



A Social Vision

To the residents of Port Augusta

Making Port Augusta a better place to live, work and visit



What is the Social Vision and Action Plan for Port Augusta?

This plan is an exciting view of what the future of Port Augusta could be.

Under the plan the Port Augusta of the future is seen as a well-led, well-managed and better-serviced community in which its residents live without fear. The plan describes how the people of Port Augusta can benefit from more effective services, a healthy environment and a wider variety of educational and recreational opportunities.

The plan is the result of a cooperative effort by the community, your Council and the State Government.

Currently there are twenty-one priority actions that are being looked at, including:

- tailoring education to local needs
- supporting crime prevention
- increasing leisure opportunities
- continuing to beautify the entrances to the City
- offering further job opportunities
- working with and supporting Aboriginal people to improve their lives in the City
- developing further tourism opportunities.

The South Australian Government and the City of Port Augusta have worked together to set these priorities. The Attorney-General's Department is coordinating this work with members of your community, your Council, South Australian government departments and private businesses.

What's already started

Work by a locally based consortium has already started on the **\$1 million wharf upgrade** and repair. This is being funded by both the Department of Transport, Urban Planning and the Arts and your Council, which has allocated a further \$212 000 in next year's budget for redeveloping the foreshore.

Before this redevelopment begins in Autumn 2002, you will be invited to comment so that your ideas are included in the plans. (The wharf repair and foreshore redevelopment are described in more detail in the 'Focus' section on the last page of this brochure).

For the last three years Transport SA has been working on **beautifying the sections of National Highway One** that are within the City's limits. Once again, the local community will be given the chance to comment on this project.

The SA Tourism Commission is working closely with the City of Port Augusta and the Pichi Richi Afghan Express committee on the **\$2.6 million extension of the Pichi Richi railway line**. This will run from Stirling North into the Port Augusta Railway Station. The project has created a number of short-term jobs for local people. Regular services on the new line are expected to begin in April 2002.

The Northern Regional Development Board is involved in the **Indigenous Youth Employment Strategy**. This three-year project has, in its first year, placed eight people into jobs and provided support and cross-cultural training for employers. (The Board is jointly funded by the Department of Industry and Trade,

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the City of Port Augusta and the northern district councils and is a driving force for economic development in the region.)

Social services

Regional school principals and educational leaders from the Department of Education, Training and Employment are actively working on the education issues raised in the plan. A representative group made up of community members, businesses and training providers is identifying the learning needs of the community. They will be promoting awareness of the resources already available that can support the development of a learning community committed to lifelong learning for all. For example, **Spencer TAFE** is taking a leading role in addressing the issues raised in the recommendations of the plan by promoting a greater interest in life long learning, the wider use of information technology and an increased involvement in education and training opportunities. The **Carlton School project** is another successful Department of Education, Training and Employment initiative which is working to meet the needs of Aboriginal students.

Port Augusta Police are introducing **'Blue Light' initiatives such as discos, youth camps, police leadership and peer policing.** The Crime Prevention Committee has introduced the successful **Summer Activities for Youth** program, which provides free recreational activities for young people.

Aboriginal Court days, modelled on a successful 'Nunga' program at the Port Adelaide Magistrates Court, were started in Port Augusta in July 2001.

The Department of Human Services has provided \$333 900 to the Ranges Youth Shelter. One of the programs is a **camp for families experiencing difficulties with their teenage children.** The Department of Human Services has also earmarked \$80 000 over the next three years for the **Pika Wiya Health Services** to develop regional and local services and \$270 000 has been provided for the **Northern and Far Western Mental Health Services.**

The Department of Administrative and Information Services is actively promoting **Networks for You** in Port Augusta and across regional South Australia. This program aims to have the majority of **rural South Australians connected to and using the Internet** in their business and private lives by the end of 2002.

Community development

The Attorney-General's Department has employed a Senior Project Officer to work in partnership with Council to ensure that funding and a structure is in place for **ongoing community development.**

To ensure that a wider cross section of the community is included in Council's decisions, the Council, with the assistance of the Department of State Aboriginal Affairs, has established an **Aboriginal Advisory Committee** and a draft structure for a **Community Development Committee.**

The Mayor of Port Augusta, Council representatives and other regional leaders will be meeting with the **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Regional Council** every six months to discuss issues of common interest.

The City of Port Augusta will fund **ten positions for trainees and apprentices** and is currently working on a program to employ between ten and fifteen

Aboriginal people over the next one to three years.

Bungala Community Development Employment Program has, through its various building enterprises, employed **35 building trades apprentices on a full time basis.**

The Council is promoting contact and involvement with the City's multicultural community. This is considered extremely important, particularly with regard to developing closer contact with the **Aboriginal community** in the area of **arts and entertainment.**

Port Augusta Focus, which is the main representative group for businesses in the City, has printed a **tourist guide** to promote the City of Port Augusta and has recently completed a plan to **increase business development** in the city.

