



Future of Fremantle

Emerging Vision
and Future Scenarios

November 2023





Kaya kaya kaya

Koora yey benang kalyakoorl nitja nyung boodjar.

Nih, nyinning, kitkit kaartjin nyulluk waangkiny.

Yeye alidja djineng kylie, kulbardi, yoorn njamin nyung mangkatj wer borda wer kuliny nitja.

Djinang moombaki kep worl. Nitja ngaank, boorong nyung boodjar nyulluk boodjah nitja noonook boodja. Nitja nyung mia nitja noonook mia. Nyulluk wortkoorl boodjar.

Nidja nyung boodjar.

Nidja noonook boodjar.

Nidja nyulluk boodjar.

Freda Ogilvie

Noongar Elder

Member Future of Fremantle Planning Committee

Hello hello hello.

From the past, the present and the future, we acknowledge the Elders, our teachers, and our leaders. They are the archives, libraries and keepers of the language, culture and stories of the Whadjuk people.

Listen, sit, laugh, and learn about our language, that is passed down through oral traditions, story, and art.

Over there on the green grass the bobtail roams and like the flight of the boomerang, the magpie flies across the river and feeds on the sweet Banksia fronds.

Look up and down the land to where the river meanders and meets the horizon. Look at the sun which warms the land and feel the rain which nourishes and encourages growth.

This is my country.

This is your country.

This is our country.

Introduction

The Future of Fremantle project is a unique opportunity to reimagine Fremantle’s Inner Harbour to benefit all Western Australians.

The Future of Fremantle is a visionary exercise, tasked with beginning to understand what could be achieved at the 260 hectares Inner Harbour precinct (370 hectares including waterways), as part of the potential future transition if the Port is relocated.

The Western Australian Planning Commission’s (WAPC) Future of Fremantle Planning Committee is leading this work, supported by an Aboriginal Reference Group, Stakeholder Reference Group, project team at the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (Department) and a multidisciplinary consultant team.

Following an extensive and collaborative visioning and design process, the Department is seeking community feedback on the emerging vision and three preliminary scenarios.

Each scenario explores different economic paradigms for the Inner Harbour and is supported by detailed economic and transport modelling.

This second phase of work builds upon the Place and Economic Directions report prepared in Phase One. The outcomes are reflected in this Emerging Vision and Future Scenarios overview, which outlines:

Visioning process

A summary of the recent engagement activities, including youth forums, Aboriginal Elders’ workshops, and Place Design Forums.

Emerging Vision

An emerging aspirational vision statement, goals and measures of success that acknowledge the unparalleled potential of the land, infrastructure and amenity.

Three Preliminary Scenarios

Three different economic and land use scenarios that illustrate how the emerging vision could potentially be delivered over the project’s 50-year planning horizon. The scenarios explore important interrelationships and trade-offs between land use intensity, infrastructure provision and allocation of green spaces.

Next Steps

Opportunities of how you can get involved in the process and contribute your feedback.

We look forward to continuing the discussion about how repurposing the Inner Harbour can deliver social and economic benefits to all West Australians.

As a WAPC led strategic visioning exercise the ideas and direction outlined in this paper have yet to be considered by the West Australian Government.

We encourage you to share your thoughts on the Emerging Vision and Preliminary Scenarios via an online survey.



Your feedback will be used to help shape a preferred scenario for the site and to inform the Future of Fremantle Economic Development Strategy and Land Use Plan that will be finalised in early 2024.



Visioning Process

The Future of Fremantle visioning process has been supported by a comprehensive 12-month journey involving an extensive range of engagement activities.

The process has involved focus groups, an Aboriginal Elders' workshop and cultural tour, a community visioning day, committee and reference group meetings, stakeholder workshops and online digital engagement.

As outlined in the [Place and Economic Directions Report](#), nine Foundation Principles, aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, were established as project values. These values were used to facilitate meaningful discussions throughout the engagement process.

At the heart of the engagement was a two-part, six-day Place Design Forum that helped shape the emerging vision and goals, as well as the three different scenarios.



350+

Community Vision Day attendees

300+

Place Design Forum participants over 6 days

80

Aboriginal Elders workshop participants

62

Focus Group participants

43

Youth Focus Group participants

18

Place Directions workshop participants

100+

Hours of interactive engagement

Key Take-Outs

- 1 Amplify and complement Fremantle character
- 2 Protect, preserve and enhance nature
- 3 Strong connections - local, cross-river and regional
- 4 Prioritise social diversity and healthy lifestyles
- 5 Embed Noongar culture as a leading narrative
- 6 Different housing and tenure types (all income thresholds)
- 7 Recreate iconic landmarks and skyline
- 8 Protect Port Beach
- 9 Enlivened waterfronts shared by all
- 10 Diverse economic opportunities
- 11 Responsive to climate change and coastal processes
- 12 Support and complement existing industries
- 13 Start early and prioritise quick wins

Visioning Outcomes

As the engagement has evolved, outcomes have been used to inform the emerging vision, goals, and indicators for measuring success.

Extensive information has been captured along the way through high level summary snapshots that reflect community aspirations and priorities.

More information is available on the [DPLH consultation hub](#).

Greener Urban Future *Boodja*

- Create a diversity of quality green spaces
- Invest in parks and use native species to provide fauna habitat as well as great places for people

- Soft edges (river to sea)
- Net positive impact on the land and environment
- Leader in climate change response
- Multi-functional open spaces
- Cultural interpretation
- Accessible beaches / waterfronts
- Reintroduce natural landscape / green open space

Place, Identity and Culture *Kartadjin*

- Celebrate Fremantle's economic and maritime history
- Continue improving and creating places for Aboriginal culture

- Entertainment for all
- Keep it gritty! Don't manicure it
- Build on Fremantle's uniqueness
- Diverse + high quality community spaces
- Spaces without commercial activity
- Water based recreation

Urban Planning and Mobility *Bidi Bidi*

- Active transport priority pathways
- Vibrancy created by high density living in unique urban environments

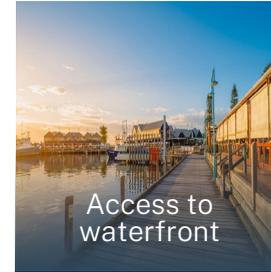
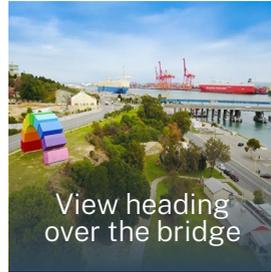
- Reliable, inclusive public transport
- Diverse, walkable and connected
- Accessible (anyone can be mobile and safe)
- Mixed use, compact neighbourhoods
- Design and density done well
- Diverse housing / all incomes

Future Jobs and Economy *Boya*

- Wider range of creative industries / jobs
- Training at the port for maritime archaeology, boat building and marine science

- Working port feel / harbour activity
- Diverse skills and employment
- Aboriginal economic development
- Affordable, curated spaces (innovators + artists)
- Regional attractor (cultural facilities)

What do you love about the site?



Emerging Vision

Through big picture thinking and sharing of ideas, we have captured an emerging vision statement, goals and indicators reflective of community values and aspirations.

Future of Fremantle will make the most of this unique opportunity to transform Fremantle as a future City of the South, leveraging the unparalleled potential of land, infrastructure, amenity and connectivity.

Well-planned investment will unlock the site's 370 ha of land and waterways, and 10 kilometres of waterfront, to create shared prosperity that benefits all Western Australians.

Fremantle's Inner Harbour will continue to act as Australia's western gateway to the world, generating high value, export-oriented industries to create new jobs in line with the State's economic diversification agenda.

Investment in tourism, creative arts, and maritime industries will drive economic growth and position Fremantle as a sustainable, strategic centre for Perth's expanding southern corridor. Deep and productive connections with the existing Fremantle City Centre and the Western Trade Coast will further ignite these opportunities.

Aboriginal culture will be embedded and celebrated at the outset and at every step thereafter, with a deep focus on arts, innovation, tourism and creativity, as well as on opportunities that will grow the economic capacity and wealth of Aboriginal people.

World class heritage tourism assets that connect and blend old with new, will continue to grow a city rich in spirit, creativity and soul. Underpinned by strong values and rich in cultural, creative, coastal and waterfront experiences, the Future of Fremantle will reflect the many elements that make Fremantle an exceptional place today.

Unlocking this prime urban land for new housing will help to reorientate the growth of our city by harnessing the river and the ocean as natural assets and providing a blueprint for sustainable and affordable urban living.

Capturing views to the sea and river, visually striking buildings will stand proudly across the harbour. Healthy lifestyles and welcoming and inclusive communities will be reinforced through diverse housing, compact and walkable neighbourhoods, new waterfront spaces, abundant green and natural spaces, and sustainable transport solutions.

Future of Fremantle will strengthen and enhance Fremantle's identity as an eclectic, dynamic and sustainable city that sits proudly on the world stage as one of the greatest places to live, work and visit.



Emerging Vision Goal

Grow a Competitive Economy of the Future

The Future of Fremantle will strengthen Fremantle’s existing economy and support the diversification of the Western Australian economy through expansion of tourism, Aboriginal enterprise, innovation and the blue economy.

With capacity comparable to some of the world’s largest port redevelopment projects, the Inner Harbour will help position Western Australia as a leading city of the Indian Ocean Rim.

The site’s proximity to Fremantle, substantial existing economic assets, and unique waterfront amenity will be leveraged to attract investment that creates a thriving and diverse economy for Fremantle and beyond. This will drive strong economic diversification opportunities that enhances the site’s productivity, infrastructure, and connectivity.

The targeted growth sectors represent comparative advantages that can be leveraged to grow new businesses and jobs. These sectors are well aligned to the Government’s broader Diversify WA agenda. Investment in enabling infrastructure and fostering deep links with the Western Trade Coast will be important to harness the site’s economic opportunities.



Leveraging Fremantle’s social diversity and culture of creativity and entrepreneurship will help attract global talent. Maintaining diversity in population, jobs, industry sectors and housing will be crucial to further drive productivity, enhance competitiveness and attract investment.

The community envisages a place that stays true to strong local values, and intuitively feels like a natural extension of Fremantle. A focus on shared prosperity and socio-economic outcomes will be key to achieving this aspiration.

Given the project’s long-term nature, achieving early wins and incubating talent will be key to realising the site’s full potential.

Measuring success	
Innovation and entrepreneurship	Economic diversification
Tertiary education, skills & training opportunities	Innovation and R&D
Population diversity	Attracting aligned investment

Emerging Vision Goal

Reflect Freo’s Character

Cultural, creative, coastal and waterfront experiences will refresh lifestyle opportunities, and enrich Fremantle’s identity as a place with spirit, creativity and soul.

