PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The Project aims to revitalise and transform the Ballarat Station Precinct into a commercial and cultural hub, a buzzing, thriving precinct for locals, commuters and visitors to enjoy.

Revitalisation of the Precinct will improve land use, stimulate the local economy and provide community benefits.

In 2014, the Ballarat Station Precinct Master Plan was launched, providing a long term vision for the site. This document identified short, medium and long term opportunities for the Station Precinct, all aimed at strengthening Ballarat’s reputation as a key regional destination for business and tourism activities.

In 2015, the Victorian Government announced its commitment of up to $25 million towards the development of an integrated Hotel and Exhibition/Convention Centre, including the remediation of the Heritage Goods Shed and delivery of public open spaces, along with a range of transport related outcomes in partnership with the private sector (the Project).

The Project recognises the importance of a new commercial enterprise for the long term growth of the Ballarat economy as well as the historical significance of the Heritage Goods Shed.

The State’s financial commitment towards the Project (of up to $25 million) recognises the potential added cost of revitalising this heritage icon.

Not only will the redevelopment of the Station Precinct increase visitation and raise the profile of Ballarat, it will also create around 140 local jobs and act as a catalyst for ongoing business and investment opportunities.
**PROGRESS-TO-DATE**

In early 2015, Regional Development Victoria (RDV) was given the task of delivering the Project, in partnership with VicTrack, City of Ballarat and the Transport division of the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR).

To progress the delivery of the Project, the following tasks have been completed to date:

- Establishment of Project governance and appointment of the Project delivery team, including lead commercial, probity and legal advisors;
- Undertaking market sounding, feasibility analysis and site due diligence investigations to inform the Market Engagement process; and
- Commencement of the first stage of the Market Engagement/Commercial Procurement process i.e. Expressions of Interest (EOI) phase to identify potential interested developers/operators to deliver the Project.

**BALLARAT PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C198**

The State is currently working on designing and implementing a streamlined planning process for the Project. This is subject to Ministerial approval.

Ballarat City Council, with support from the Minister for Regional Development, has requested that the Minister for Planning appoint a Ministerial Advisory Committee to consider options to amend planning controls to facilitate the redevelopment of the Ballarat Station Precinct. It is anticipated that in due course, community members, including local land owners and occupiers, will be notified and given the opportunity to participate in the Advisory Committee process. The Advisory Committee would then report to the Minister for Planning on whether he should amend the planning controls and in what way they should be amended.

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MILESTONE</th>
<th>TIMELINES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. EOI Launch</td>
<td>9 November 2015</td>
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<td>2. Community Information Session</td>
<td>7 December 2015</td>
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<td>3. EOI Close</td>
<td>17 December 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Commencement of Request For Proposal (RFP) Phase</td>
<td>April 2016</td>
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<td>5. Conclusion of RFP Phase</td>
<td>June 2016</td>
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<td>6. Finalisation of contractual arrangement with the successful developer/operator</td>
<td>September 2016</td>
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<td>7. Detail design, planning process and second community information session</td>
<td>December 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Construction commences</td>
<td>Mid-2017</td>
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**MORE INFORMATION**

Regular updates will be posted on the following websites:
- **Regional Development Victoria**
- **City of Ballarat**