

Parkes Special Activation Precinct



Community newsletter update
August 2022



This quarterly community newsletter provides updates on all major construction, job creation and investment opportunities in the Parkes Special Activation Precinct (Parkes precinct).

→ Please refer to page 5 to see our upcoming information sessions for the Parkes precinct

Major construction milestones achieved

Work is progressing on the Parkes precinct enabling works, with a number of important milestones achieved since construction started last year.

The relocation of the Telstra telecommunication network and upgrade of gas networks, electrical relocation works, and drinkable water are now complete, marking an important step in supporting the ongoing construction of Brolgan Road and utilities for the precinct.

Bridge construction is continuing with the commencement of abutment and piling works.

Construction of the new Brolgan Road is also progressing, with road foundations now complete and placement of pavement layers underway.

→ 1,500 ha

Activated by Stage 1
delivery work

→ 4,800 ha

Parques Special
Activation Precinct area

→ 3,000

New jobs created by the
Parques precinct



An excavator works on the Parkes precinct enabling works



Nest box installation at the Parkes Special
Activation Precinct

Preserving Parkes' biodiversity

To preserve Parkes' biodiversity in the precinct, specialist tree climbers installed more than 80 nest boxes in trees adjacent to the project to provide alternative nesting and roosting places for local wildlife.

Birds and other animals have been observed using these nest boxes, which were hand built using sustainably sourced materials with a lifespan of more than 20 years.

Prior to vegetation removal, a dedicated ecologist was used to ensure any sensitive biodiversity was preserved, and any fauna identified and relocated.

The enabling works will include the planting of some 3200 shrubs and trees, and 350,000 square metres of spray seed applied to disturbed areas, basins and embankments.

A biodiversity offset strategy has been developed to counterbalance vegetation removed in accordance with strategic biodiversity certification for the precinct, as part of the Special Activation Precinct's master plan.

Special Activation Precincts



Government-led studies



Streamlined planning



Government-led development



Infrastructure investment



Business Concierge

Workshop with local students from Parkes High School

Cass Wallace, a site engineer for Fulton Hogan on the Parkes precinct enabling works project, recently attended a workshop with some local high school students to encourage them to consider a career in the construction industry.

Cass told Year 9 students from Parkes High School that there were good reasons for choosing civil construction over some other industries, not least the excellent job prospects and variety of roles on offer.



Engineer Cass Wallace presenting to Year 9 students in Parkes recently

In the engineering field alone there exists a diverse range of disciplines. If any of them did decide to pursue a degree in engineering, Cass told them their chances of securing a job were among the best of any industry, such was the strong demand for engineers across the country, including right here in Parkes.

There are also many other interesting and rewarding jobs within the industry, and many of them do not require a university degree.

“Going to university and getting a degree is one way to get a job in the construction industry, but it certainly isn’t the only pathway,” Cass told the students.

Reconciliation Week event

Spectacular dancing and thought-provoking conversation was the order of the day when the Parkes precinct project team marked National Reconciliation Week on Wiradjuri country.

National Reconciliation Week – 27 May to 3 June – encourages Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation.

The Parkes precinct team came together at the main site compound where they heard traditional owners, community members and business owners talk about what reconciliation and this year’s theme ‘Be Brave. Make Change.’ means to them.

The team also took part in a traditional smoking ceremony and watched members of the Dinawan Connections dance group perform traditional dances, before sampling some traditional bush tucker.



Members of the Dinawan Connections dance group performing

The Parkes Special Activation Precinct connects businesses with development and investment support to help them establish and grow with confidence.

Parkes precinct delivery plan and the Activation Precinct Certificate process

What is a delivery plan?

The delivery plan builds on the vision and principles for the precinct established in the master plan. It is a statutory document, referenced by the State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts-Regional) 2021 (Precincts-Regional SEPP), and is required before any development can occur within a Special Activation Precinct.

The Parkes delivery plan sets out criteria for:

- precinct design
- landscape design guidelines and strategy
- infrastructure planning and delivery
- precinct and site-based assessment criteria and solutions
- precinct-wide mapping.