For thousands of years Walyalup (Fremantle) has been a place where people come together, to meet and connect.

Today, Fremantle’s identity is also deeply linked to its role as a port city, which has influenced its heritage buildings, spaces for making and creativity, and openness to cultural exchange.

A values driven ethos has seen Fremantle earn a reputation on the global stage by virtue of its character, laid-back personality and creative reputation.

Stakeholders want the Future of Fremantle to embody similar qualities.

Some of the ideas to authentically capture and complement Fremantle’s unique identity are:

- Strengthen connections with the river and the sea and invest in water-based infrastructure,
- Embed character and grit by retaining and recognising elements of the working port (examples could include the cranes, historical sheds and sea containers),
- Find ways to bring into the open history, heritage and meaning,
- Invest in creativity and the arts to foster diversity in all its forms, and
- Create spaces where everyone feels welcome.

Measuring success	
Industrial / Maritime Heritage	Creativity and culture
Gathering spaces	Multi-cultural connections
Active and accessible beaches and waterfronts	Distinctively Freo





Visualisations are for illustration purposes only.

Emerging Vision Goal

Walkable and Connected

Future of Fremantle will have well-planned local and regional transport connections to unlock investment potential. It will be a leader in innovative transport solutions to enable easy and safe access without a car, so that anyone can be mobile.

As the future Inner Harbour transforms, infrastructure will evolve from moving freight and traffic, to facilitating the movement of people and ideas.

New connections and transport modes will be a key enabler for future investment and economic growth. This will include local and cross-harbour connections as well as regional links to adjacent areas and the southern corridor,

There will be a strong focus on active and shared transport to lessen car dependency. This was strongly supported throughout the engagement, where the following ideas were suggested:

- support alternative modes, such as micro-mobility (scooters, cycles etc.) as a primary way to get around,
- establish a high level of walkability through well networked paths and cycling trails,

- easy to access and reliable public transport,
- innovative transport concepts such as car free zones, shared cars, de-coupled parking, and peripheral car parks, and
- walkable and highly connected urban neighbourhoods, consistent with aspirations around sustainability and wellbeing, and complementing Fremantle's existing pedestrian friendly character.

The level of investment in transport infrastructure will need to be proportionate to the type and intensity of planned development and land use. Optimising development intensity will be an important factor for delivering a viable and sustainable transport system.

Measuring success	
Walkable and self-sufficient	Distance to transit
Safe and accessible	Regional connections
Micro mobility	Green active transport corridors



Emerging Vision Goal

Diverse and Healthy

The Future of Fremantle will be a socially diverse and healthy community through varied community facilities, accessible waterfronts and green open spaces, combined with a range of different housing and tenure types, and job opportunities.

The community wants the Inner Harbour to be a place that welcomes, celebrates and provides equitable opportunities for all people and cultures. Meaningful diversity will also re-create an element of charm, interest and vibrancy, which Fremantle is well known for. Achieving a positive legacy by focusing on the health and wellbeing of people and place, is also a high priority.

Ideas to support healthy lifestyles and diversity include:

- provide a range of different urban housing opportunities, for all income thresholds (including Aboriginal people, families and ageing in place),
- invest in key worker, student and social housing,
- achieve tenure and job diversity which spans all income thresholds,
- different social and recreational opportunities with wide-ranging appeal,

- multi-functional community facilities and social enterprises that encourage social interaction (for example, multi-user centrally located schools),
- self-sufficient, mixed-use neighbourhoods, and
- high-quality design, bringing visual appeal and good access to open space, natural light, view corridors and ventilation (density done well).

Providing for such a diverse range of assets and key supporting infrastructure ultimately comes at a cost, and incorporating density will be important to unlocking these opportunities. The goal is to strike a balance between the provision of highly desirable infrastructure and delivering an intensity of development that can support an economically feasible outcome.

Measuring success	
Housing diversity	Key worker and social housing
Social diversity	Services for vulnerable people
Space for community connection	Population Density





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Emerging Vision Goal

Celebrates Aboriginal Culture

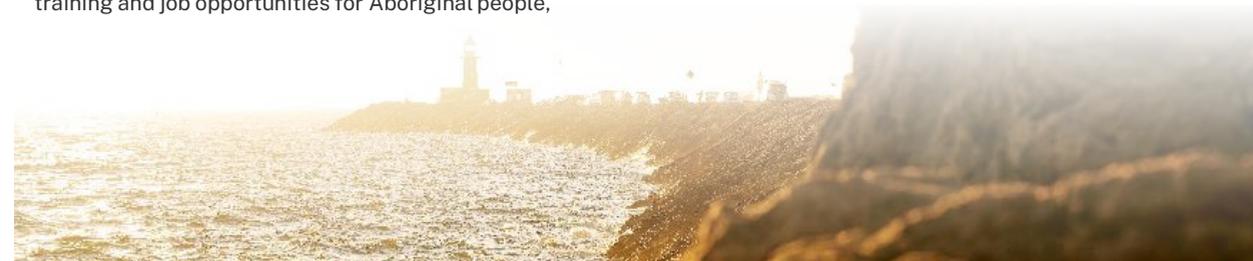
The Future of Fremantle will protect and preserve Aboriginal culture as a leading narrative, underpinned by a strong focus on Aboriginal socio-economic advancement.

Walyalup's (Fremantle) Aboriginal heritage has spiritual significance for its connection to the Dreaming and poignant stories between people, land, the river and the sea. Before European settlement it was an important meeting and trading place for Aboriginal people.

The Elders want Aboriginal heritage protected and significant cultural connections to the land and waterways maintained.

Given this long-standing and special connection with the area, it is important to the Elders that Aboriginal people derive direct socio-economic benefit from the site, through shared prosperity. Ways to do this could include:

- Celebrate culture and embed designing for country principles through exchanging stories, truth-telling, place names, landscaping, public art and other forms of cultural interpretation,
- Leverage alignment between Aboriginal cultural knowledge and target industries such as tourism and hospitality, marine research, and environmental restoration and management, to provide beneficial skills training and job opportunities for Aboriginal people,



- Support Aboriginal-owned enterprise through procurement, capacity and capability training. This could start early to be commercially ready in the future,
- Explore opportunities for a landmark building and design gestures, such as a cultural centre or a Noongar sci-tech-type facility, and preservation of the Dwertwirinup (Cantonment Hill) and Wadjemup (Rottne Island) view corridor,
- Deliver housing, land tenure opportunities and places where Aboriginal people of all ages, feel welcome and comfortable living, working and visiting, and
- Maintain effective ongoing Aboriginal engagement to ensure there is a continuous voice at the table as the project progresses over the long term.

Measuring success	
Cultural Places and Activation	Aboriginal Enterprise Opportunities
Aboriginal Skills and Training	Aboriginal Engagement
Designing for Country	Housing for Aboriginal People

Emerging Vision Goal

Reconnect to Land and Water

The Future of Fremantle will explore opportunities to reconnect the site to the natural environment through naturalised river edges, coastal protection, and green open spaces, combined with commercially aligned investment opportunities.

The Elders and other stakeholders have been very clear about the importance of restoring the health of the land and waterways. We heard the positives of a restorative, nature-led approach, and various ways in which the site could achieve these outcomes. Flexible and adaptable design was also highlighted as a priority for climate change resilience.

Investment in open space was strongly supported, such as reclaimed naturalised river edges, green links and organic, natural green spaces. These improvements are highly beneficial to lifestyle, health and wellbeing, they help to heal the environment including contamination, water quality and erosion and reconnect the site to its land and waterways,

It was acknowledged there are constraints to planting with reclaimed soils and further investigation is required to understand appropriate solutions.



Other ideas proposed include:

- To mitigate climate change impacts, parks and open space can also withstand flooding and storm events, recover quickly and therefore protect the neighbourhoods around them,
- Measures to manage erosion at Port Beach to protect the sandy beach were also highlighted as a high priority,
- Invest in water-based infrastructure to support greater use and protection of the waterways (such as upgraded terminals, jetties and coastal protection measures),
- Find ways to preserve and embed cultural values into the landscape,
- Explore opportunities for a circular economy, such as precinct scale water recycling, onsite energy production and other localised greening initiatives, and
- Restore biodiversity and increase tree canopy through low water use landscaping, stormwater harvesting and water sensitive design to sustain green streets.

Measuring success	
Circular Economy	Water based infrastructure
Zero carbon city	Green open spaces
Biodiversity and Tree Canopy	Water sensitive urban design



Visualisations are for illustration purposes only.

A Unique Economic Opportunity

Future of Fremantle represents an opportunity to sustain and strengthen local, regional and state economies and contribute to Western Australia's prosperity over the next century.

This can be achieved by:

Supporting Fremantle's evolution

Build the population, employment and industry base that supports Fremantle thrive as a local community and economy, while helping carefully manage the transition of existing port jobs.

Leveraging the Western Trade Coast

Build on the significant economic opportunities being developed in the Western Trade Coast by being an epicentre of talent development and attraction, research and development, and a highly attractive location for business headquarters.

Driving economic diversification and exports

Support the development of major industries including international education and research, shipbuilding design, defence, tourism, and creative industries.

A leading gateway in the Indian Ocean Rim

Become a hub for global trade, knowledge exchange and innovation that supports the rapidly emerging Indian Ocean Rim economies.

Three economic scenarios have been developed to respond to the identified opportunities:

1 Scenario 1 – Harbour City

Economic Role – Regional significance

A sustainable and self-sufficient urban neighbourhood within Fremantle that drives investment and local vibrancy, liveability and creativity.

