

SUBMISSION TO DRAFT CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL PLAN FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE
PERFORMING ARTS PRECINCT (FOPAP) GOSFORD CENTRAL COAST

FOPAP is in full agreement with the Draft Central Coast Regional Plan and see it as a helpful reference document. However, the Committee would like to flesh out pages 30-31 which deals with the Arts and Entertainment Precinct.

The Committee has been striving for nearly 15 years to develop an appropriate and much needed Regional Performing Arts Precinct (RPAP).

The plan has been to "grow" the city's re-development back from the waterfront with our RPAP as a catalyst for this growth renewal.

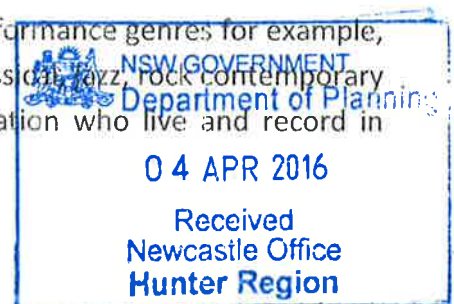
As Gosford is a Regional Capital we are planning for an appropriate building.

- 1) Sufficiently iconic in design that it provides an impressive welcoming vista when entering Gosford via the Central Coast Highway and Brian McGowan Bridge (from the west).
- 2) Sufficiently large to accommodate a variety of performance spaces:
 - a) 1,000-1200 tiered seated auditorium/entertainment space (economically viable for entrepreneurs)
 - b) 400-500 tiered seated concert hall with appropriate high quality acoustics
 - c) Open air concert venues and busking locations
 - d) Flexibility to accommodate conferences

The Precinct (which includes the football stadium) would be planned to support and compliment proposed restaurants, coffee shops, bars etc. and it is envisaged that patrons will utilise these facilities before and after performances and matches in a similar way to the forecourt of the Sydney Opera House. This prized and iconic Gosford waterfront will also provide a much needed public and recreational space for visitors and the community of the Central Coast to enjoy.

FOPAP is aware that Gosford City area will have high density, apartment style housing. Your figures suggest an increase of up to 10,000 new residents and 20,000 workers (taking in West Gosford). Also, the recently announced "Gosford Alive" project by Lederer Property, envisages a development over the next 15-20 years which will see a further 1,500 low and high rise apartments constructed around the Kibble Park region, a large population from which to draw a patronage.


The Performance Precinct would cater for a wide range of performance genres for example, dance (Naisda is based at Mt Penang), band/orchestration, classical, jazz, rock contemporary and country (Gosford has a significant country music population who live and record in Gosford but have to travel elsewhere to perform).



The challenge now lies in the stakeholders selecting the site for the Gosford City Regional Performing Arts Precinct.

I appreciate that this presentation is not a true submission but rather a summary of FOPAP's Arts and Entertainment journey. Once we have a definite committed site we can update and review our existing business plan which will assess employment potential.

Regards,



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I have read the Department's Privacy Statement and agree to the Department using my submission in the way it is prescribed. I understand this includes full publication on the Department's website of my submission and attachments and of my personal information on these documents.