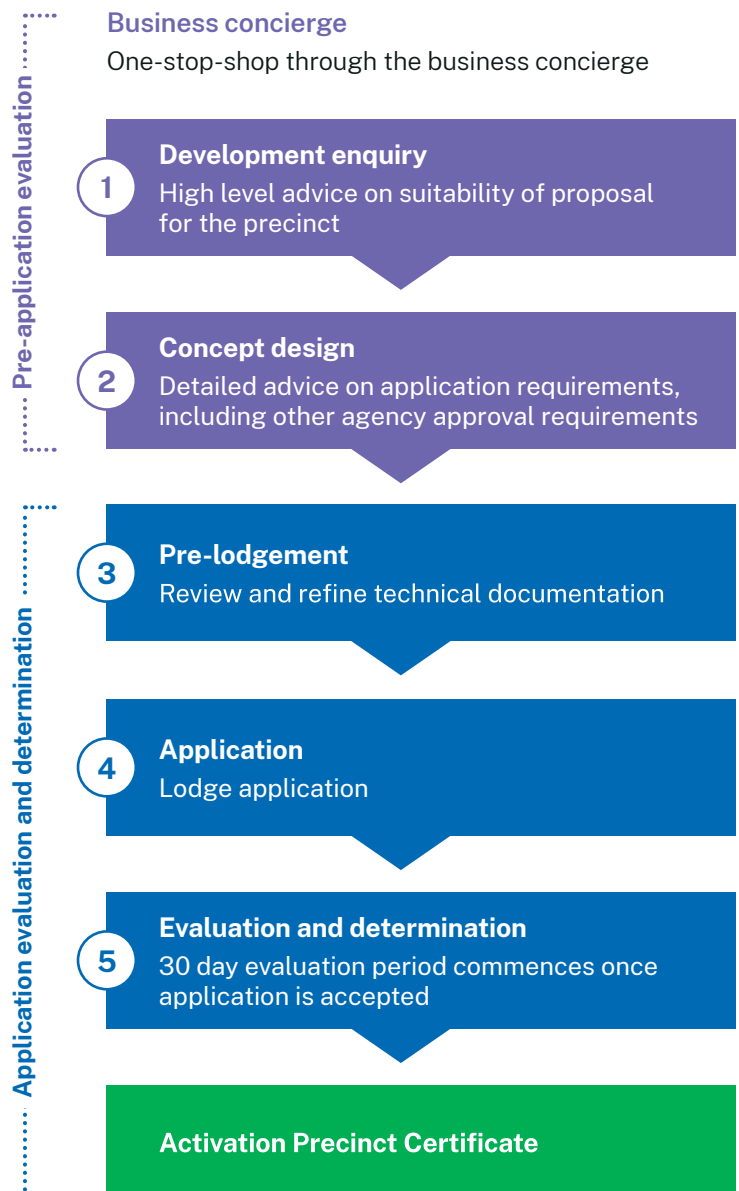
You can access the final delivery plan on our website.

What is an Activation Precinct Certificate?

A key aim of the activation precinct certification process is to facilitate streamlined planning assessments, leveraging upon the upfront strategic planning to provide greater investor certainty and a 30 day approval pathway. Once approval is given via an Activation Precinct Certificate, the applicant can proceed with the development consent process, which is generally through the complying development pathway.

The Regional Growth NSW Development Corporation has established a business concierge team that will support investors and local businesses to ensure their proposal meets the objectives and specific criteria for their development in the Parkes precinct. The business concierge team is based in Parkes and works in partnership with Parkes Shire Council to facilitate your development needs. The concierge will connect, recommend, and champion investor and business enquiries and draw together on-the-ground planning, infrastructure and commercial expertise to support an investor from concept to completion.

Please get in touch if you would like to speak with our business concierge team and find out how they can help you and your business.



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Circular economy on its way to the Parkes precinct

The NSW Government has shortlisted three groups to submit proposals to deliver an energy from waste facility as part of the Parkes Special Activation Precinct's circular economy, driving jobs in new industries in the central west.

This is the first step in an energy from waste facility coming to Parkes. The next step in the process will be formal lodgement of a development application through the planning system. This stage will include community consultation, and a full planning and environmental assessment.

The Parkes precinct will become a landmark circular economy hub leading the way in sustainable economic growth.

The reliable supply of energy from renewable resources is an important part of attracting ongoing investment into the precinct and the master plan identified that an energy from waste facility would be a key part to supporting economic growth and long-term jobs in Parkes.

The NSW Government is taking a considered approach to establish a facility that considers the priorities of the Parkes community and reduces carbon emissions by diverting waste from landfill, supports investment in the area and meets international standards for eco-industrial precincts.

The NSW Government expects to award the tender in late-2022 and will continue to work closely with Parkes Shire Council, stakeholders, and community members.

For more information on energy from waste you can view our factsheet on the website rgdc.nsw.gov.au/parkes.

Want to speak to an energy from waste expert?

The precinct team is providing an opportunity for Parkes residents to speak to an energy from waste expert.

