

DESIGNS FOR ARMADALE STATION UPGRADE RELEASED

12/12/02

The State Government today unveiled the proposed \$6million redevelopment design for Armadale railway station.

Planning and Infrastructure Minister Alannah MacTiernan said today that the people of Armadale and users of the Armadale station now had an opportunity to comment on the design.

"The redevelopment of the station was an election commitment of the Gallop Labor Government and is a key to bringing life and business back into the Armadale Town Centre," Ms MacTiernan said.

"The design of the new rail station has been promoted by the Armadale Redevelopment Authority as one of the first significant projects in the renewal of Armadale as a lively centre serving Perth's south-eastern corridor."

The Minister said the design of the new station building had been selected to tie in with other key buildings, particularly the former Railway Hotel and the Post Office buildings.

"We call ourselves 'heritage country' but we have very few buildings left," she said.

"The old Railway Hotel and Post Office have great potential to set the character for the area."

Ms MacTiernan said the new station would improve service, amenity, safety and security for rail users as well as supporting the city centre as a strategic regional centre.

"The main feature is the relocation of the entry to a position opposite the Post Office and the creation of a public square in front of the station on Commerce Avenue," she said.

"This will improve the entry's visibility and access, while linking the station with the main activity areas of the city centre, making a safer and more vibrant precinct.

"The public square will be a venue for outdoor activities such as cafes and public displays."

Features of the building included accommodation for staff with views of the platform and overpass, plus security camera coverage of all areas; new public toilets; bicycle lockers; and room for a small kiosk and/or vending machines.

Other features included progression towards a single point of entry, which would improve security and ticket processing; a pedestrian overpass providing entry to the station and a 24-hour east-west link across the railway lines; a wider platform

providing greater safety and weather protection; and the use of artworks to foster atmosphere and public spirit.

"In addition, land not needed for railway operations, particularly around the public square, can be redeveloped to bring new lifestyle and business opportunities to Armadale," the Minister said.

"We had five very experienced heritage architects input into the design of the precinct."

The design will be on public display at the Redevelopment Authority office in Jull Street, the City of Armadale administration centre and the city library from December 13-24.

"Comments on issues such as access, parking, pedestrian links, security, building design and landscaping are welcomed and comment sheets will be provided at each venue," Ms MacTiernan said.

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