regional talent. This would complement the existing Glassworks, Kingston Markets, parks, our beautiful lake, local cafes and bars. I am inspired by Federation Square in Melbourne, the Rocks in Sydney, and (more locally!) the Q and Bicentennial Hall in Queanbeyan and the Village Square in Bungendore. Adequate parking to support an influx visitors to the precinct is a must, and sends a message that we encourage visitors to Kingston and the precinct.

Comment: On behalf of National Opera, we strongly support a vision which includes a medium size theatre / performance space (seating around 450 - 600) that is made available at reasonable rates for local organisations to hire for short term periods. There are smaller spaces available with reasonable rates and there are larger spaces available (but the cost is too high to hire these) but the medium size is missing in Canberra. Agree it should be architecturally interesting, be designed with sound acoustics in mind and importantly appropriate space for back of house (preparation rooms for groups of 20 - 30 people)



Exhibition opportunities in the open

Posted by Anna Trundle | 2 months ago

The (underused) NewActon Art Box and the Dirty Dozen window boxes in the commuter tunnel under Degraes St in Melbourne offer intimate, small and highly visible exhibition opportunities for visual artists, writers, craft practitioners, filmmakers...

♥ 0 Likes 💬 0 Comments



Zine vending machine (bring it back!)

Posted by Anna Trundle | 2 months ago

Bring back the Canberra Zine Machine! All-hours and affordable ways to engage with local artists, creatives and makers through small works like zines, stickers, prints, craft etc.

♥ 1 Likes 💬 0 Comments

A community space

Posted by Anna | 2 months ago

As a Kingston resident, I've had several conversations with my neighbours about the upcoming development and we all agree that we would love to see: 1) a bit of green space – trees, plants, somewhere to congregate and gather, seats to sit down; 2) a low rise development that doesn't overpower the area or block lake views for the many surrounding apartments that back onto the area; 3) an architectural contribution that is playful and imaginative – and not another rectangular box. At the same...

♥ 1 Likes 💬 0 Comments



Include nature in the space/art

Posted by JackieB | 3 months ago

Some environmental art included in the space would be great. Not only could it assist in involving children in the area, but it makes sure that the area doesn't look like a stark concrete slab outside of the art/retail outlets.

♥ 1 Likes 💬 0 Comments

... At the same time it would be great to see something employed in this space with a human scale to it, that relates to its ongoing community history.

To give an example of what I mean, I cannot express enough how wonderful the Kingston Sunday markets are to us as a community. To be able to wander around the markets with kids in tow, looking at stalls, getting something to eat, enjoying the sunshine (when it's there), and saying hi to our neighbours has made a massive impact on our quality of life and sense of community. What makes the place so special is that it isn't overdeveloped, precious, monolithic, commercialised, soulless. It is the small-scale casual element that makes it feel like a neighbourhood space. It works precisely because it is not a grand, over commercialised, impersonal, 'starchitecture' type space. So keeping some of the current 'feel' of the place would be wonderful.



Dairy Road Precinct

Posted by Peter Pick | 2 months ago

The Dairy Road Precinct is a good example of a successful public space, the brewery is the focal point with large outdoor area for sunny days and a large warm indoor area for Canberra's cold months. It works for families as there is a large area...

♥ 3 Likes 💬 1 Comments

... is a large area where children can 'run wild' without traffic concerns. It has great craft beer, great food (Brodburgers), a play area for children (Kidzone), a large outdoor 'play' area, interesting outdoor sculpture (LESS Pavilion), chocolate shop, distillery, indoor skiing and Pizza!

