

2.6 LINK SOUTHBANK WITH THE CITY



Southbank is full of opportunities for revitalising blank facades and upgrading street environments (above) to create precincts with appealing or active edges (right).



Although Southbank Promenade forms the southern edge of the Yarra and defines the south boundary of the city centre, little of its liveliness, animation and commercial activity transfers to the 'hinterland' of Southbank. The aim for Southbank as a whole is for a 'downtown' residential, cultural and service business precinct, including consolidation of the residential precinct south of City Link.

- Improve the visual and social connection between the waterfront public spaces and the streets, buildings, walking routes and other public spaces of Southbank.
- Continue to strengthen Southbank's metropolitan significance as a major visitor destination, and its local significance as a high-density residential environment (ie. balanced and mutually supportive)
- Develop a new local centre to support the expanding population of Southbank.
- Employ measures including widened footpaths, more frequent crossings of busy roads, wider and landscaped medians, and reduced vehicular speeds and car park structures, to decrease Southbank's focus as a car-accessed enclave.

- Reinforce and upgrade Sturt Street-St Kilda Rd, Moray-Queensbridge Streets, Clarendon-Spencer Streets as priority movement routes for universal access.
- Reinstate bicycle access (without demounting) along Southbank Promenade as part of the Capital City Trail.
- Develop Dodds and Grant Streets as priority pedestrian routes within Southbank in addition to Sturt Street.
- Clarify the street hierarchy and provide edge activities to link walking routes with opportunities for new public spaces.
- Protect the urban residential environment from the detrimental impact of high-rise buildings (including wind conditions, overshadowing and obstructing glimpsed views of the city).
- Resolve and implement a plan for integrating the City Link intersection that currently (combined with other physical and psychological barriers) creates barriers within the community and between services, facilities and open spaces.
- Provide appropriate measures for universal access along South Wharf.



The traffic management system and pedestrian access network at Southbank need to be re-designed to reduce the barriers and discontinuity between the Arts precinct, riverfront and central city.