

D6

DISTRICT SIX PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY

WORKSHOP 5

WHAT IS THE PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY?

The City of Cape Town has launched an exciting initiative to enhance the quality of District Six's (D6) streets and public spaces as part of the overall Local Area Spatial Development framework's approval. The **Public Realm Strategy** will be working alongside other initiatives of District Six, building on previous work done and developing the concepts of the 2012 Spatial Development Framework in more detail. The focus is on developing the streets and spaces between the buildings as meaningful quality public spaces – stitching together the area. The project aims to create representational spaces and places within District Six, where we remember the **past**, where we share in the **present** and where we work towards a shared **future**.

This process will inform a **Public Realm Investment Framework** and **Guidelines for Public Spaces and Streets** in District Six. Through developing a Public Realm Strategy (PRS) with the community over the next few months, we seek to build on what makes District Six distinctive and to celebrate key public spaces.

THE OBJECTIVES:

- Creating a 'sense of place' – Focusing on spaces/places where people can meet and engage with one another, the natural environment and living memorialisation.
- Celebrating culture and community – taking history/memory into consideration.
- Focusing on different user groups, especially the youth and elderly and how they use spaces.
- Highlighting the value of activating the public realm.
- Improving way-finding to provide a fitting welcome and enhanced environment for the community of District Six and the visitors to the cultural institutions in the area.
- Incorporating elements of resilience and sustainability.
- Supporting sustainable communities.

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR FEEDBACK!

We are taking note of all comments via the email:
D6publicrealmstrategy@capetown.gov.za



FOR MORE INFO

WORKSHOP 5 - SUMMARY

As part of the District Six Public Realm Study, we are working with nominated community representatives, referred to as the District Six "Caretakers", in a series of co-design workshops in addition to larger online public meetings. The fifth of six workshops was held on 28 February 2021 at the District Six Museum Homecoming Centre.

After a discussion and feedback session, the workshop focused on Prioritising public space and on Guidelines for streets.

PRIORITISING PUBLIC SPACES

The first exercise of the Workshop was to work through the priorities for spaces to be implemented within District Six. 20 sets of projects were described and printed on sheets. The Caretakers were asked 3 questions:

1. What is your favourite Space? Which space holds fond memories?
2. What space will most benefit the community?
3. What space is most in need of upgrade?

The caretakers were asked to stick dots on their 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices for each of these questions, to provide input for a hierarchy of priorities and spaces that can inform future projects. This task was recreated digitally for all the caretakers to have a chance to provide comments.

GROUP WORKING: GUIDELINES FOR STREETS

Guidelines help to describe how spaces need to be built in the future in the area. They are not final plans, but tools to help influence future quality public spaces.

The workshop was divided into groups and asked to consider streets. The groups were switched midway to allow everyone to provide input on the variety of streets. **Large Streets (32m - New Hanover Street); Medium Streets (18m - Constitution Street); and Small Streets (10m - Pedersen Street);**

The streets toolkit consisted of street "strips" with specific uses and dimensions to place within the streets. (Pedestrian pavements of varied widths; cycling lanes; bus +car lanes; tree planting; green sustainable urban drainage systems or SUDS; bus stops; lighting; seating; signage; spill-out cafe spaces; etc.) Character cards of different people were handed to participants. Buildings of various sizes were provided to show how urban buildings can be places along a street. The following questions were asked while building the street layouts together:

- How is this street different to other streets?
- How does your character use this space?
- What would you like to prioritise in this street?

The ideas and principles for the street layouts were discussed and recorded and photos taken of the layouts. The discussions provide the team with insight into the priorities and needs of the users of streets.



GUIDELINES FOR STREETS

Here are some of the ideas expressed during the workshop:

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LARGE STREET - 32M (NEW HANOVER STREET)



- High quality space within a vibrant mixed use environment, enhanced through additional trees, lighting, paving, street furniture and pausing spaces for enjoying the city.
- Prioritise pedestrians and the movement of children. More space for pedestrians + green space, with lighting and resting/seating spaces.
- Design for accessibility and non-motorised transport - cycling lanes, dropped curbs for wheelchairs, intersections with different textures/colours.
- Provisions for public transport, bus stops, taxi stops, appropriate street furniture.
- Car/bus lanes in both directions.
- Safety and traffic calming is important. A variety of solutions. Consider alternative/innovative solutions – changing traffic directions, traffic calming.
- Diversity in economic activity, scale, building form and active interfaces. Mixed use living and active retail to encourage eyes on the street. Dynamic multipurpose spaces, balconies and green spaces overlooking the street.
- Parking located off of main active streets or to be time limited in busy areas.
- Connections to other green spaces and play spaces.
- Memorialisation, culture and memory to be incorporated into the streetscape.
- The inclusion of water and green systems.

MEDIUM STREET - 18M (CONSTITUTION STREET)



- Prioritise pedestrians and the movement of children along route. Pavements seen as multi-use for mixed non-motorised transport.
- Accommodate spill out space on corners, pedestrian movement, NMT movement, trees, planting, street furniture and lighting.
- Traffic calming for pedestrian safety through a variety of solutions - textures, colours, bump outs and crossings along with tree canopies, parking interspersed with trees, planting, lighting and street furniture.
- Shared public transit and car lanes, with one lane in each direction.
- Medians to provide refuge for pedestrians.
- Additional trees
- Active retail and residential stoeps to encourage eyes on the street

SMALL STREET - 10M (PEDERSEN STREET- OLD STREET GRID)



- Small streets as multifunctional spaces.
- Prioritise pedestrian spaces and spaces for play. Small streets will be busy with children playing, rather than cars.
- One lane of vehicular traffic for smaller streets.
- Innovative use of traffic calming through design, bump outs, raised crossings, parking interspersed with trees, planting, lighting and seating.
- Seating and pausing space is very important. People live onto streets. There need to be spaces for children to play and elderly people to sit.
- Residential neighbourhoods with stoeps and front doors that encourage eyes on the street.
- Space for spill out from a couple of small corner stores.
- Textured paving or colours at crossings and intersections.
- Ensure accessibility for all.