→ Online Q&A Session

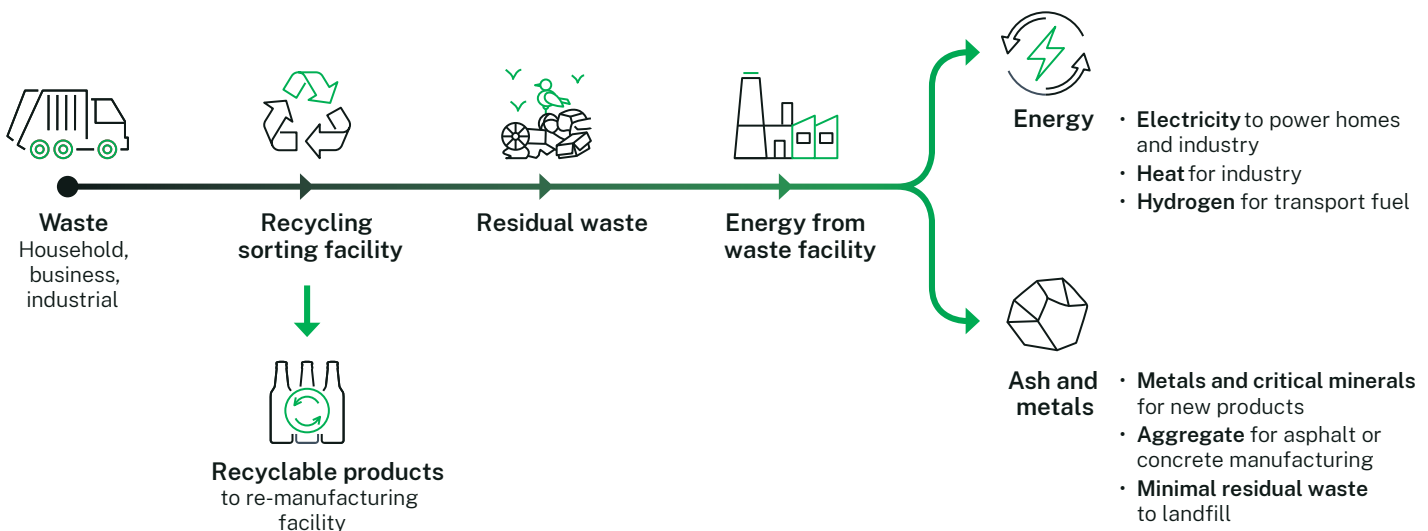
Thursday 4 August, 5pm-6pm

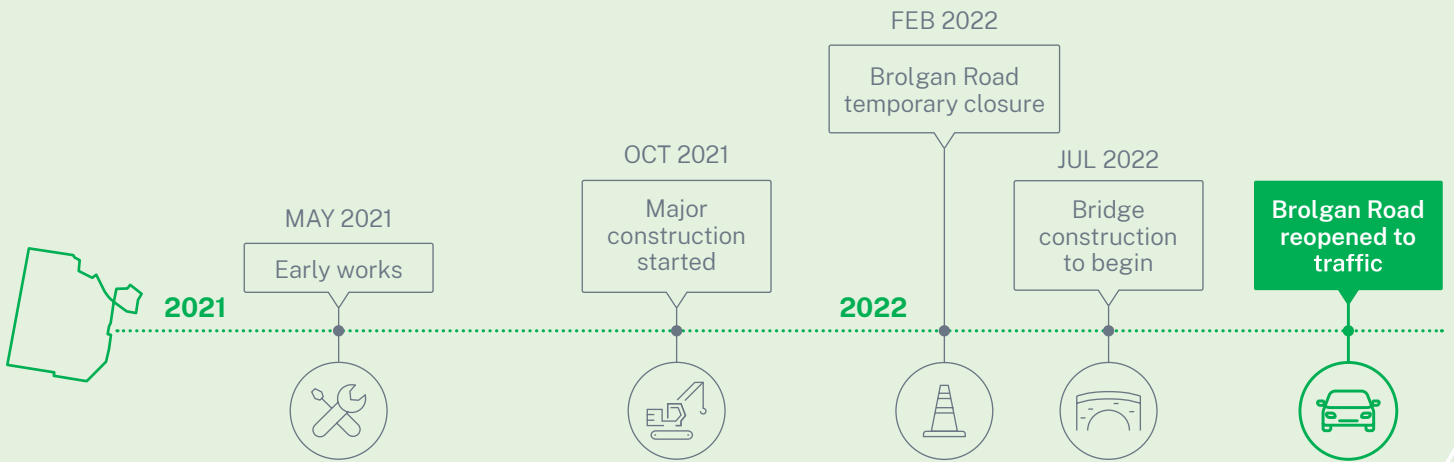
Register your interest at activationprecincts@regional.nsw.gov.au

→ Parkes Show

Tuesday 30 August, 11am-6pm

Wednesday 31 August, 11am-6pm





Want to hear more from us?

You can subscribe to email updates to stay informed about upcoming construction work.

To register your details, contact the project team on ParkesSAP@fultonhogan.com.au.



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