2 Scenario 2 – Coastal City

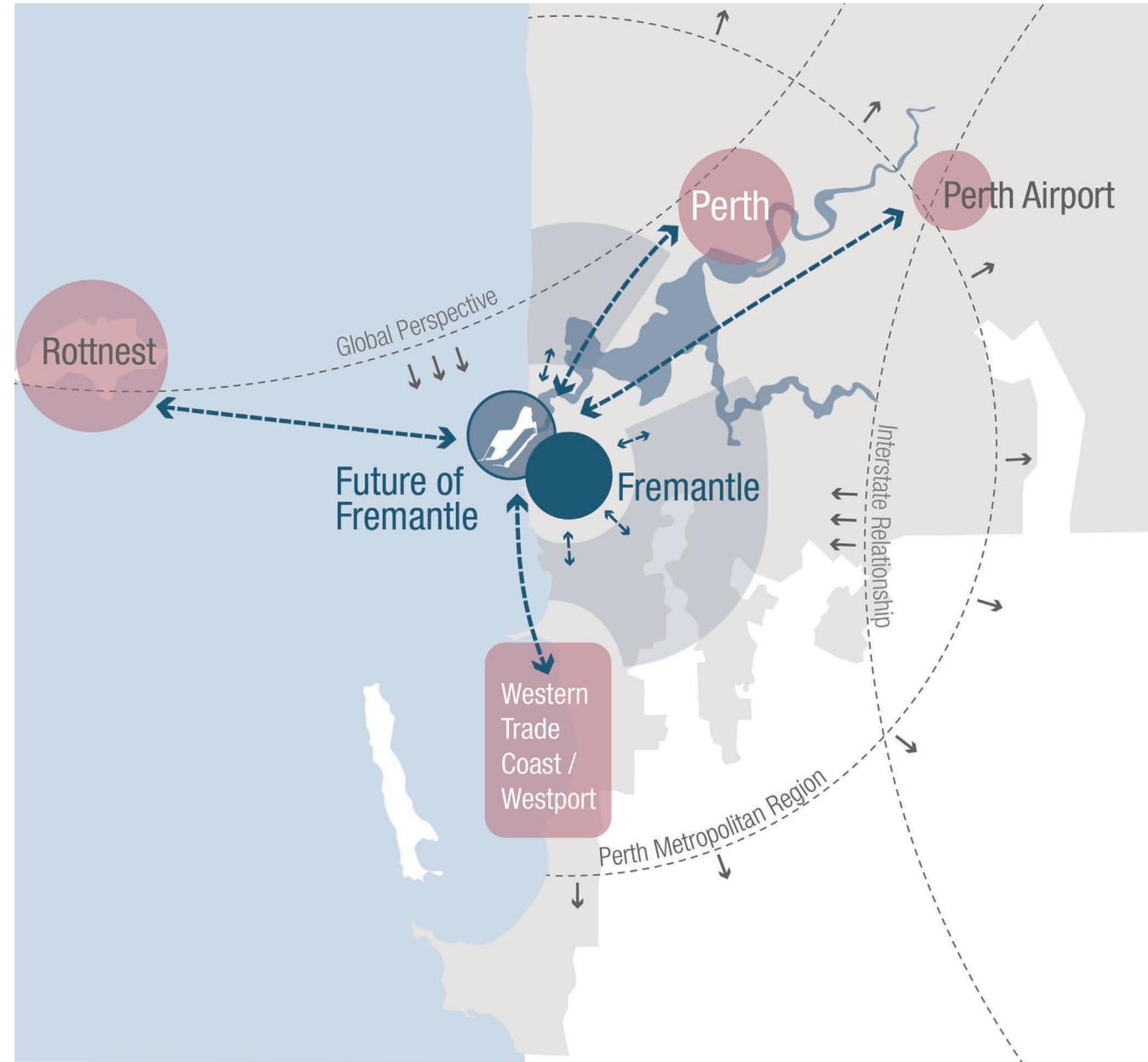
Economic Role – State significance

A state-significant urban centre that is a beacon of sustainability, blue and green industries, and coastal lifestyle.

3 Scenario 3 – Competitive City

Economic Role – National significance

A centre of innovation and excellence for the Indian Ocean Rim that drives investment and job creation in diversified industry sectors.



Scenario Overview

To shape the vision, three scenarios have been developed for the Future of Fremantle, which explore the site’s potential future role and city development opportunities.

The purpose of the scenarios is to test community and stakeholder aspirations and priorities, allowing different infrastructure, investment and place outcomes to be explored.

What aspects are the same across all three scenarios?

The starting point for the scenario options were a series of ‘Common Assumptions’ that were strongly supported through the engagement and should be evident across all three scenarios. These included aspects to protect culture and heritage, access to and use of the water, and sustainable land use and movement principles.

What is different across the scenarios?

Variables have then been identified as enablers to facilitate economic potential. The most critical being different levels of land use intensity, transport connections, open space networks, waterfront amenities, and building types (discussed further within this section).

How will the scenarios test community priorities?

The scenarios have been designed to spatially explore potential benefits, but also, to understand what trade-offs might be required, to deliver on community aspirations. These trade-offs are closely linked to the intensity of land use and building types envisaged for the site. For example, great place outcomes and high quality, sustainable transportation systems are achievable when coupled with enough intensity of land-use development to support the required level of investment.



Scenario 1
Harbour City

Trade-offs Explored

Explores a lower range of jobs and residents and a lesser range of community facilities, open space, public transport options and housing diversity commensurate with a lower yielding development.



Scenario 2
Coastal City

Trade-offs Explored

Explores a larger population to sustain increased investment in infrastructure and diverse community facilities, as well as taller buildings freeing up space at ground level to provide new green networks and improved diversity in housing.



Scenario 3
Competitive City

Trade-offs Explored

Explores catalytic infrastructure investment, to support high-intensity mixed use development, including public transport, community facilities and tourism investment.

Common Assumptions

The below assumptions are constants that apply across all three scenarios.

Be a job positive development	Protect heritage listed buildings	High intensity land use to support self-sufficient neighbourhoods	Maintain cruise and ferry in the Inner Harbour
Maintain public access to the waterfront	Prioritise active and public transport over cars	Protect Port Beach and acknowledge its role as a regional destination with commensurate levels of activation and amenity	Celebrate significant Aboriginal cultural sites such as the Dwertwirrinup (Cantonment Hill) to Wadjemup (Rottnest Island) view corridor

Scenario One

Harbour City

Harbour City explores how to optimise existing assets, to grow and support the emerging competitive advantages of Fremantle.

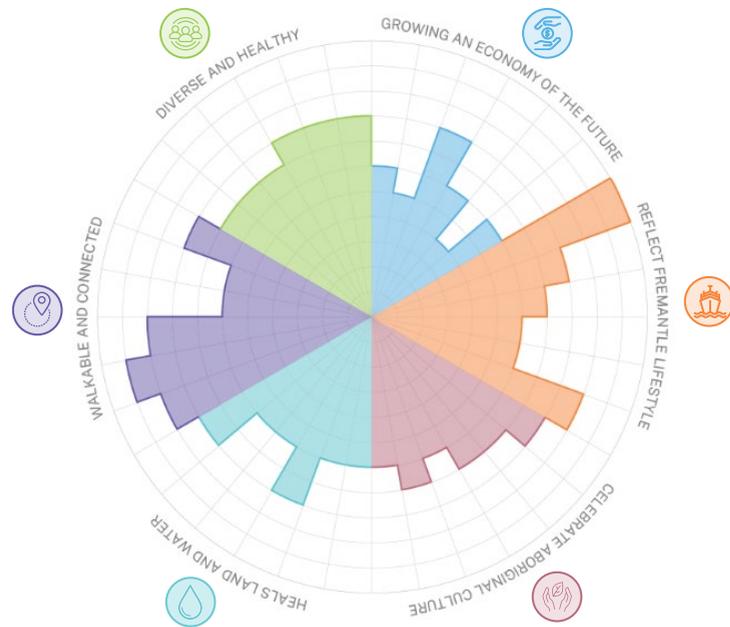
The scenario builds on economic industry clusters within Fremantle to attract new tourism, culture and creativity; support education and training; and grow the marine services and blue economy sector.

The primary focus is to leverage existing infrastructure and harness adaptive re-use opportunities.

Variables explored within the scenario include:

- Optimising heritage assets at Victoria Quay and marine based infrastructure at Rous Head
- Reduced reliance on catalyst funding for enabling economic infrastructure
- Lower range of jobs and residents
- Lesser range of community facilities, open space, public transport options and housing diversity commensurate with a lower yielding development scenario
- High density, medium rise building types

Indicative Vision Scorecard



Potential Economic Anchors

Blue Oceans Enterprise Park with flexible industry facilities, flexible sites and office work-spaces.

Adaptive re-use of heritage buildings for creative economy including Aboriginal arts and cultural spaces

Aboriginal enterprise, training and support facilities (cultural tourism and hospitality)

New student accommodation, hotels and key worker housing

Scenario Snapshot

Place Economy
Economic anchors at Victoria Quay and Rous Head supporting approx. 15,000 – 25,000 jobs

Mobility
Supported by a high frequency bus network connected to existing railways stations

Green + Blue Futures
Formal arrangements of parks, boulevards and waterfront promenades

Urban Planning
High density, medium rise buildings (5-10+ storeys) supporting approx. 25,000 – 35,000 residents

