

# MONTPELIER RETREAT RENEWAL

Following the Local Area Mobility Plan (LAMP) - Battery Point, the City of Hobart is preparing a concept design for Montpelier Retreat to guide future upgrades and investment in the street.

Our goal is to create a safe, attractive and people focused street that strengthens the connection between Battery Point and Salamanca, and supports local businesses, visitors and the broader community.



1804

Early European Settlement



1830s-1850s

Quarrying and seafaring drive rapid growth



1800s-1900s

Vibrant and diverse community



1960s

Area cleared for redevelopment



2020s

Fragmented streetscape with reduced identity and function



NOW

LAMP Priority Project - Montpelier Retreat



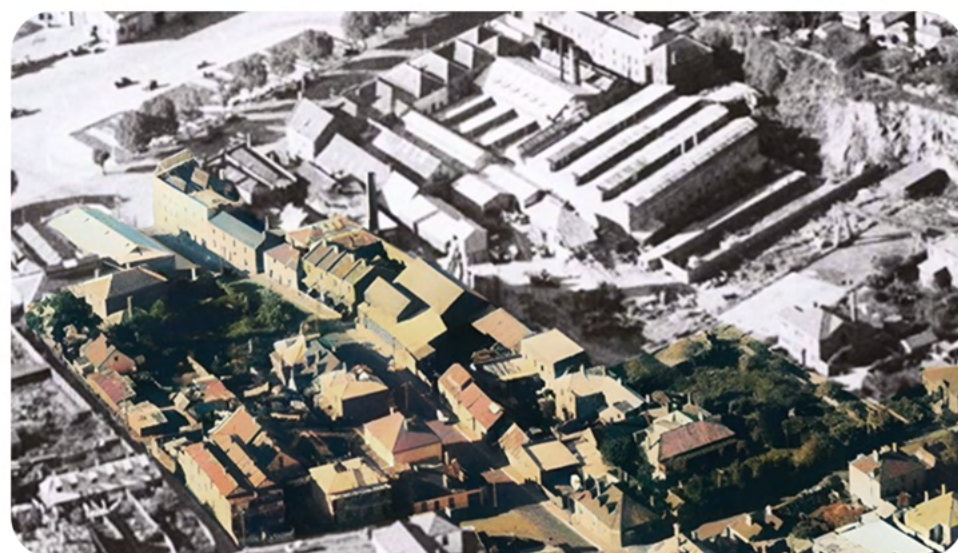
## A STREET SHAPED BY HISTORY

Montpelier Retreat follows the original landform of the Cove, tracing a former gully and creek that once flowed to the shoreline. It was also the site of 'Cottage Green', one of the earliest permanent properties established by Reverend Knopwood shortly after European settlement in 1804.

By the early 1830s, quarrying of dolomite stone for Hobart's wharves and a growing seafaring trade led to rapid development. The Whaler (1834) remains one of the last physical reminders of this time.

Montpelier Retreat became the heart of a thriving and diverse community where working class families and merchants lived side by side.

Within a short stretch of street were pubs, shops, bakeries, a school, engineering works, stables, terraces, cottages and grand homes - one of Hobart's most vibrant streetscapes.



## A LOST COMMUNITY

In the 1960s, the area was designated for clearance. Most of the buildings were demolished and the established community was displaced.

**This is now recognised as a significant loss - both socially and in terms of Hobart's built heritage.**

## TODAY

- Historic presence but fragmented character
- Vehicle-orientated despite heavy pedestrian use
- Footpaths are very narrow
- There is a lack of greening, shade or places to sit
- There is a lack of wayfinding or gateway treatment

## OBJECTIVES

- Prioritise people - safer, walkable environment
- Strengthening the connection between Battery Point and Salamanca
- Support local businesses and street activity
- Improve legibility and wayfinding
- Respect the street's history and identity
- Creating a sense of arrival to Salamanca

## HAVE YOUR SAY

We are at an early stage and want to hear from you.

