

***This is the first in a series of columns aimed at keeping the community informed of progress of Armadale's redevelopment.***

It is part of the Authority's commitment to ensuring the future of Armadale is guided by the expectations of its people. Therefore, feedback to items covered here is encouraged, just use the contacts listed at the end of this column.



I'm pleased to announce a lot of progress has been made since March this year, when the Armadale Redevelopment Authority Act was proclaimed and the ARA officially came into being.

First, and most importantly, we established a presence in the community, so that residents and businesses in the region could have easy access to the Authority – to learn more about what was going on, raise issues or register their views.

The ARA office is handily located in Armadale Shopping City and can be accessed from the Jull Street Mall.

***A lot of groundwork is now in place:***

- A Community Reference Group, chaired by ARA Board member Tony Buti and comprising representatives from a cross-section of the community, has been formed to ensure a two-way flow of information between the community and the Authority.
- An Interim Redevelopment Scheme has been initiated to allow the ARA to assume full planning powers in the redevelopment areas, including the city centre, Forrestdale Business Park, Champion Lakes and the South Armadale Industrial Area.
- A service agreement with LandCorp has been signed, ensuring the Authority has the staff and back-up it needs to get the job done.
- A planning workshop has been held to provide input into the design of the new Armadale Railway Station.

The Authority has also started looking at ways of encouraging State and Federal agencies to open offices in Armadale, thereby creating job opportunities and providing a boost to local businesses.

The most significant early task, however, is about to begin. The Authority will develop a concept plan to support the Redevelopment Scheme. Every effort will be made to gather input from residents and businesses in the south-east corridor in developing this plan.

As you can see, there is a lot happening and a lot more is to come. I look forward to bringing you up to date in two months' time.

**Gerry Gauntlett**  
ARA Chairman

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