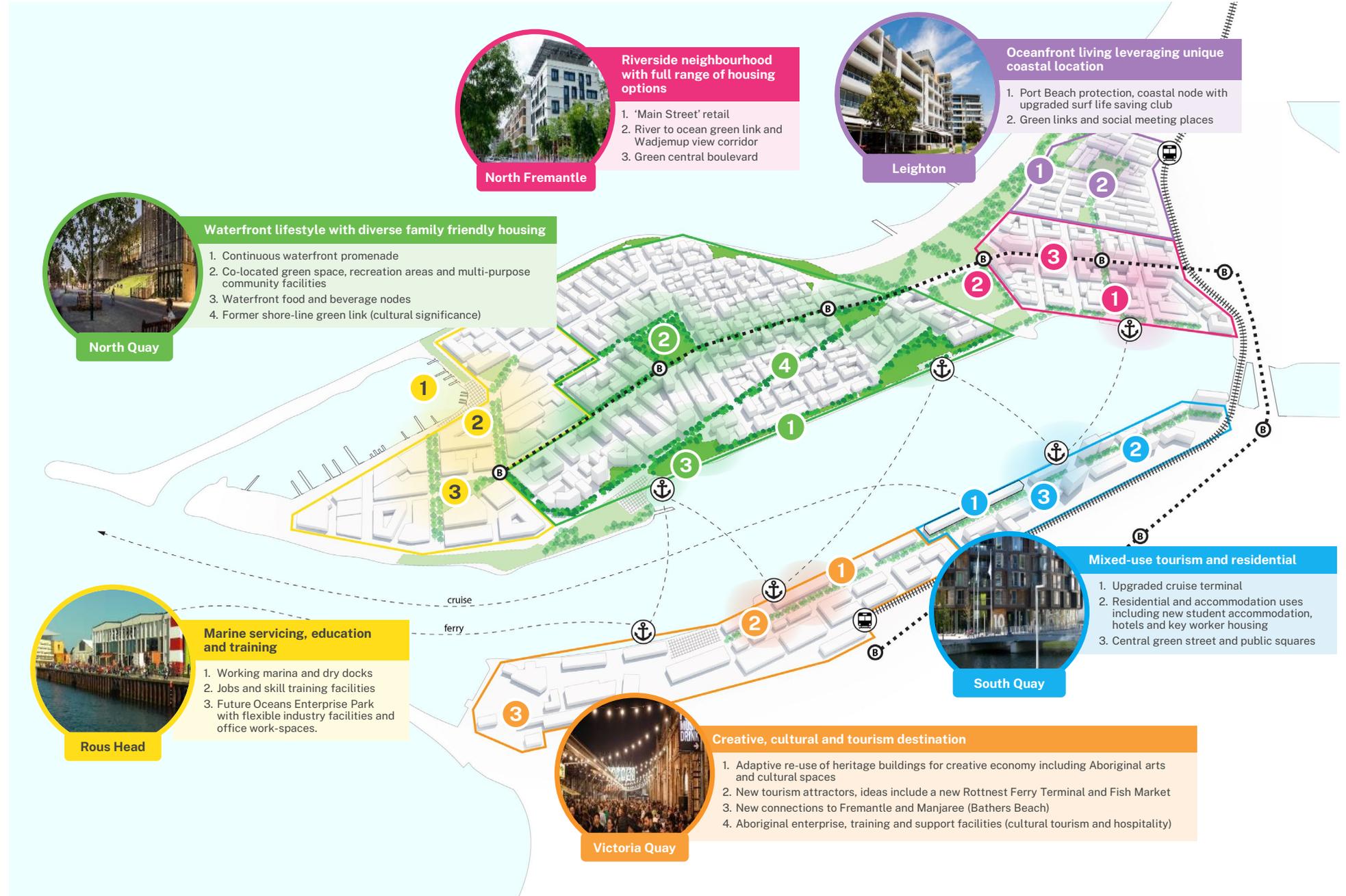
Scenario One | Harbour City

Place Economy

Building on the city's established reputation for creativity, tourism and marine services, Harbour City balances grit which stems from continued harbour activity, and the polish of new investment - to grow a more sustainable centre that strengthens Fremantle's economy.

Key Economic and Social Drivers

- Deliver a series of highly distinct, waterfront neighbourhoods to increase population catchment
- Provide space for growth in creative and cultural, education / training, blue economy and marine service industries
- Establish a marine servicing, skills and training precinct at Rous Head and
- Invest in Victoria Quay to attract new tourism, cultural and creative uses.



Scenario One | Harbour City

Mobility

The Harbour City transport approach aims to complement existing services that connect Fremantle to the broader metropolitan area.

The scenario features an extensive, high-frequency bus network that connects the site to Fremantle and North Fremantle railway stations and regional transport routes.

The high-frequency bus network would connect with existing services and provide a reliable local service for the significant number of new residents.

The network is aligned to key central boulevards and supported by ferry connections across the harbour.

Public transport would also be supported by an interconnected and extensive network of walking and cycling routes linking to key destinations, particularly along waterfront edges.

Connecting to the region



- High frequency bus network using central boulevards, connecting into Tydeman Road
- North Fremantle train station remains in current location
- Curtin Avenue connected to Stirling Highway via a flyover

Crossing the harbour



- Cross harbour ferry connections between Victoria Quay, Rous Head, North Quay and South Quay

Linking communities



- Better connections to Victoria Quay over what would become the former freight rail alignment
- New waterside connections (North Fremantle and Victoria Quay) under Swan River bridge crossing
- Dedicated pedestrian and cycle paths linking North Quay and Victoria Quay with North Fremantle and Fremantle town centres



Scenario One | Harbour City

Green + Blue Futures

Harbour City features a formal arrangement of public spaces, including collocated community facilities that support wellbeing and connect people to the coastal and riverine environments.

The Elders have shared the site's cultural significance. The Dwertwurrinup (Cantonment Hill) – Wadjemup (Rottnest) view corridor represents a gesture to deeply embed cultural values into the landscape and to provide opportunities for interpretation throughout the site (maintained in all scenarios).

Sustainable aspects would be integrated through the landscape design, and may include local stormwater harvesting, green streets and low water use landscaping incorporating coastal and riverine vegetation.

Reaching the water



- Protection of Port Beach through groynes to maintain sandy beach
- Generous coastal foreshore reserve
- Waterfront public space nodes centered around ferries
- Continuous waterfront promenades along the harbour and coastal edges

Greening the land

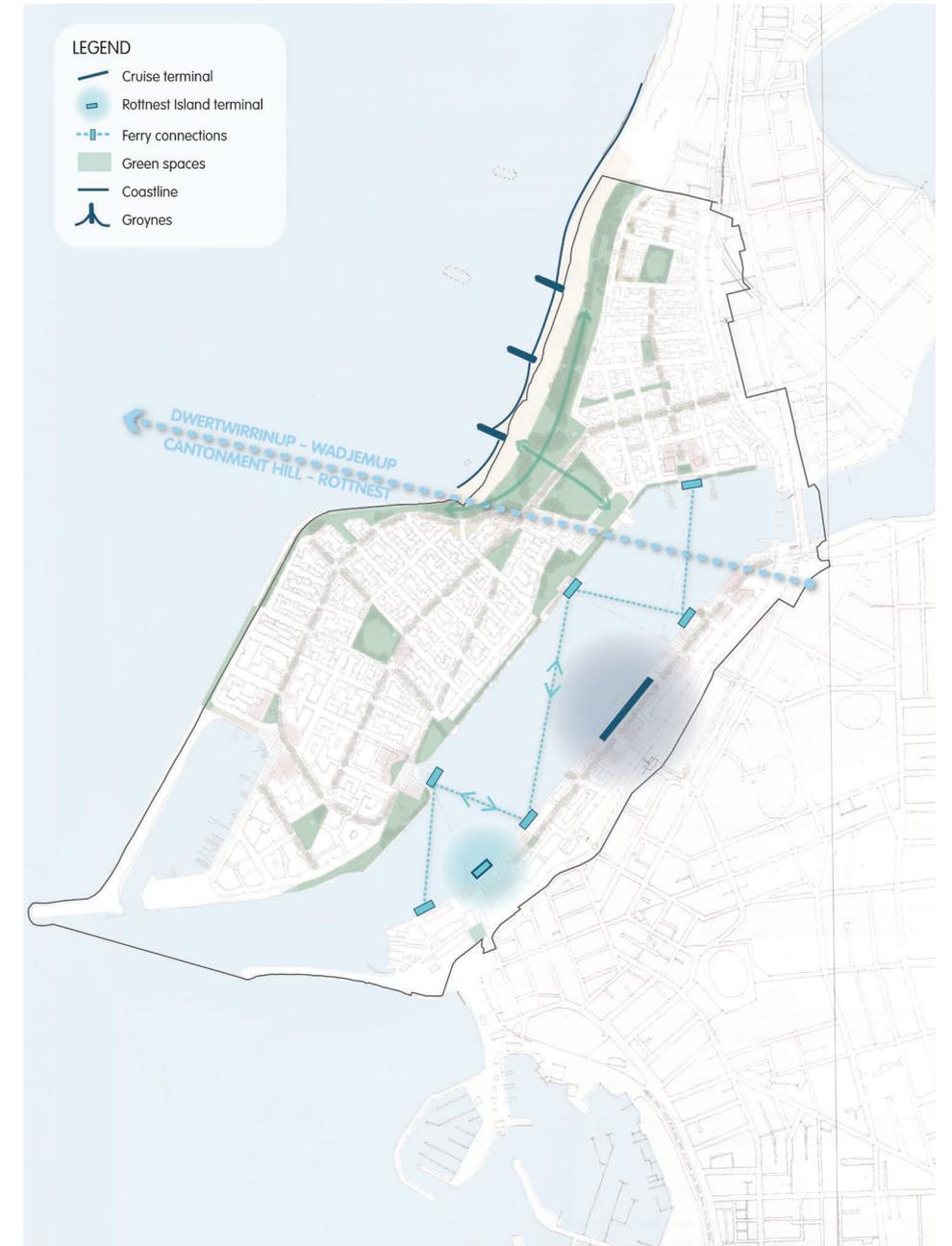


- Landmark river to coast connection incorporating Aboriginal cultural view line
- Formal public parklands for recreation and activation
- Low water use landscaping incorporating local coastal and riverine vegetation

Using the waterways



- Upgraded existing cruise terminal
- New ferry terminal nodes and small recreational boating facilities in key locations
- Rottnest Island ferry consolidated in Victoria Quay



Scenario One | Harbour City

Urban Planning

Harbour City represents a medium rise, high density mix of land uses and building types to achieve a self-sustainable neighbourhood.

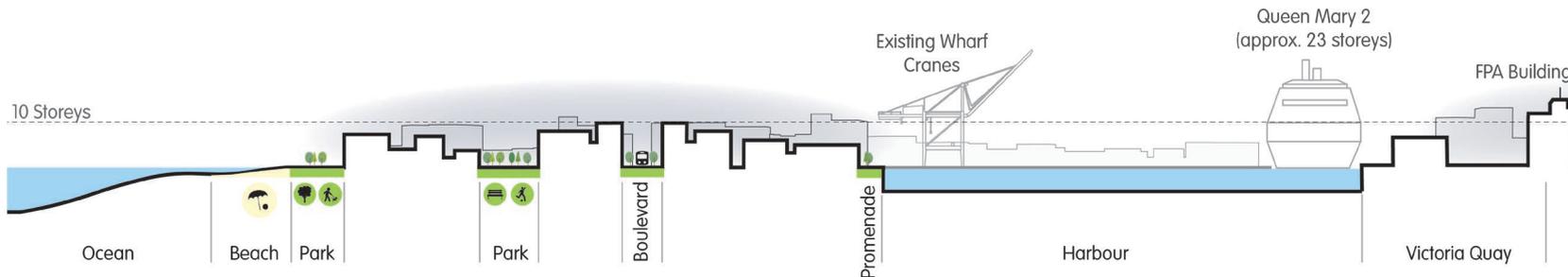
The aim is to create a place where people can access all their daily needs within an easy walk or cycle, without the need for a car.

In this scenario, building intensity has been distributed across the site, with slightly taller elements located in neighbourhood nodes concentrated around boulevards, parks and waterfronts.

These neighbourhood nodes would be supported by local shops, schools and multi-purpose community facilities.

Due to the more conservative approach to building heights and yields, the scenario has a higher dependence on private sector investment, meaning reduced opportunities for social and affordable housing, and less diversity in community spaces.

