



GEELONG FUTURE CITIES STAGE 1

Project Update Volume 6



A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER FOR MAJOR PROJECTS, TIM PALLAS



Geelong is greatly valued as a key regional centre, and further developing its economic and social vibrancy continues to be a priority for the Brumby Labor Government.

The Geelong Future Cities project is just one of a number of initiatives the Brumby Government is delivering in the region.

Cultural facilities make a vital contribution to the economic growth, liveability and wellbeing of communities.

GPAC along with the Geelong Gallery, Library, Heritage Centre and Old Courthouse Building has long been committed to supporting and

developing the vibrant arts scene of the Geelong region and to providing quality arts experiences for local audiences and visitors.

The Brumby Labor Government is committed to ensuring that GPAC continues to meet the needs of the growing Greater Geelong community. Planning is progressing well on the upgrade of the Ford Theatre at GPAC, which received \$3 million funding in the last budget, and planning is underway for the refurbishment of the Old Courthouse building.

This builds on the \$7.9 million allocated in the 2008-09 State Budget for GPAC, the Geelong Library and Heritage Centre and improvements to the Old Courthouse building.

The City of Greater Geelong is also working on a number of projects that complement our efforts to stimulate further private commercial development to create jobs and wealth for the local community such as the Heales Road Industrial Estate and Geelong Marine Industry Project.

Although still in the early stages of planning these projects represent significant steps forward in the Brumby Governments long-term vision to revitalise Geelong.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tim Pallas'.

Tim Pallas
Minister for Major Projects



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**MINISTER TOURS
CULTURAL PRECINCT**

In early September the Minister for Major Projects Tim Pallas toured the Geelong Future Cities project area.

Together with Cr Barbara Abley, Cr Cameron Granger and John Eren MLA, the Minister met with the Chairs and management of GPAC, the Geelong Gallery, and the Geelong Regional Library and Heritage Centre, and took a brief tour of each of the facilities.

Earlier in the day Minister Pallas also met with City of Greater Geelong Mayor Cr John Mitchell, and the CEO Stephen Griffin for a briefing on various major projects in the municipality.

PROJECT UPDATE

**OLD COURTHOUSE
BUILDING**

The Expression of Interest process for the design services on the Old Courthouse Building has concluded. Seven firms were selected to provide fee submissions by the end of October.

Interviews with the preferred consultant(s) will take place at the beginning of November.

It is anticipated the project will be ready to go to tender for construction works in February/ March 2010.

**GPAC AND GEELONG
LIBRARY/HERITAGE
CENTRE BUSINESS
CASES**

The design review phase of the GPAC and Geelong Library/ Heritage Centre business cases (i.e. the process by which the business case options will be defined) is nearing completion, with the options developed having recently been presented to the City of Greater Geelong, the Geelong Heritage Centre Committee of Management, the Geelong Library Board, and the GPAC

Trust for noting. The options are now being considered by the Geelong Future Cities Steering Committee.

Upon sign off the business case options by the Geelong Future Cities Steering Committee, work will commence on the consolidation of the final GPAC and Geelong Library/Heritage Centre business cases. These will be substantially completed by the end of the year.