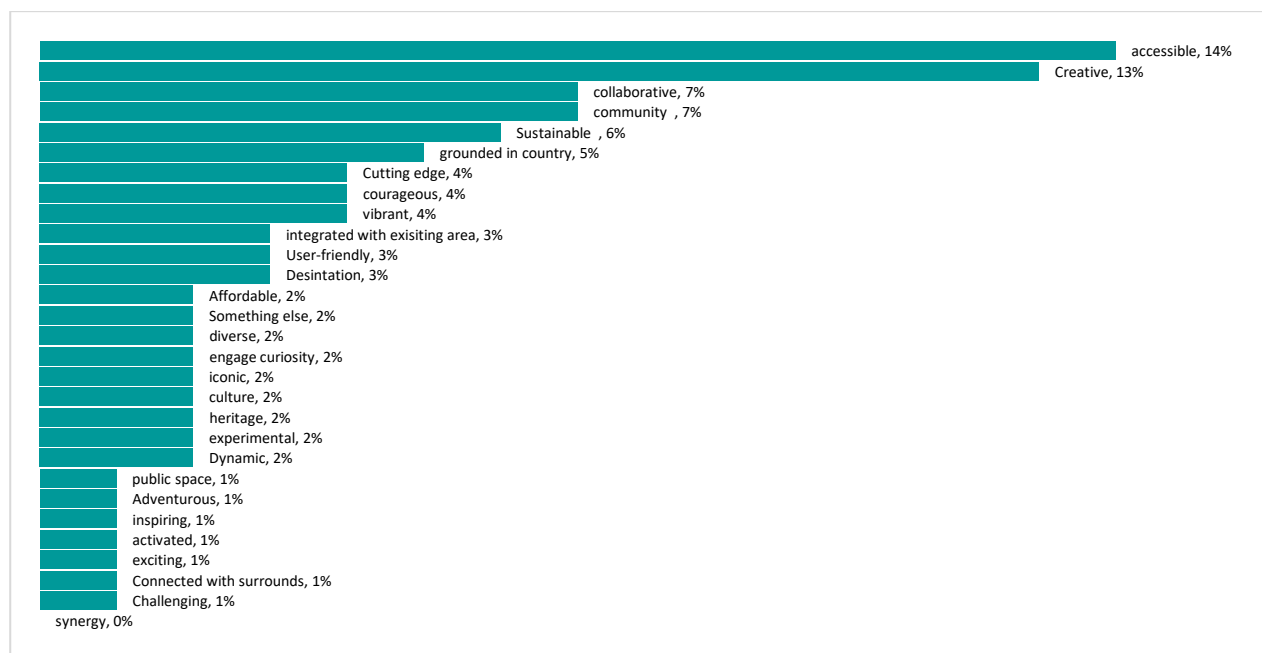
The area is very popular and it's often difficult to get a table.

Employee survey

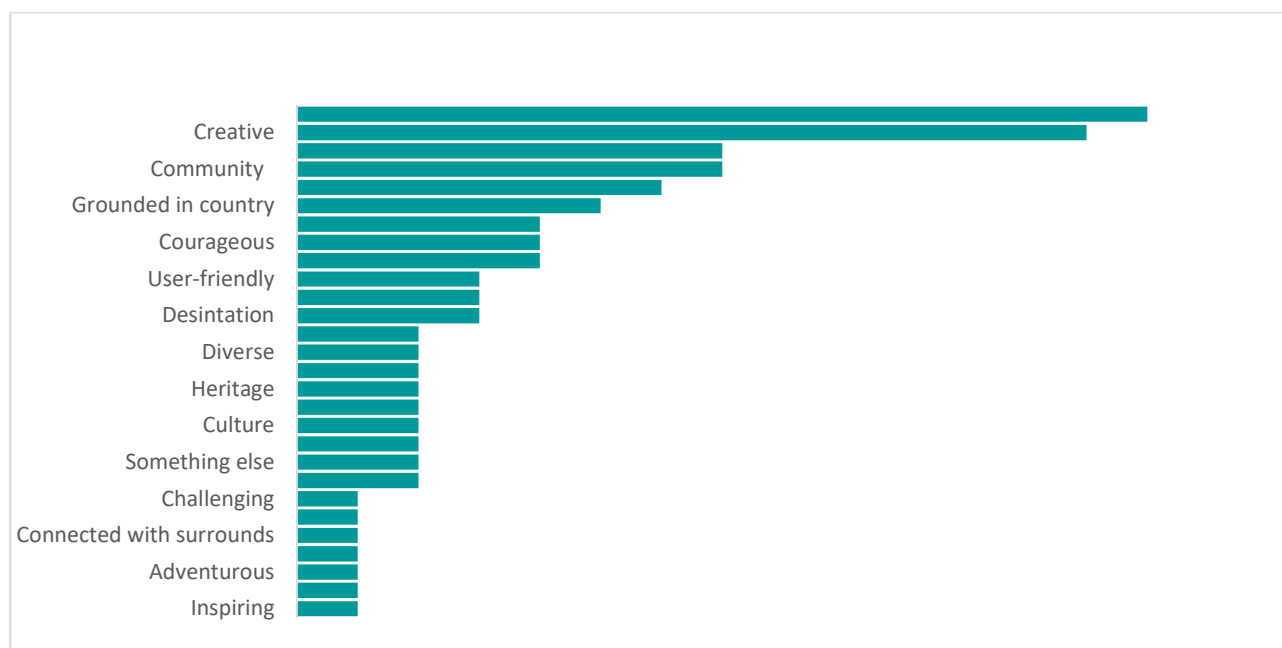
Employees and volunteers associated with the Arts Precinct site were invited to complete a survey in May 2022 to share their insights on the development. 32 responses were received and following is a summary of these responses.