Indicative building height response



Building typologies



- Medium rise street block apartments
- Taller buildings in waterfront locations, along central boulevards and green spaces
- Reduced opportunity for more affordable housing options (due to reduced yields)

Places to play + visit



- Active waterfront nodes adjacent to hard edge promenades
- Parks perform a formal active playing function collocated with schools and community facilities



Scenario Two

Coastal City

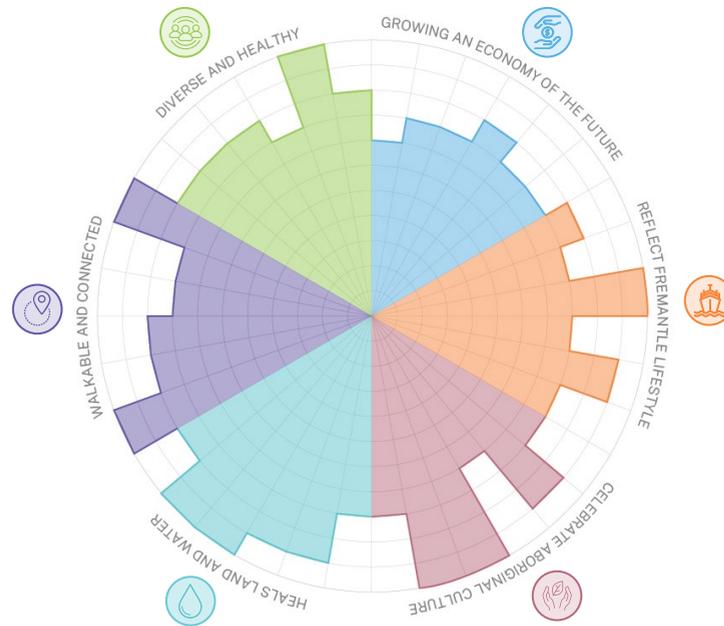
Coastal City explores the repositioning of Perth’s southern corridor as a leader in regenerative urban technologies, innovation and next generation marine industries.

The scenario further builds on existing water-based infrastructure and is supported by a prominent economic anchor at Rous Head. It also provides for improved connectivity to the existing Fremantle city centre, and strong commercial links with the southern growth corridor and Western Trade Coast.

Variables explored are:

- Enhanced investment in a public transport 'arc' that establishes strong links with North Fremantle and Victoria Quay, and anchors broader economic development opportunities
- Larger population to sustain increased investment in infrastructure and diverse community facilities (coastal and riverfront nodes, community spaces and local centres)
- Taller buildings freeing up space at ground level to provide new green networks and improved diversity in housing
- Generous, iconic natural and organic public realm to balance development intensity

Indicative Vision Scorecard



Potential Economic Anchors (Scenario 1 +)

Marine Industries Centre of Excellence incorporating vocational and tertiary education, R&D, and innovation infrastructure

Hosting land and water-based aquaculture and marine regeneration trials

Eco-tourism infrastructure incorporating dive trails, cultural knowledge and maritime interpretation

New tourism anchors including a new Rottneest Ferry Terminal and Fish Market

Scenario Snapshot

Place Economy
Economic anchors at Victoria Quay, Rous Head and near North Fremantle station accommodating approx. 30,000 – 40,000 jobs.

Mobility
Supported by a mid-tier transit arc and North Fremantle Train Station relocated south of current position

Green + Blue Futures
Iconic, high quality, organic / natural public spaces to balance higher intensity development and land use

Urban Planning
High density, medium – high rise buildings (3-20+ storeys) accommodating approx. 35,000 – 45,000 residents

Scenario Two | Coastal City

Place Economy

The Coastal City will help underpin Fremantle as a state-significant urban centre that is a beacon of sustainability, blue and green industries and coastal lifestyle. With connection to the water at the front and centre, open space is seamlessly integrated creating opportunities for restorative landscapes and cultural stories, and investment in the blue economy and nature-based lifestyle experiences.

The scenario explores an innovation and skills campus as a primary anchor at Rous Head, to extend Fremantle's reputation as a leader in marine industries and sustainability.

Key Economic and Social Drivers

- Significant landscape and public space enhancement
- Create community benefit by delivering public spaces that build on the site's unique attributes
- Become a leader in regenerative urbanism, technologies, sustainable fisheries and next generation marine technologies
- Use sustainable place identity and brand to drive investment and industry attraction
- Reposition Fremantle as a key lifestyle destination and further strengthen cultural anchors and the creative economy



Scenario Two | Coastal City

Mobility

The movement network of the Coastal City aims to strengthen Fremantle’s strategic role within the southern corridor and enhance its connection with existing Fremantle.

To support this outcome, a transformative ‘mid-tier’ arc is proposed, linking the peninsula to a relocated North Fremantle Train Station. The mid-tier route then utilises the freight corridor bridge and alignment to reach Fremantle station, activating new waterfront precincts.

A future opportunity to repurpose the current Freight Rail corridor for public transport can be explored.

The economic role and relationship with existing Fremantle is further enhanced by a moveable bridge for walking and cycling. The increased number of residents and jobs within this scenario drives the need for this cross-harbour connection.

The green networks proposed for Coastal City also enhance walking, cycling and micro-mobility, to provide a largely uninterrupted active transport route from the coast to the riverfronts, and support the transition to car-free neighbourhoods.

Connecting to the region



- Mid-tier transit arc linking Rous Head to Fremantle Station
- North Fremantle railway station relocated to Jackson Street, creating a new interchange
- Curtin Avenue connected to Stirling Highway via a flyover

Crossing the river

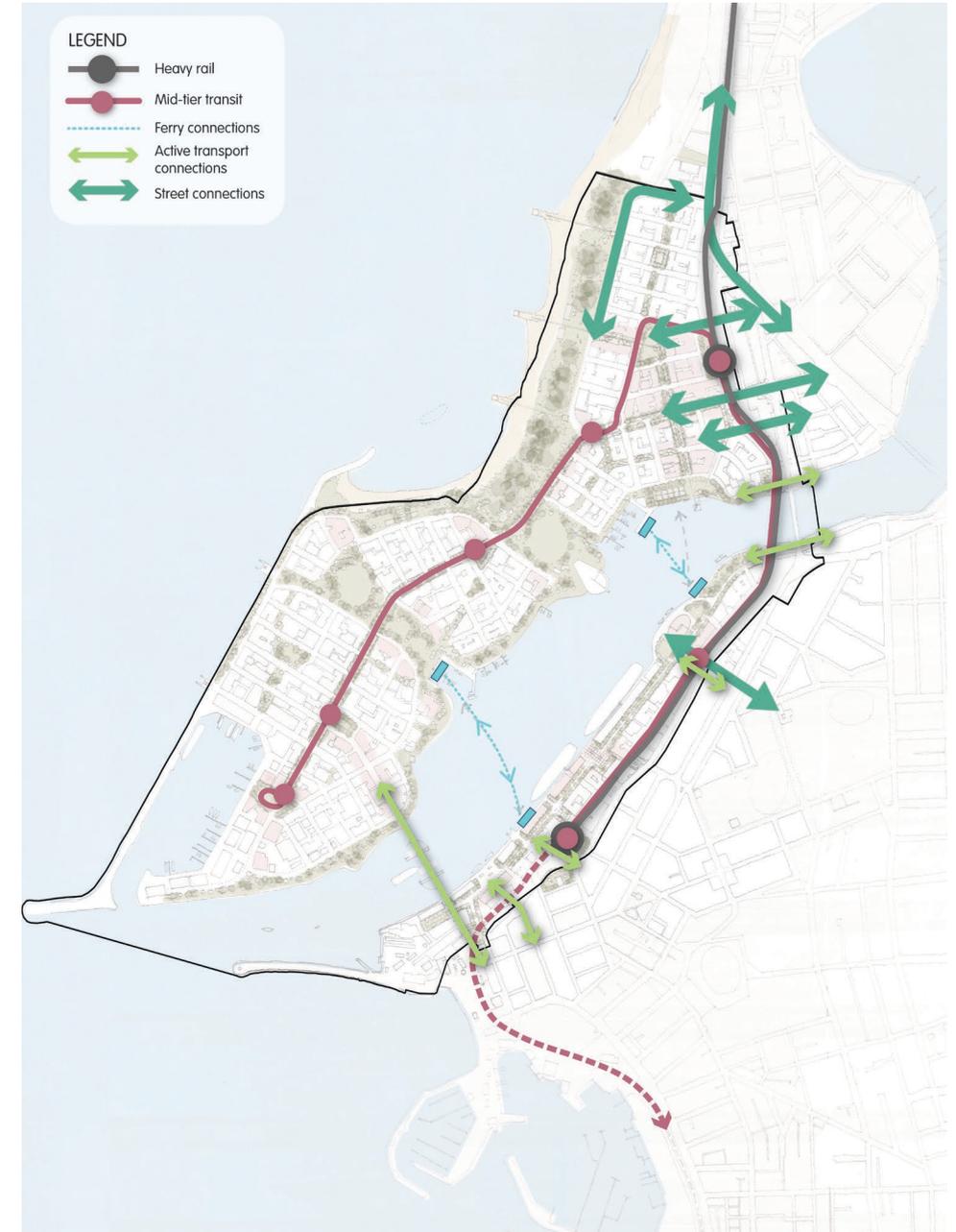


- Iconic moveable walking and cycling footbridge connecting Rous Head to Victoria Quay at Cliff Street, maintaining movement of cruise and larger vessels into the inner harbour
- Two ferry crossings connecting the Victoria Quay and South Quay precincts with North Quay, supported by higher density waterfront nodes and marinas

Linking communities



- Improved connections to Victoria Quay over freight rail alignment
- New waterside pedestrian connections (North and Victoria Quay) created under Swan River crossing
- Consolidated at grade-crossing point at Jackson Street at the relocated North Fremantle Train Station



Scenario Two | Coastal City

Green + Blue Futures

The Coastal City features an expansive blue green public space network that transforms the site and links the coast and river together.

Central to this scenario are generous green wedges that run east-west through the site, providing uninterrupted green links to future public destinations, integrated with the coastal foreshore reserves.

The links are complemented by softer edges to the river that create new regenerative outcomes.

Through the promotion of restoring the environment, the scenario also supports:

- Aboriginal culture and nature-based/eco-tourism business opportunities
- improved precinct scale sustainability outcomes, such as water recycling and blue-green infrastructure
- opportunities for more diverse housing through significant amenity creation.