Your feedback will help inform the final design.

For more information and to register your feedback please use your **individual QR code**.

*Your ideas will help shape the future of Montpelier Retreat.*

## WE WANT TO KNOW

- How you currently use the street
- What works well and what doesn't
- What are your priorities for improving the street
- What you value most about the street



## FUTURE VISION



Rebalance the street to prioritise people over vehicles



Widen the footpaths and improve amenity



Increase street trees and greening



Provide seating and places to gather



Improve legibility and wayfinding



Create a sense of arrival



Integrate historic storytelling

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### 1. Why is the City thinking of undertaking these works?

Over the last few years, the City has been consulting with local communities on how we can improve mobility within their neighbourhood. This led to the adoption of the Hobart Local Area Mobility Plan: Battery Point Local Area in November 2023, which identified creating a more attractive walking environment to Montpelier Retreat as a Priority Project. This aligns with the City's recognition that the quality of the urban form of Montpelier Retreat does not match that of Salamanca and Battery Point, despite it being a key link between the two.

At the same time, the City has approved several large commercial and residential developments within Montpelier Retreat, which, although currently unimplemented, point to the area's significant development potential.

The plan, therefore, is to create a set of coherent street improvements that not only respond to the desires of residents and local businesses but also, by creating an attractive, activated, and culturally rich streetscape environment matching that of Salamanca and Battery Point, help guide and encourage future development.



### 2. Is the design finalised?

No - this is not the final design, but rather a draft concept plan.

The plan has been developed through internal City discussions and design workshops and is intended as a starting point for meaningful discussion with local landowners, businesses and residents.

Feedback at this stage is critical. It will help the City better understand how the street is used, as well as local priorities and aspirations. This input will directly inform the next stage of design development.



### 3. What's next? Will there be further opportunities to have a say and can I still influence changes?

Yes - there will be several opportunities for input.

Following this initial engagement, the City will review feedback and refine the proposal. These updated concepts will then be presented to Elected Members before being released for broader community consultation and further refinement.

The final plan would then be submitted to Council, at which point the community and key stakeholders will again have the opportunity to provide ongoing input.



### 4. How will this affect parking?

The draft plans propose a reduction from 35 to 19 on-street parking spaces to allow for wider footpaths, greening and improved public space.

Importantly, nearby off-street parking - including Salamanca Square Car Park and Montpelier Car Park - would have no reduction in available parking.



### 5. How will traffic be impacted?

Previous independent traffic studies have identified spare capacity within the local traffic network, suggesting it can accommodate potential modifications. Extensive traffic modelling is underway to ensure that traffic flows remain efficient and balanced. We'll be sharing findings with the community as we move forward.



### 6. How will servicing and deliveries operate?

Maintaining access for servicing is a key consideration. The design ensures that Montpelier Retreat remains accessible for service, delivery and emergency vehicles.

Existing loading zones will be retained, and the City will work with local businesses to improve how these spaces function - including better management of short-term loading and unloading.



### 7. How will this impact the possible future development of my property?

The intent is to support, not limit, future development.

The proposed upgrades aim to create a more active and attractive street environment, enhancing commercial opportunities and increasing pedestrian activity.

Access to all properties will be maintained, and the works are not intended to restrict redevelopment potential or future construction. Rather, they will provide a clear, coordinated framework to guide the future evolution of the street and the way new development interfaces with the public realm.



### 8. When would construction begin?

At this stage, there is no confirmed construction timeline.

All projects require funding through the City's Capital Works Program, which is prioritised annually based on a range of factors, including strategic importance and available budget.

Montpelier Retreat has been identified as a priority project, and this will be reflected in future funding considerations. However, timing will depend on budget allocation and coordination with other infrastructure works.

## NEXT STEPS

1. Early engagement with property owners and businesses
2. Concept design options developed
3. Broader community consultation
4. Preferred concept plan refined
5. Future funding and staged implementation

