Adelaide Riverbank Development

June 2013

On Monday 24 June 2013 South Australian Premier Jay Weatherill announced the Greater Riverbank Implementation Plan. The Plan provides a 20-year guideline for investment in the Riverbank Precinct, along Adelaide’s River Torrens. Two days later the Premier announced a design process for part of that precinct with a competition for a design for the redevelopment of the current Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH) site. A new RAH is being constructed in the west of the city to replace it.

Premier Weatherill and Deputy Premier John Rau’s joint press release on the Plan is available here.

Premier Weatherill and Deputy Premier Rau’s joint press release on the site redevelopment is available here.

Greater Riverbank Implementation Plan

The South Australian Government has unveiled a long-term plan for Adelaide’s Riverbank, developing a precinct that stretches from Bowden in the west to Gilberton in the east. The Plan focuses on four key areas of investment: a revamped Bonython Park, bio-medical precinct, entertainment precinct and the current Royal Adelaide Hospital site. Planned or committed investment for the Greater Riverbank Precinct already exceeds $4.5 billion and the Plan seeks to builds on investment made in Adelaide Oval, Footbridge, Adelaide Convention Centre and the upgraded Railway Station.

The Plan will:

- Clearly define the Riverbank’s role in the Government’s Vibrant City commitment;
- Describe strategies to maximise usage of the existing cultural precinct on North Terrace, including the University, Art Gallery and Museum;
- Create a framework for design work for the old Royal Adelaide Hospital site;
- Encourage quality investment in the Festival Plaza around the new Pedestrian Footbridge and Convention Centre upgrade;
- Provide opportunities to maximise the benefit of the medical research precinct around the new Royal Adelaide Hospital; and
- Initiate debate on the best uses for the old Adelaide Gaol, Police Barracks and the Bonython Park site, through to the billion dollar Bowden project across Park Terrace.

Public consultation will begin at an open day at the Adelaide Convention Centre on Sunday 30 June.
Royal Adelaide Hospital Site

A key aspect of the Plan is the redevelopment of the RAH site. The SA Government has allocated $1.5 million in last month’s Budget to facilitate a competition for designers from interstate and around the world to submit ideas for the future of the RAH site ahead of the hospital’s relocation in 2016.

The Office for Design and Architecture SA will work in conjunction with Renewal SA to lead the process. The Adelaide City Council, business owners and members of the community will assist the SA Government in formulating key criteria for the RAH site.

The process has two stages:

- **Stage one (18 July 2013 – 28 August 2013)** invites design teams to submit initial concepts anonymously, which will be made available to the public through a dedicated website.
- **Stage two (16 September – 8 November 2013)** gives six shortlisted design teams the opportunity to incorporate further community and stakeholder feedback and develop and modify their initial submission. All finalists will be required to include South Australian firms’ participation into their team.

Final proposals will be unveiled to the public in December 2013.