Reaching the water



- Protect Port Beach with headlands to maintain sandy beach, including introduction of surf reef
- Introduce a north facing, regional beach with upgraded facilities (such as a surf lifesaving club)
- Waterfront public spaces wrapping the northern harbourside

Greening the land

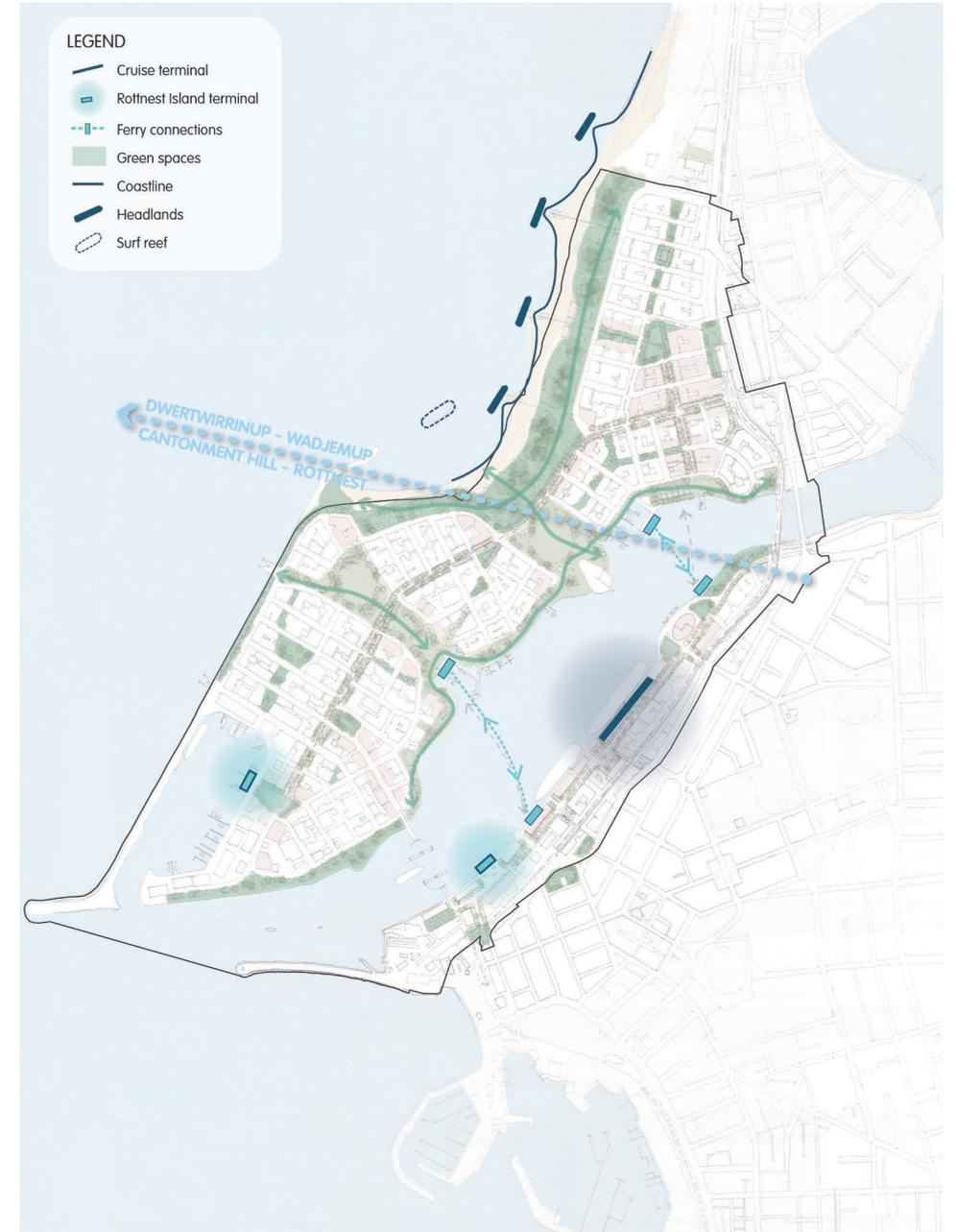


- Two green river to coast connections linking open space and public destinations
- Organic public parklands for recreation, activation, biodiversity and green infrastructure

Using the waterways



- Upgraded existing cruise terminal.
- Two ferry routes linking north and south of the harbour, supported by larger marina nodes and facilities
- Rottnest Island ferry at Rous Head and upgraded at Victoria Quay.



Scenario Two | Coastal City

Urban Planning

By leveraging better public realm amenity, the Coastal City represents a mixed-use, high-density scenario that supports the Inner Harbour becoming a lifestyle destination.

Building intensity has been dispersed across the site, with a larger number of taller buildings taking advantage of views to the ocean, river and green space.

Intensity in land use is focused on new infrastructure, particularly the centrally located train station in North Fremantle, and at the intersection of the new bridge and mid-tier transit arc in Rous Head. Fremantle and North Fremantle would perform complimentary roles that support both acting as significant activity centres.

The built form strategy supports the vision, with taller buildings freeing up space at ground level to provide new green networks and improved diversity in housing.

Building Typologies



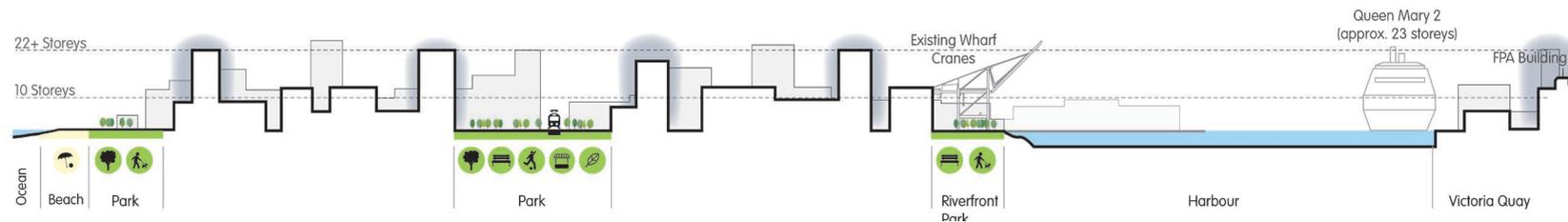
- High density taller buildings dispersed across the site, taking advantage of views to water and greenery
- Improved opportunity to provide diversity in housing types for the whole community, including social, affordable and key worker

Places to play + visit



- Activation focused green corridors, waterfront marinas and connection points
- Parks perform a high amenity and multi-function purpose to support community activation, investment attraction and business vibrancy

Indicative building height response



Scenario Three

Competitive City

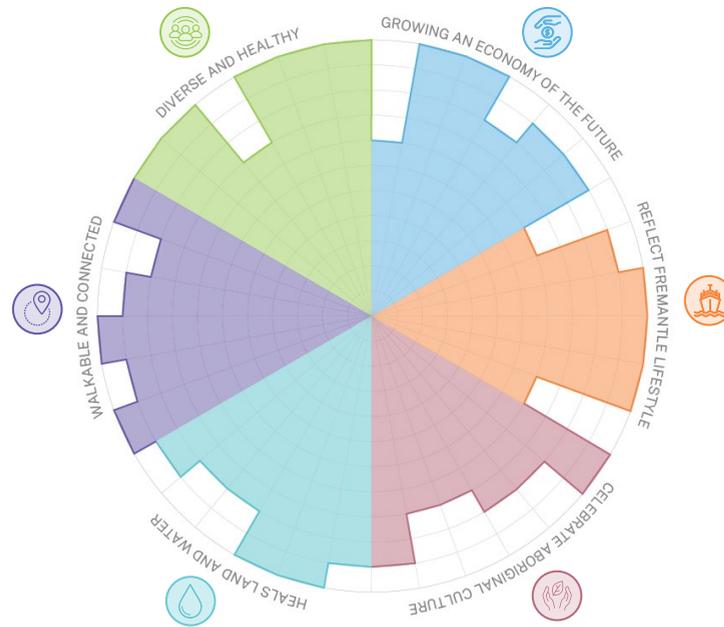
The Competitive City imagines a transformative role for Fremantle and the Inner Harbour on a national and global scale.

Leveraging adjacent transport infrastructure in North Fremantle, the scenario explores how strategic investment in enabling infrastructure and enhanced local and regional links might catalyse the site as an integral driver of the State Government’s economic diversification aspirations.

Variables explored are:

- Generous, high quality and iconic public spaces to offset high residential and job intensity
- An Innovation District of state-wide significance driving high value knowledge based economy and global headquarters.
- Catalytic infrastructure investment, support by high-intensity mixed use development.
- Significant tourism and place making investment to support land use intensity.

Indicative Vision Scorecard



Potential Economic Anchors (Scenario 1 + 2 +)

Superyacht marina and servicing	Waterfront city centre (innovation district) anchored by a major research institution and innovation infrastructure	Iconic riverfront Fremantle harbour tourism, arts and waterfront bridge loops with recreational jetties and boardwalks	New world class cruise terminal, with adaptive reuse of existing cruise terminal as an anchor for a national conference and events centre precinct
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Scenario Snapshot

Place Economy Primary anchor at North Fremantle Innovation District with supporting major nodes across the peninsula, accommodating approx. 40,000 – 50,000 jobs	Mobility Transformational mid-tier transit loops, cross harbour bridge connections and improved local links to the waterfront	Green + Blue Futures Diverse mix of generous, high quality and iconic public spaces, significant water-based infrastructure and high impact sustainability measures	Urban Planning High-density, medium to high-rise buildings (3-30+ storeys) accommodating approx. 45,000 – 55,000 residents
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Scenario Three | Competitive City

