

Media Release

Mr Danny Pearson MP

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TRANSFORMED CITY SQUARE SET TO OPEN NEXT YEAR

Melbourne's iconic City Square is set to reopen next year as a key entrance to the Allan Labor Government's new Town Hall Station – one year ahead of schedule.

Minister for Transport Infrastructure Danny Pearson today unveiled the final artist impressions of the revamped square which contains more spaces for events, retail and hospitality, along with new landscaping and artworks.

Developed in consultation with Wurundjeri Elders, the new City Square will have a permanent Smoking Ceremony dish – with Woiwurrung language and artwork to be etched into surrounding paving and throughout the square.

These elements are part of the Metro Tunnel's Connection to Country initiative which celebrates the Traditional Owners of the lands of the Kulin Nation on which the five new metro stations are built.

An interactive, digital version of the much-loved Mockridge fountain known as the 'water wall' will be installed along Collins Street, with the LED wall set to depict water flowing down the wall while also responding to movements of people passing by. The bronze sculpture Beyond the Ocean of Existence will also return.

Crews will soon start building the Town Hall Station entrance at the Collins Street end of the square – the glass entrance canopy sits above five escalators leading down into a two-tiered concourse which is expected to be used by more than 10,000 people during peak periods.

Landscaping works have already begun, with garden beds set to hold native plants and trees, while widened pedestrian crossings at the nearby Swanston and Collins streets intersection will accommodate the increased foot traffic and boost pedestrian safety.

Since 2017, City Square has been closed for construction on Town Hall Station, which is one of the five new state-of-the-art underground train stations opening next year – transforming the way Victorians move around our city forever.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Transport Infrastructure Danny Pearson

"City Square has been one of Melbourne's favourite meeting places for decades and we're delighted that this revamped landmark location will return to the people when the Metro Tunnel opens in 2025 – one year ahead of schedule."

"With four entrances between City Square and Fed Square, Town Hall Station will make it easier and more convenient for people to get around our fantastic city."

"Offering a range of retail and entertainment options, the new City Square will be a go-to destination and meeting place for visitors and commuters."

Quote attributable to Member for Northern Metropolitan Sheena Watt

"The Metro Tunnel is building a brand new City Square – honouring Victoria's Traditional Owners through various artworks and its design."