Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation

Trees and vegetation in the precinct

The Victorian Government is investing $1.7 billion to transform the Melbourne Arts Precinct into one of the great cultural and creative destinations in the world.

The Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation (MAPT) is the largest cultural infrastructure project in Australia's history.

The project includes the creation of a new expansive 18,000 square metre urban garden that will connect Arts Centre Melbourne, NGV International and a new gallery, The Fox: NGV Contemporary.

The establishment of the garden will also improve access to key buildings such as Southbank Theatre, Melbourne Theatre Company, Melbourne Recital Centre and ABC.

In one of the most densely-populated areas of Melbourne, it will give both residents and visitors access to vital green and open-air space – close to the CBD.

Tree and vegetation removal

A number of London Plane trees (*Platanus x acerifolia*) in Sturt Street have been removed in preparation for the works on the new urban garden. As works progress, more Plane trees in Sturt Street, Kavanagh Street and Southbank Boulevard will need to be removed to make way for The Fox: NGV Contemporary.

The City of Melbourne is planting fewer Plane trees under the Urban Forest Strategy, and instead planting a wider variety of species to create a more resilient urban forest.

The MAPT project team is working closely with City of Melbourne, arborists and the construction teams to assess which trees need to be removed and when.

The removal of trees is being done thoughtfully and professionally, with our arborists taking into consideration the welfare of any local wildlife.

As the project progresses, the existing gardens and deck area behind NGV International will also need to be removed to build the new urban garden.

About Revival Projects

Revival Projects is a business that aims to make sustainable building practice more accessible to everyone.

Its Collingwood manufacturing facility operates exclusively with existing materials – no new materials are allowed through the door.

Revival Projects has been engaged to reuse and repurpose as many of the removed trees as possible. Working collaboratively with Development Victoria, MAP Co and project partners, Revival Projects is exploring how trees and vegetation identified for removal can be repurposed into the design of the transformed Melbourne Arts Precinct.

As part of our sustainable approach, it is intended that natural, reclaimed and low carbon material will be used for landscaping and structures where feasible. Repurposing the removed trees is part of this initiative.

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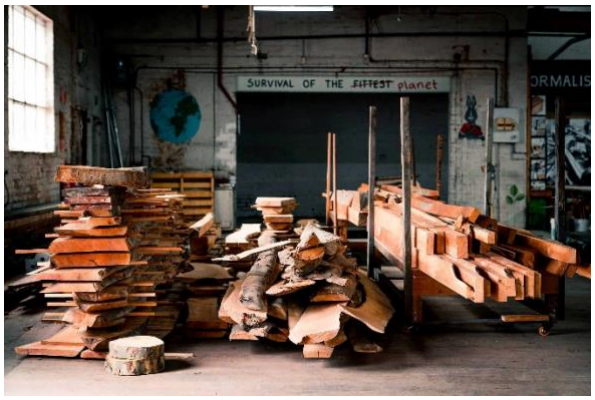
The process

Revival Projects is working with the contractors and arborists to review all the trees being removed to identify the material that will be salvaged.

The selected trees will then be transported to Revival Project's Collingwood hub where they will remain for the duration of the project. When it's time to use the material, this will be supplied to the contractors.

Next steps

Revival Projects will begin consulting with the design teams across the project to look at the feasibility aspects of the material reuse. This will help inform the designs of the precinct.



Planks of plane trees drying out at the Revival Projects factory

When will the new urban garden be planted?

The transformation of the Melbourne Arts Precinct will take place over approximately six years.

Planting trials will take place over the years ahead to ensure the best mix of plants are selected for this seasonal urban garden.

We are working with the Traditional Owners of the land upon which the project sits, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, as we develop the mix of planting that will be selected to inhabit and thrive in the urban garden.


Artist render of Melbourne Arts Precinct urban garden

More information

You can learn more about Revival Projects online at **revivalprojects.com.au**.

For more information about the project, visit **artsprecinct.melbourne**.

If you have any questions, please email **mapt@development.vic.gov.au**.

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