

media release

New green space at South Bank set to connect community

Visitors to South Bank will soon be able to experience stunning city views, lush rainforest and a new connection to the Brisbane river as construction begins on urban redevelopment project, Riverside Open Space.

The space, formerly occupied by the Riverside Restaurants that were affected by the 2011 floods, will be a world-class example of design excellence and urban renewal.

South Bank Corporation Chief Executive Officer Bill Delves said the green space would feature world-class designs to entice visitors back to an area that was devastated by the 2011 floods.

"The Riverside Open Space project will deliver a high-quality 6816m² green space that will leverage the prime riverfront position opened up by the removal of the Riverside Restaurants," Mr Delves said.

"It is expected to set a new benchmark in quality parklands for the public within the precinct, which will include landscaped areas, a 2200m² river lawn for open air events, and a riverside community shade house."

South Bank is an iconic destination and the new urban redevelopment project would enhance the experience for all visitors. And as Brisbane's population grows, South Bank must evolve to meet the emerging needs of the community for more green space, which is what this project delivers, he said.

"The stunning new development will connect visitors to the heart of South Bank and to the Brisbane River," Mr Delves said.

"Uniquely Queensland, this project reflects the wider precinct experience of our leafy outdoor subtropical lifestyle, combined with the connection to the Brisbane River and CBD.

"The new green community space will also feature barbecue facilities, public art, riverfront events and function space.

"South Bank is a special place for the 14 million local, national and international visitors who enjoy our precinct every year. South Bank Corporation prides itself on its ability to continually transform and evolve this amazing 42-hectare precinct, and urban redevelopment will ensure that South Bank continues to be one of the most vibrant urban and cultural precincts in the world."

As part of the redevelopment, to meet requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act and to deliver the 6816m² space, three potted weeping fig trees will be removed, due to their size and health. The removal will be offset by a 6:1 tree replacement ratio through the creation of an 800m² rainforest, including seven new fig trees (two are 6.5m tall); 30 trees and 17 palms. Construction on Riverside Open Space is anticipated to be complete at the end of 2020.

For more information please visit: www.southbankcorporation.com.au

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