



Future development of the Gold Coast Hospital site at Southport - project update

COMMUNIQUE
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Background

Health service planning has identified the need to expand current health services being offered to the Gold Coast community. The current Gold Coast Hospital at Southport is restricted within a 3.5 hectare block and therefore could not be expanded to accommodate future needs. With approximately a 20 hectare requirement to build and future proof a new hospital, a parcel of land was identified on Parklands Drive in Southport and a decision by the Queensland Government in 2006 to build the \$1.76 billion Gold Coast University Hospital (GCUH) was made.

Health services from the Gold Coast Hospital site at Southport will be relocated in early 2013 to the new GCUH. However, the health services between High and Little High streets, including the existing Griffith University Facilities, will be retained.

Planning today for the redevelopment of the existing site provides an opportunity to bring new life to Southport beyond 2013. A steering committee has been meeting regularly to discuss key opportunities and constraints for the site. This committee is made up of representatives from: the Southport Chamber of Commerce, Gold Coast City Council, Gold Coast Hospital staff, Queensland Health and the Department of Local Government and Planning as

well as members from the Gold Coast University Hospital Community Stakeholder Advisory Group.

Community feedback so far...

The initial phase of community engagement has recently been completed. A newsletter and feedback form was distributed to approximately 8,000 Southport residents and businesses. Comments were also invited via an online submission form and general feedback and ideas were welcomed via the project's freecall hotline number and email address.

Feedback was sought on both future possible land uses and design features. Scenarios were developed to demonstrate different design features with the aim of generating initial discussions.

In total, nearly 400 submissions were received showing a strong interest in the project. Submissions have now been analysed and the results are summarised below.

Land uses

While there was a preference for the site to retain services allied to health (e.g. dentistry, nursing, physiotherapy, speech therapy etc), preferences for other dominant land uses were relatively evenly distributed. These included public space, education and community services.



Design features

Feedback on preferred design features of the site (e.g. building design, building retention or removal, access and traffic) was mixed. This indicates a need to further consider how to create the most appropriate balance of the different design features.

The results of this feedback will be considered in conjunction with the recommendations of technical studies and advice from specialist consultants. This will all be used to inform the preparation of possible development options for the site which will be the focus of the next round of community engagement activities.

Community Reference Group

A Community Reference Group (CRG) has been formed based on nominations made during the initial phase of community engagement.

The CRG is made up of representatives who identify with the Southport area as business owners, residents and local employees (including hospital staff). The CRG includes a cross section of representatives with differing backgrounds, age and knowledge of the area and Gold Coast Hospital site itself. CRG members have been located in the Southport region for a minimum of six years, bringing valuable local knowledge to the table.

The first meeting occurred in December 2011 and briefed representatives about the project. The next meeting is to be held in February 2012.

The CRG will continue to meet throughout the life of the project and provide input on the future development of the site.

Further community engagement

Further community engagement activities will occur in coming months to inform the next stage of the project.

For more information, please:

- telephone 1800 093 903 (freecall) during business hours (Mon-Fri), or
- check the Department of Local Government and Planning's website (www.dlgp.qld.gov.au/gold-coast-hospital-site) regularly for new information.

You can also enter your details under the 'subscribe for updates' function on the website to receive electronic updates.

You may also email any suggestions, ideas or comments to goldcoasthospitalite@dlgp.qld.gov.au