Place Economy

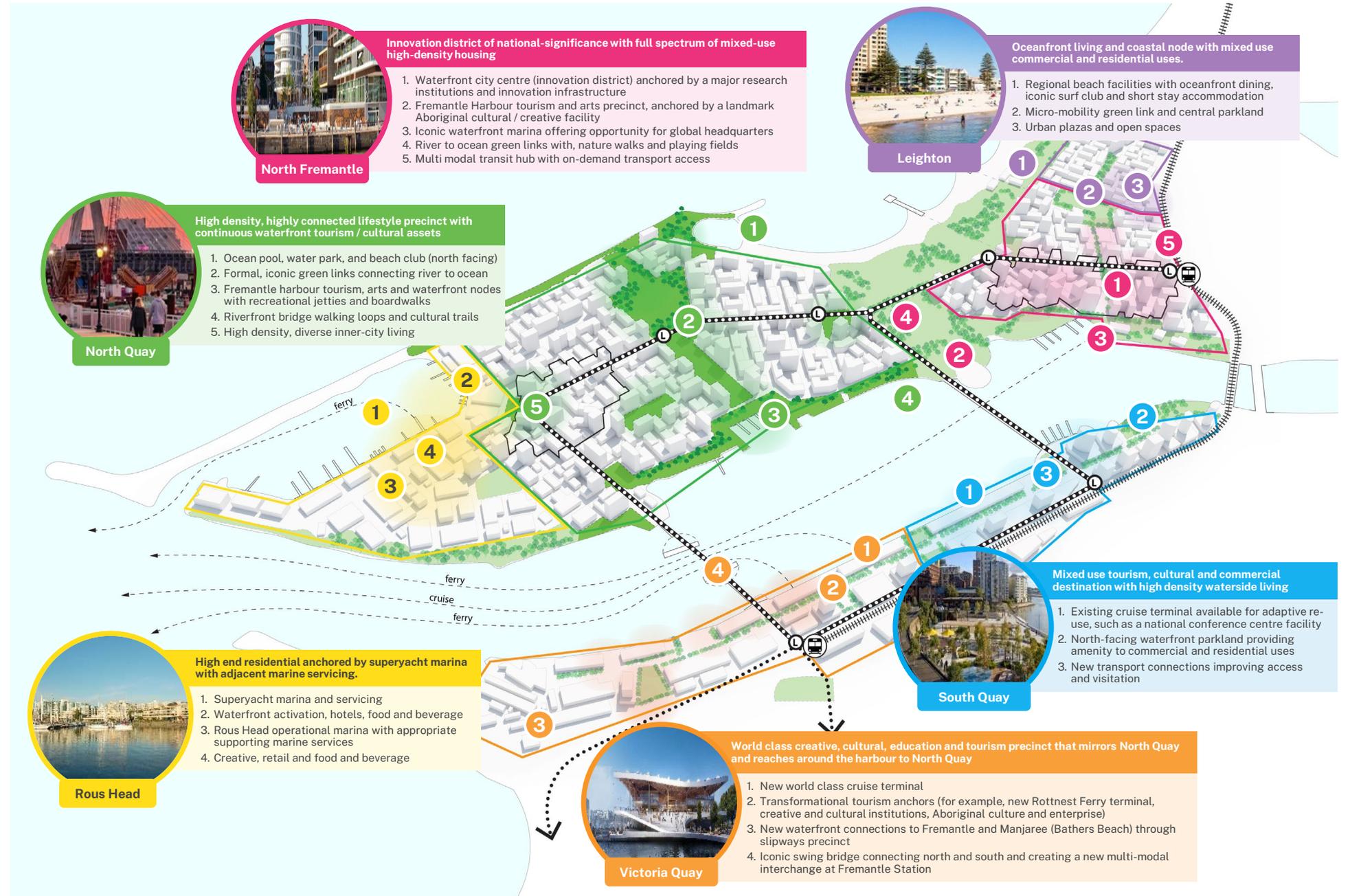
The Competitive City envisages a vibrant and dynamic urban centre anchored by an Innovation District in North Fremantle.

Supported by a range of world-class waterfront and heritage tourism assets that connect and blend old with new, the Competitive City will sit proudly on the world stage, renowned for its reputation as a place with a prosperous economy that is rich in spirit, creativity and soul.

The Competitive City explores how a high value innovation district of national significance, together with global tourism anchors could stimulate economic development and diversification. The productivity of Rous Head and Victoria Quay is also enhanced, benefiting from transformative tourism investment and improved connectivity between North Quay, North Fremantle and the broader region.

Key Economic and Social Drivers

- Regionally significant job growth
- Innovation, research and development
- Visitor economy and global tourism
- Residential housing mix and diverse neighbourhoods for inclusive communities
- Strong local and regional transport connections
- Enhanced links between heritage precincts



Scenario Three | Competitive City

Mobility

Facilitating a regional economic role of the Competitive City is a public transport network of commensurate service.

This is achieved through dual mid-tier transit routes featuring two bridges, including a fixed bridge at James Street and a swing bridge at Market Street.

Both routes connect to a relocated North Fremantle Train Station at Tydeman Road, providing on-demand travel from the high intensity North Fremantle city centre.

Local connections are substantially improved through elevated rail in both North Fremantle and Victoria Quay. This allows for additional pedestrian and cyclist crossing points to reconnect to the waterfront.

Ultimately, this scenario becomes a place where walking, cycling, micro-mobility and public transport are the most convenient options, supporting overall sustainability and modal share targets, and limiting potential impacts on regional transport networks.

To sustain this catalytic investment in public transport, the scenario is supported by high-intensity mixed use development, accommodating significant new jobs and residents.

Connecting to the city



- Dual mid-tier transit loops linking Rous Head, North Fremantle and Victoria Quay to Fremantle Station and beyond
- North Fremantle railway station moved south to Tydeman Road, creating a key public transport interchange
- Curtin Highway connecting to Stirling Highway at grade (rail elevated over road)

Crossing the harbour

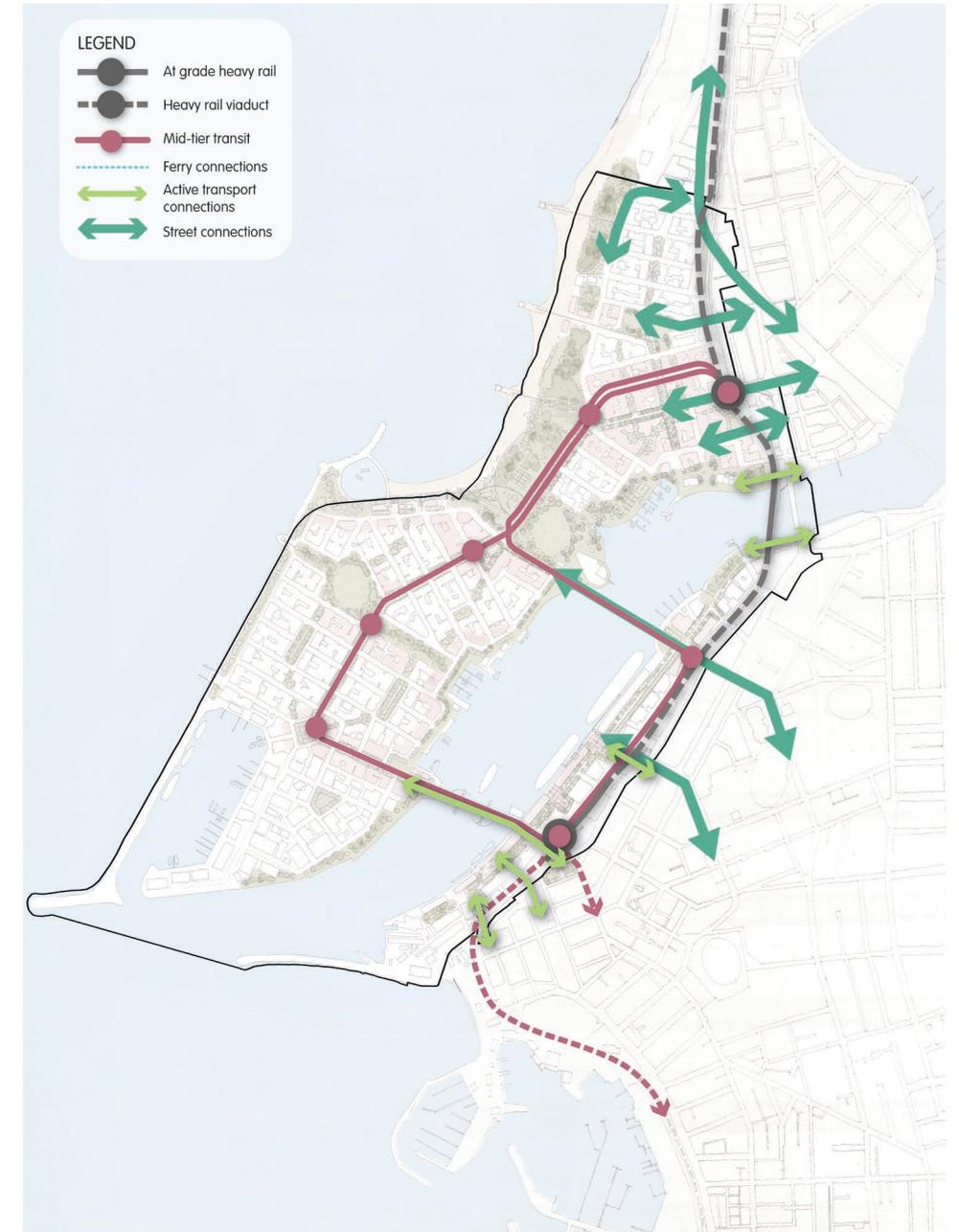


- Iconic swing bridge connecting Rous Head to Victoria Quay / Fremantle Station at Market Street (walking, micro-mobility and public transport), maintaining movement of cruise and larger vessels into the inner harbour
- Fixed bridge at James Street connecting North Quay with South Quay (vehicles, walking, micro-mobility and public transport)

Linking communities



- Significant new local connections through elevated rail in North Fremantle and Victoria Quay East
- Better connections to Victoria Quay over the old freight rail line (now mid-tier transit)
- New waterside connections (North and Victoria Quay) under Swan River crossing



Scenario Three | Competitive City

Green + Blue Futures

The public space network supporting the Competitive City is an iconic and formal arrangement of spaces that provide quality amenity for high intensity land uses.

Maintaining the key east-west green links, the network is supported by linear parklands and green promenades on the harbour edge, supporting the intended cultural and tourism roles.

The more formal nature of these spaces is counterbalanced by the organic coastal and river foreshores, which aim to restore some of the natural conditions to these unique environments.

From a sustainability perspective, the intensity of land introduces opportunities to make good use of recycled water, including potential for exporting off-site and greening of building structures, streets and parks.

The significant investment in place outcomes and amenity such as the ocean pool and waterfront marinas, is commensurate to the intensity of residential and economic uses on the site.

