

The GIL Library Hub - Frequently Asked Questions...

Question:	Answer:
What is the Vision for the GIL Library Hub project?	The Library and Community Hub will be a dynamic community living room, creating a strong, modern centrepiece in the heart of Gilgandra that attracts passers-by and celebrates our local identity.
What are Council's goals for this project?	The goals of the new Gilgandra Library & Community Hub are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attract locals and visitors to the CBD, invigorating Miller Street • Expand the Library to meet current and future demands and offer additional services to more people • Extend access to new technology and information services • To support new and existing local businesses • Expand access to services and facilities for locals and visitors
What consultation has been undertaken for the project so far? How is Council keeping businesses up to date on the project?	<p>Two community sessions were held in November and December of 2020 which helped inform the overarching priorities of The GIL Library Hub, gained feedback on what people wanted to see offered in the building and preliminary concept designs.</p> <p>Out of these 2020 meetings, attendees were asked to nominate if they would like to be part of the Community Stakeholder Group. The purpose of this group was to provide input into the project, particularly in terms of the design and use of the building.</p> <p>Business owners did have the opportunity to attend these Community Sessions and nominate to be members of the reference group, however were not directly targeted.</p> <p>Council endeavours to ensure ongoing communication to the community and the business within Gilgandra Region, and those directly impacted. Regular information and communication is planned throughout the duration of the project.</p>
How is Council engaging with the community on the project moving forward and can consultation sessions be held	<p>Following the original sessions in late 2020, Council has been undertaking a series of open community information sessions regarding the project from 19 March 2021. These sessions were held on the following dates and were promoted through a variety of avenues including social media, newspaper, Council's website, emails and letters to stakeholder groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 March 2021 @ 11am Open community • 23 March 2021 @ 7:30am Business Breakfast

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<p>at times more accessible to the broader community and business owners?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 March 2021 @ 5:30pm Open community + Facebook live recording • 31 March 2021 @ 5:30pm Open community + Gil Library Hub Reference group <p>After the 19 March session, we continued to take on feedback that we needed to reach people in more ways. Following this, a flyer was sent out to all residents in the Shire, and also live recorded the Thursday, 25 March session via Facebook Live that is accessible on Facebook at any time https://fb.watch/4sMDv9CBrE/ and also through our website along with a copy of the presentation https://www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au/Live/Works-Projects Information is also made available at the Gilgandra Shire Library and The GIL Collective.</p> <p>All four of the March 2021 sessions have covered the same information and we invite anyone who would like to discuss it further to reach out to us directly, and Have Your Say form will remain available on our webpage for the duration of the project. Council further invites feedback by phone, face to face or email.</p> <p>We do acknowledge that the lead time for these sessions were short and we will endeavour to provide further notice moving forward. Ongoing community consultation will form an important part of project delivery, with regular sessions planned which will be advertised via a variety of channels including Council’s website and Facebook pages, emails and letters to various contact and stakeholder groups, including businesses, broader letterbox drops and the Gilgandra Weekly.</p> <p>The plaza design is still currently in the concept phase, with consultation now underway and feedback invited from the community.</p> <p>Council will be reviewing all feedback from this series of meetings at 6 April workshop.</p>
<p>Why was the former Target building purchased by Council rather than putting a retailer in? How much did it cost Council? Isn’t the area flood prone?</p>	<p>Council fought hard to work with the owners of Target (Wesfarmers) back in 2019 and keep the retailer in Gilgandra, acknowledging the important service it provided for the community. This was unfortunately without success and there was no interest from other major retailers to occupy such a space. Following consultation with the community and businesses at the time the decision was made to purchase the building in late 2019, forming a key stage in the development of the Gilgandra Activation Blueprint. You can read further information related to this through earlier Media Releases https://www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au/News/Media-Releases along with the Gilgandra Activation Blueprint available at</p>

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	<p>https://www.gilgandra.nsw.gov.au/Your-Council/About-Council/Plans-Strategies</p> <p>The building was purchased for \$270,000 + GST using Council funds.</p> <p>Yes the Miller Street CBD is flood prone. There are no plans to relocate the Miller Street CBD and Council is committed to ensuring the future viability of our CBD. All of the technology and mechanical services associated with the GIL Library Hub will be located in the upper cavity space to ensure they are not impacted by future flood events.</p>
How did Council manage the process of moving the earlier grants from the original Library location in Warren Road?	Council has been in close contact with all grant funding bodies associated with the project, including those that were awarded prior to the decision to relocate the Library from the current site to 30-32 Miller Street. All grant funds previously awarded for Library upgrades have been retained and will form part of the work to be undertaken at the GIL Library Hub.
Has Council considered the issue of parking in the CBD as part of the project? What about the CBD in general as well as disabled parking as there is very limited parking options currently available?	<p>Development of The GIL Library Hub does not require additional parking spaces given it is an existing developed site in the CBD, which attracted similar or greater numbers as a retail store, when compared to its future use as a Library Hub.</p> <p>Council acknowledges that parking is an issue that requires further consideration and is considering parking from a perspective of the whole CBD, expanding on the current Parking Strategy with this future growth. This process will include identifying and considering where opportunities exist, for both general community and businesses. Community consultation will also form part of this process.</p>