New developments

The **Aboriginal Women's Centre** in Port Augusta has received funding through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission to buy the disused Australian National Institute Bowling Club. The Group is now seeking partners to develop the club as a **multicultural youth centre.** This plan has wide support among youth service providers and a meeting to bring interested people together took place in early September.



Port Augusta's rail heritage, attracting a tourism industry for the future.

The Passenger Transport Board is working closely with the Council to make sure that the community's needs are better met by **passenger transport services**.

Primary Industries and Resources SA is developing **Outback SA** with other government departments. Outback SA will ensure that government and non-government service delivery to the Outback is consistent. Linked to this is **Service SA**, bringing together a range of government services so that residents can make enquiries and do the majority of their government transactions at one centre. This is being managed by the Department of Administrative and Information Services.

Following a request from the cities of Port Augusta, Port Pirie and Whyalla, the Department of Water Resources, along with other government agencies, is studying how **wastewater** from sewage treatment works could possibly be reused.

The City of Port Augusta will be reviewing its **electoral boundaries** with the State Electoral Office so that the make-up of the Council better reflects the needs of the community in the future.

The Council is participating in the Government's **Local Crime Prevention Programme** over the next three years. The Attorney-General's Department is providing \$210 000 funding for this programme over the next three years.

A **new Court complex** is proposed to be built on the site of the old police station. This \$7.4 million initiative will provide a boost to the local economy and generate jobs in the local building industry.

It's up to you to help make this plan work. With your commitment and enthusiasm the City of Port Augusta can become a better place to work and live.

Please get a copy of the plan, contact the Council or one of the agencies listed in the next section and consider what you can do to make Port Augusta a great place.

For more information

To get a copy of the Social Vision and Action Plan contact the Port Augusta Council.

For other information, please contact someone from the relevant agencies listed here. These people can talk to you about their vision, purpose and activities.

CITY OF PORT AUGUSTA
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**COMMONWEALTH
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**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
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Di Chartres (08) 8207 1555
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**DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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Andy Robb (08) 8648 5323

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**NORTHERN REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT BOARD**
Andrew Eastick (08) 8641 1444

PORT AUGUSTA FOCUS
Naomi Bartlett (08) 8641 1444



The Aboriginal Advisory Committee will provide advice to the Council on service and policy to increase the well being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents in Port Augusta.

Focus on . . . the wharf redevelopment

A better place to live

Your Council and the South Australian Government are working together with your community, private businesses and other levels of government to improve the wellbeing of your community.

The repair of the Port Augusta Wharf was identified as a key project in the Social Vision and Action Plan for Port Augusta. Once the work has been completed (by the end of the month) the wharf will be the centrepiece of Council's foreshore redevelopment due to commence in April/May 2002.

The heritage-listed wharf, built in 1885 is approximately 365 metres long and 9.2 metres wide. Originally a railway line ran along the wharf and goods were unloaded into cargo sheds before being loaded onto ships.

Ship ballast was used for stone work at the wharf and damaged sections will be replaced by matching local stone.

Approximately 400 timber piles support the wharf and those that have been damaged by sea worms will be repaired using an epoxy repair method that will help retain the appearance of the wharf and restore its strength.

The dry conditions in Port Augusta have helped preserve the wharf timber and there has been little damage from termites or dry rot. All of the decking will be replaced but most of the rails on the wharf will be retained.

Highlights of the wharf and foreshore redevelopment are:

- approval by Cabinet to provide \$1 million to fund the repairs
- agreement by the City of Port Augusta to provide \$700 000 over three years to fund the foreshore redevelopment due to commence in autumn 2002
- successful tendering by a locally based consortium, in collaboration with the Upper Spencer Gulf Common Purpose Group and the

Upper Spencer Gulf Resource Processing Cluster, to undertake the wharf repairs

- repairs to the piles and decking which began in June 2001
- establishment of the Foreshore Redevelopment Working Party in April 2001, which includes members of:
 - City of Port Augusta
 - Northern Regional Development Board (who commissioned a report into foreshore retail development)
 - Port Augusta Focus (particularly Tourism Port Augusta, City Centre Traders and the Chamber of Commerce)
 - Port Augusta Yacht Club.

The working party has made a recommendation to prepare a concept plan that:

- consults with the Port Augusta community, particularly the Aboriginal community
- provides an operational plan for the redevelopment of the foreshore between Flinders Terrace and the Old Bridge

- identifies space for future investment in accommodation, retail, tourism and hospitality
- supports the existing foreshore use by businesses and recreational associations
- develops a common theme that characterises the foreshore and the Port Augusta CBD
- develops a traffic and passenger movement plan that breaks down barriers to community use and makes links to the retail, tourism and hospitality areas
- identifies interested agencies and volunteer organisations regarding work that they could do on the redevelopment.

Planning SA has approved \$10 000 to match Council's contribution of \$10 000 to prepare this concept plan.

A consultancy is seeking community views on the design of parklands, trails and commercial space. This work began in mid-August and will be completed by 30 November 2001.



Repairs to Port Augusta's historic 116 year old wharf are expected to be completed by October 2001.