Reaching the water



- Protection of Port Beach through coastal structures and headlands to maintain sandy beach, and a new beachfront activity node such as a surf reef
- Introduction of north-facing beach, ocean pool and water park with supporting facilities commensurate with a regional destination
- Organic and formal waterfront public spaces wrapping the northern harbourside, supported by marinas, recreational jetties and cultural facilities

Greening the land

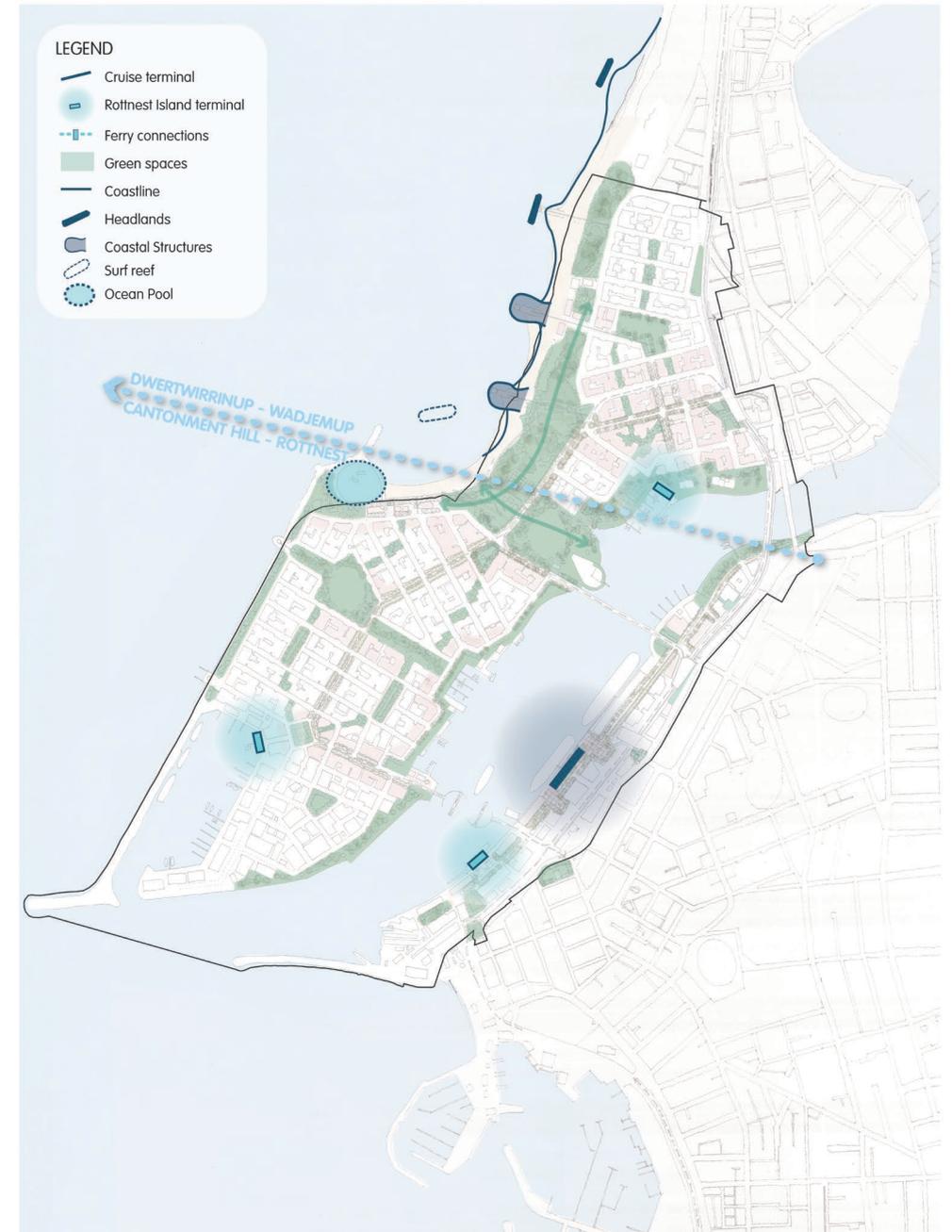


- River to coast connections linking key landscape types and public destinations, together with soft river edges
- More formal public parkland used for community, activation and world class tourism infrastructure
- Opportunities for green podiums and facades on built structures

Using the waterways



- New world class cruise terminal
- Significant recreational boating facilities and moorings in the inner harbour
- Three Rottnest Island ferry terminals (Rous Head and Victoria Quay, and an additional terminal at North Fremantle)
- Superyacht marina located at Rous Head



Scenario Three | Competitive City

Urban Planning

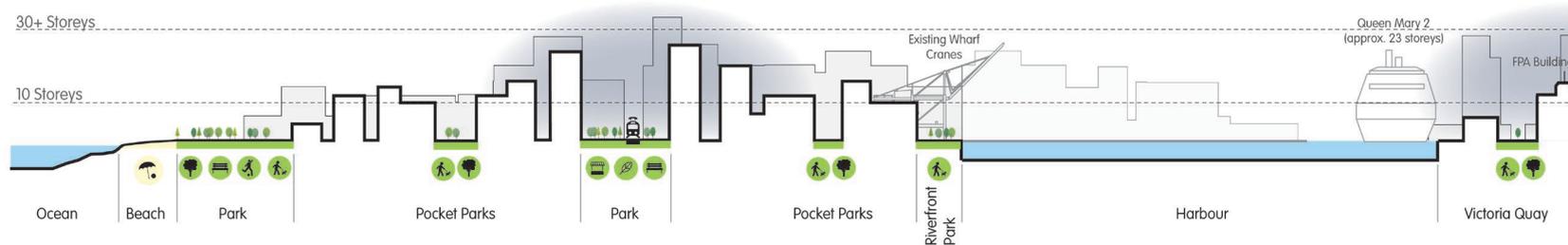
The Competitive City represents the most intense mix of uses and highest density of housing, supporting the significant social, economic and environmental role the site would perform well into the future.

Building height has been dispersed across the site, with significant clustered nodes defining the skyline in North Fremantle, Rous Head, North Quay and South Quay.

Intensity in land use is focused on new infrastructure, particularly in areas where connectivity and amenity is high, including the transit oriented North Fremantle Interchange, new mid-tier transit stations and adjacent to the two bridge crossings. Fremantle, North Fremantle and Rous Head would perform complimentary roles, with all three supporting the international role of this economic scenario.

The built form strategy supports the vision, with taller clustered buildings sustaining investment in infrastructure and place outcomes, including diverse and affordable housing, and significantly enhanced sustainability outcomes.

Indicative building height response



Buildings typologies

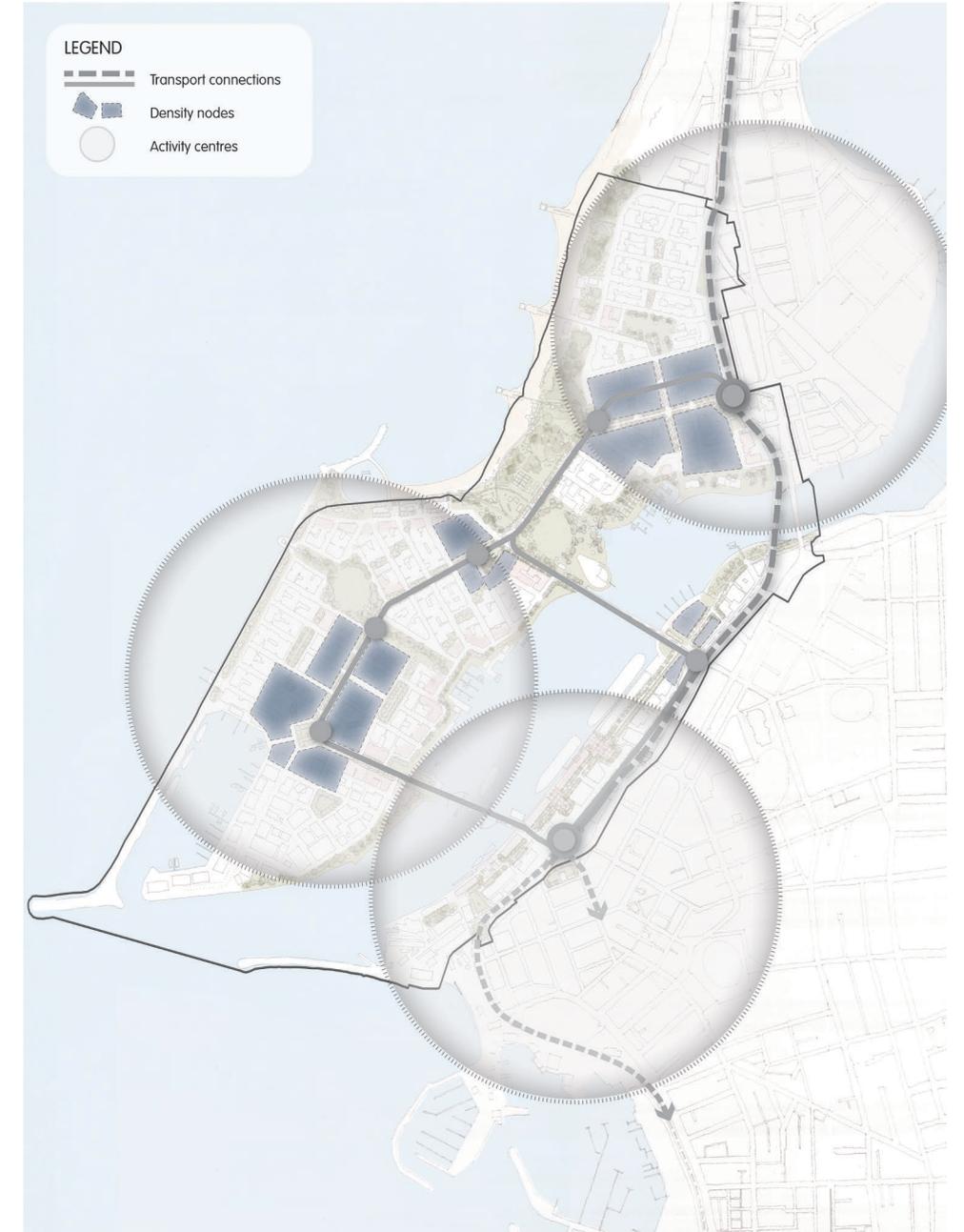


- Diverse building typologies creating significant opportunities for mixed housing and tenure types, including social and key worker housing
- Heritage assets protected amongst more intense mixed-use development
- High density taller buildings dispersed across the site, and clustered nodes in North Fremantle, Rous Head, North Quay and South Quay

Places to play + visit



- Activation across the site, with a key focus on the water's edge between bridges, as well as coastal nodes
- Parks perform a high amenity and multi-functional purpose to support community activation and ongoing programming for visitors and locals



Have your say

The Future of Fremantle project has been informed by a highly-collaborative engagement process that has helped identify opportunities and important considerations for the potential future repurposing of Fremantle’s Inner Harbour precinct.

It has explored an aspirational long-term outlook, over a 50-year planning horizon, with the three scenarios outlined in this document presenting a range of ideas and possibilities that could be delivered over this time horizon.

We encourage you to share your contributions and thoughts by completing the [online survey](#).

Your feedback will be used to finalise the Vision and inform the Future of Fremantle Economic Development Strategy and Land Use Plan that will be prepared in early 2024.

The final Vision will provide a constant and ongoing source of guidance for the Future of Fremantle project and related decision-making as it progresses.

More information is available on the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage [website](#).

Any questions can also be directed to futurefremantle@dph.wa.gov.au



More Information

Future of Fremantle Consultation Hub

The online survey is available on the [Consultation Hub](#). It also includes an overview of early phases of engagement.



Community Open Days

Drop in to one of our open days to learn more and share your comments and ideas with the project team.

Fremantle Town Hall

8 William Street, Fremantle
Saturday 2 December 12.00-4.00pm

North Fremantle Community Centre

2 Thompson Road, North Fremantle
Tuesday 12 December 3.00-6:30pm

E-News

Sign up to the project [e-news](#) to receive regular updates.

Disclaimer

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*Future of
Fremantle*

