

MEDIA RELEASE

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A buzzing pedestrian mall for Bentleigh

The implementation of the Bentleigh Structure Plan will see the creation of a strong retail core defined by a new grid of streets.

Council adopted the *Plan* for Bentleigh on Tuesday 27 February to deal with higher levels of growth over the next 15 years

Glen Eira Mayor Cr Tony Athanasopoulos said Bentleigh's Centre Road shopping precinct has a unique community feel, but faces significant challenges over the next 15 years as online shopping and home deliveries continue to disrupt traditional strip retail.

"Unlike similar sized centres which are a grid of streets, Bentleigh's long, linear strip makes responding to this challenge increasingly difficult," he said.

"The strengthening of the retail core will be achieved through the creation of a new pedestrian-friendly 'eat street' and plaza space."

Cr Athanasopoulos said the project will involve a complete redesign of the existing rotunda and the closure of Vickery Street so the plaza can extend across Centre Road adding depth to the linear retail strip.

"The new eat street will be an inviting green space with large canopy trees and outdoor seating, activated by cafes, restaurants and bars with increased trading hours," he said.

The Bentleigh Structure Plan also outlines four additional public space projects, including:

- Godfrey Street park;
- Bentleigh Library;
- Bentleigh Sunday Market; and
- Horsley Street car park.

To view the plan and find out more about our plan for the future of Bentleigh, visit www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/bentleigh

Media enquiries: Amarita Kinnoo

03 9524 3411 or 0409 169 275



CORNER GLEN EIRA AND HAWTHORN ROADS, CAULFIELD, VIC PO BOX 42, CAULFIELD SOUTH 3162 P 03 9524 3333 • F 03 9523 0339 GLENEIRA.VIC.GOV.AU

