

CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT REVITALISATION NEWSLETTER

Chapman Road Activation Trial STAGE TWO

An extension of the Chapman Road Activation Pilot Project trialling further temporary changes to the street between Cathedral Avenue and Durlacher Street will soon be underway.

Conducting a second 12-months trial gives the City the opportunity to test community ideas and suggestions received both during the trial and in the post-trial evaluation process to see if similar or better results can be achieved with a modified design.

The objectives for Stage Two are the same as those for Stage One: to test a reduction of the street width between Cathedral Avenue and Durlacher Street to one lane each way as the width of this section of Chapman Road does not meet the minimum road width requirement for it to be four lanes wide; reduce traffic speed; and make the street a more inviting and comfortable place for people, not just cars.

The City has worked closely with Main Roads WA to finalise the Stage Two design which reflects the road layout proposed in the Geraldton City Centre Revitalisation Plan that was adopted by Council in 2017.

The City Centre Revitalisation Plan is available on the City's website

www.cgg.wa.gov.au

On Ground Works

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 On ground works to implement Stage Two involve removing the existing paint from the road surface, straightening the two snaked lanes of traffic, repainting the road surface to create median islands and pedestrian areas, line marking on-street parking and the repositioning planter boxes and bench seating in the reclaimed pedestrian areas.

These works will take approximately two weeks to complete and will require single lane closures at various times. Pedestrian and vehicle access to local businesses or organisations will not be affected by the works. Once a schedule of works has been finalised, the community will be informed of the start date of the on-ground works.



Interactive Critter Art Trail artwork



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Stage Two design

The Stage Two design combines successful aspects of Stage One with community suggestions the City received during the trial and post-trial evaluation process. It incorporates them with road layout of one lane of traffic each way proposed in the Geraldton City Centre Revitalisation Plan.

What will be changed in Stage Two?

- The two snaked traffic lanes will be straightened.
- Designated on-street parking will be created.
- Adjustments to the merging and demerging sections of the street will be made.
- The parklet will be removed.

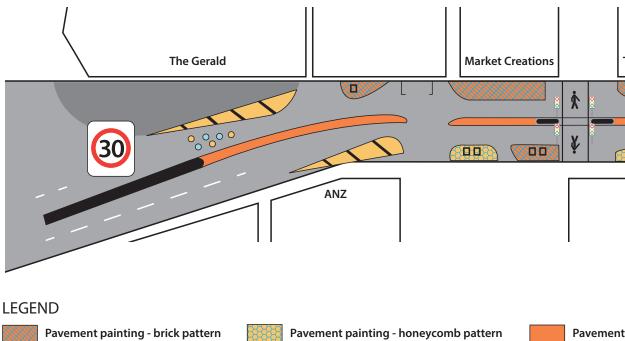
What remains the same in Stage Two?

- Trialling of one lane of traffic in each direction.
- Retention of the 30km/h speed limit.
- 19 trees in colourful planter boxes located in reclaimed pedestrian areas.
- Artworks by local artists on buildings and windows.
- Interactive Critter Art Trail.



Interactive Critter Art Trail artwork

CHAPMAN ROAD ACTIVATION TRIAL STAGE TWO OVERVIEW





Stage Two Outcomes

During Stage Two of the trial pedestrian and traffic monitoring will be undertaken and at the end of the 12 months an evaluation will be conducted to see if the trial objectives were achieved. The results and recommendations from the final evaluation will inform Council decision making regarding permanent changes to be made to this section of Chapman Road.

Funding

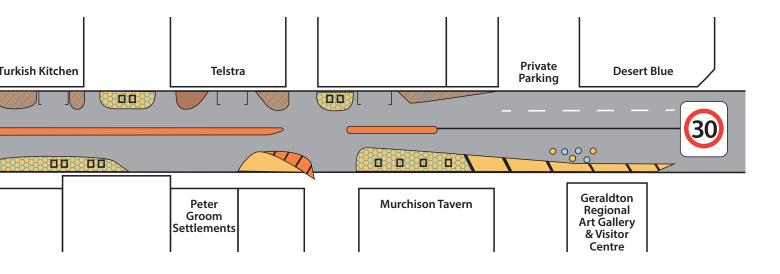
The City has allocated \$100,000 from the City Centre Revitalisation Budget to redesign the activation area and undertake the works to implement the revised design. The works will be carried out by City staff and annual supply contractors.



Artwork featured along Chapman Road



Tree planter boxes featuring artwork from local students







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Chapman Road Activation Trial STAGE ONE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

The objectives of the 12-month trial that began in September 2021 were to test a reduction of the street width between Cathedral Avenue and Durlacher Street to one lane each way, reduce traffic speed and make the street a more inviting and comfortable place for people, not just cars.

Although Stage One had successfully achieved most of its objectives, some aspects of the trial were unpopular with the community including the reduction in road width to one lane each way, the snaked traffic lanes to slow down vehicles, a reduction in the speed limit to 30km/h and the merging of two traffic lanes into one in front of the Art Gallery.

Monitoring conducted during the trial and the post-trial evaluation were compared to baseline data gathered on pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle movements and street amenity that were recorded before any changes were made to this section of Chapman Road. The comparison revealed the pilot project had achieved the following results:

- Formalisation of two lanes of two-way traffic had little to no impact on traffic congestion in the CBD although the transition for two lanes to one in front of the Art Gallery did result in some congestion at peak drive times.
- Reduction in average speed from 47.5km/h to 33km/h.

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- Public amenity was improved through the addition of 19 street trees in planter boxes featuring artwork on four sides, five benches were installed along with a parklet and six murals were on display in shop front windows and on sides of buildings.
- A measured increase in visitors and dwell times in the area and an increase in cyclist traffic.





Tree planter boxes featuring artwork from local students



Interactive Critter Art Trail artwork