The GIL Library Hub concept design and internal spaces

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Will there still be frontage/street entry off Miller Street?	The main entrance is via the neighbouring plaza through an existing archway on this side, lending itself to the plaza upgrade concept. The Miller Street frontage will be retained through the use of shop windows allowing full line of site into the building.
What is happening with the public toilets? Why is Council proposing to relocate them?	The public toilets are proposed to be relocated from their existing location in the plaza and be recessed into the GIL Library Hub (refer concept design). This will allow for the main entrance to the GIL Library Hub through the plaza utilising an existing archway in the building. It will also create an opportunity to open up this space through to the river and expand on the activation that Council has already invested in the CBD area including caravan parking, dump point and rollover

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	<p>roundabout. This new space allows for an overall plaza upgrade to incorporate additional trees, seating, shade, stage area for events, outdoor access to power and services and additional street art and community signage. Council is pursuing grant funding opportunities to deliver on this concept design, with a recent application through the Your High Street grant fund (NSW Government funding) to a value of approximately \$600,000 and Building Better Regions Fund Round 5 (Federal Government). These applications have not yet been announced.</p> <p>If the relocation of the public toilets did proceed, there will be provision made to access public amenities throughout the duration of the construction period until access to the new amenities are made available.</p>
<p>How much did the current public toilets cost and how is the proposed relocation being funded?</p>	<p>The public toilet block was paid for by Council funds and built in 2012 at a cost of \$167,000. It will cost approximately \$20,000 to demolish them and approximately \$40,000 to rebuild as part of the project. The cost of this would be covered under the existing GIL Library Hub project and associated budget.</p>
<p>Why can't the money be used to improve the kerb and guttering issues at the southern end of Miller Street? There needs to be work done to improve the general entrance to the CBD.</p>	<p>The grant funds must be used for the Gil Library Hub project and can't be used for another project or purpose.</p> <p>The need for improvements to the CBD entrances overall as well as possibly funding opportunities, whether through grant or Council funds, may be explored as part of the considerations to develop an overall Urban Greening Strategy for Gilgandra. Council is also committed to continue working with community groups interested in this.</p>
<p>Do the grant funds cover staff wages and also maintenance costs? It's great that Council can get funds for new projects and areas, but they need maintaining along with</p>	<p>Grant funding typically does not cover ongoing staff wages and maintenance. This is an issue Council will consider separately, and we encourage the community to lodge any requests or issues through our Online Request system which builds an evidence base of the need for budget commitment in these areas.</p> <p>There may also be future opportunities for Council to develop an Urban Greening Strategy to look at all the green spaces in Gilgandra Region, what is planted where, future concepts, suitable plant species, required resources and budget to maintain this.</p>

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weeding and general maintenance of parks and gardens.	
What is happening with the street stall, where will it be located in the proposed concept design?	The street stall is proposed to be integrated into the design for GIL Library Hub, with Miller Street access next to the Business Incubation space. Here, there would be access to services including power and water and be undercover. There is also a second space community groups could utilise under the proposed concept plan for the covered stage area (refer to the yellow roof line). There is also access to services which allows community groups to have a location depending on where the event or focus is - Miller Street for daily traffic, or along the riverbank for after-hours events.
How will Council address possible anti-social behaviour issues in the upgraded plaza space?	<p>Council has been allocating funds towards CCTV over previous years, there is currently \$200,000 available for this project, with the next roll-out of CCTV expected to be installed with the GIL Library Hub project.</p> <p>The Library Hub architect is considering safer by design principles in the final design. This minimises the potential for antisocial behaviour in and around the site.</p>
What is happening with the current Library building on Warren Road?	The building will be retained, with the future use to be considered by Council over the next twelve months.
What are the next steps for Council with this project?	<p>The GIL Library Hub project is currently in concept design phase, and will soon move into detailed design planning.</p> <p>Council will be considering all feedback from this series of workshops at its workshop on Tuesday, 6 April 2021.</p> <p>A report will be considered at Council's April meeting.</p> <p>Keep an eye out for upcoming community consultation details on Council's Events page on its website.</p>

Feedback is always welcomed through Council's Online Request form, via email to council@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au or by calling 6817 8800.