Gold Coast Rapid Transit Corridor Study

The Gold Coast Rapid Transit (GCRT) Corridor Study provides recommendations for future directions for the approximately 2000 hectares of the city surrounding the new light rail system.

Street view 2011

Street view 2031

The study aligns with City of Gold Coast's vision for leading the way towards a bold future that can sustain growth and economic development while retaining a lifestyle that is uniquely Gold Coast.

The study will inform the planning scheme to meet the future needs of the community and provide better buildings, better streets and better places.

A key recommendation of the study is to improve the streets and public spaces of the Gold Coast.

To the right is a photograph of how Surf Parade in Broadbeach looks now, and an artist's impression of how it may change in the future.

Download and view the Gold Coast Rapid Transit Corridor Study August 2011 documents below.

Gold Coast Rapid Transport Corridor Study - full report [PDF 2.6mb]

Part 1A - Introduction and context [PDF 2.2mb]
Part 1B - Introduction and context [PDF 2.4mb]
Part 2A - Corridor vision and strategies - Repositioning the city [PDF 3.4mb]
Part 2B - Corridor vision and strategies - Repositioning the city [PDF 2.1mb]
Part 3A - Better Gold Coast streets and spaces [PDF 1.6mb]
Part 3B - Better Gold Coast streets and spaces [PDF 1.5mb]
Part 4 - Better Gold Coast buildings [PDF 2.3mb]
Part 5A - Better Gold Coast places [PDF 2.2mb]
Part 5B - Better Gold Coast places [PDF 2.1mb]
Part 5C - Better Gold Coast places [PDF 2.3mb]
Part 5D - Better Gold Coast places [PDF 2.3mb]
Part 6 - Implementation, demonstration and recommendation [PDF 2mb]

Further information

If you would like a high resolution copy of the study, or have any questions please contact:

Office of the City Architect
Frequently asked questions

How can I find out more about the study?

If you would like a high-resolution copy of the study, or have any questions regarding the study, please contact the Office of the City Architect on 07 5552 8875.

How will the study be implemented?

The study will inform current and future reviews of the Gold Coast Planning Scheme which will be the vehicle for community consultation on the recommendations contained in the study.

What does the study recommend?

The study contains numerous ideas for the future of the area surrounding the light rail route including:

- new buildings that fit in with our sub-tropical climate and address the street e.g. low-rise, street-level frontage with higher-rise buildings set back – rather than a blank, receiving wall hard against the footpath
- new streetscapes and streetleveling to improve pedestrian and cyclist links and the introduction of significant numbers of trees
- a number of pedestrian and cyclist bridges to improve access across the canal network
- improved quality of, and access to, public open spaces within the corridor
- encouraging job growth

Which areas are included in the study?

The study provides urban design frameworks for five precincts - Southport, Main Beach, Surfers Paradise, Fleita Gardens and Broadbeach.

What are the benefits for the City?

The study’s aim is to identify future directions and:

- maximise the benefits to the City from the investment in the GRT light rail project
- accommodate anticipated population growth over the coming decades
- provide certainty to residents and the business and development community about where growth in the City will be focused
- encourage more diverse, efficient and affordable buildings
- build a stronger and more competitive economy, and broaden the appeal of the Gold Coast as a place to work, play and live
- create a green and more sub-tropical urban landscape