“We need good connection to outdoors from internal spaces and places that connect and encourage collaboration” – Employee survey participant

Q. Which 3 words would you choose to best describe your vision for the precinct?



Q. What are the criteria that you think should underpin the development and activities of Kingston Arts Precinct? i.e. what are the priorities for the precinct?



Full survey responses can be found in Appendix E.



Insights and outcomes summary

The purpose of this stage of engagement was to gather feedback that would contribute to the development of the Draft Place Brief. Community inputs and insights about the Arts Precinct were focused around four key topic areas that were used to develop a blueprint for the place brief. These were **Vision, Pillars, Experiences** and **Design Principles**.

This was a complex and broad engagement process made up of diverse activities that provided a range of qualitative and quantitative feedback. As such, it's important to note that all feedback gathered doesn't necessarily fit within the framework of the Place Brief blueprint.

General feedback on concerns, priorities and aspirations for the Arts Precinct is summarised below in terms of the following key themes.

INTEGRATION of development with surrounding neighbourhood

An **ARTS LED** precinct

CONNECTION with surrounds

Embracing **FIRST NATIONS** culture and connection to country

Activities for **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

COMMERCIALLY VIABLE and sustainable

SUSTAINABLE VISION for **FUTURE** users and visitors

WELCOMING, ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE

A whole of **ACT GOVERNMENT** approach

A GLOBAL DESTINATION

“Kingston Arts Precinct is the layering where we can open the door, pull back the layers, discover hidden delights.

We have the opportunity to have a choir of voices. This is a really different way to be doing things in Canberra – very excited.”

– Creative Panel Participant

Precinct vision

Throughout this phase of engagement participants were asked to share their vision for the Arts Precinct. These were refined and presented at the co-create Workshop 2 and are summarised below.

- Artistic and cultural destination
- Connection
- Leading in sustainability
- Community
- Vibrant
- Discovery

Precinct pillars

The concept of the pillars was introduced at the first workshop and was further refined through subsequent stages of the engagement.

Precinct experiences

Participants in all stages of this phase of engagement were asked to consider experiences. These were discussed and refined at the Workshop 2 and the key experiences are summarised below.

- Casual dining – cafes, picnic areas, breweries
- Formal dining – restaurants, boutique bars
- Fresh food offering – boutique stores, markets
- Accommodation – mix boutique and affordable
- Live entertainment - events, buskers, live music, street artists, artists at work
- Retail – boutique stores, galleries,
- Formal exercise – Pilates, yoga, boutique gyms
- Informal exercise – walking trails, e-ride options
- Beauty services – spas, massage, relaxation spaces, boutique hair salons
- Learn – wayfinding, learning trails, learning spaces for private/public use
- Make – workshops, classes, studios
- Play – formal and informal play spaces, children and youth – green space, playgrounds, skate parks, water play
- Meet – spaces for alternate uses – work, intimate informal catchups, larger gatherings
- First Nations – arts, culture, stories

Precinct design principles

A key part of the Place Brief is to inform the uses, activities, and design guiding principles for the Arts Precinct. From all steps of the engagement process we heard a variety of ideas and thoughts on both design pre-requisites (i.e. where the front door should be), as well as precinct design principles.

Draft design principles were presented to workshop participants for consideration and review. The following Design Principles were developed through the engagement journey with community and key stakeholders.

- Connection to Place and Country
- First Nations people need to see themselves reflected in the landscape and built form
- Honouring First Nations' stories
- Celebrating Heritage Values
- Maintain the connection back to history of Canberra from the Powerhouse and the Fitter's Workshop and other buildings with historical and heritage value
- Multifunctional Outdoor Space
- Provides adaptable spaces to support a wide range of outdoor activities
- Movement Experience and Convenience
- Ensure a diverse and interconnected options for travel and entering the precinct
- Arrival and Legibility
- Establish clear entries and guides for visitors and ensure accessibility and connection to beyond the immediate precinct
- Vehicular Access and Circulation
- Establish a people first and sustainable network.

