Queen's Wharf Brisbane
MONTHLY UPDATE

October, 2015

Queen's Wharf Brisbane set to be a major multiplier for the state's economy

Once operational in 2022, Queen's Wharf Brisbane is forecast to be a major multiplier for jobs and the Queensland economy.

The economic benefits of the proposed development were discussed in Brisbane this month at an American Chamber of Commerce lunch, featuring Echo Entertainment Group's CEO Matt Bekier, The Honourable Dr Anthony Lynham MP, Minister for State Development and QIC Chief Economist Dr Matthew Peter.

Dr Peter said the economic impact of the development could not be overstated.

"It's a huge project in the operational phase, and it's going to have flow-on effects with the final net increase in jobs to be more like 11,500," Dr Peter said.

Dr Peter said the project would benefit industries such as the education and health sectors, as well as professional services such as architects, lawyers and accountants.

The Minister said the timing of the project is such that it will start up just as the construction phase of Queensland's LNG mining projects comes to an end.

Construction activities are expected to begin in early 2017, following completion of 1 William Street.

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TAFE partnership sets a new benchmark in service quality

Six-star service is coming to Queensland with the state's first ever six-star training course launching its first cohort of hospitality students to help make Queensland ready for opportunities such as the proposed Queen's Wharf Brisbane development.

The training course, which incorporates an accredited Certificate III in Hospitality, is the first six-star course to be offered to hospitality students through the new Queensland Hotel & Hospitality School, which was launched as part of a wider partnership between TAFE Queensland and Echo Entertainment Group. Further courses are being developed.

Echo Entertainment Group CEO Matt Bekier said he was excited by the jobs and career pipeline that the proposed Queen's Wharf Brisbane development would create.

Minister for Training and Skills Hon Yvette D'Ath MP, Echo Entertainment Group CEO Matt Bekier and TAFE Queensland Brisbane Executive Director Education and Commercial Peter Laing with the first cohort of six-star hospitality students.

"Our development will make Brisbane a 'must go' destination for international travellers, and TAFE Queensland will have a vital role in helping deliver world-class chefs, world-class hotel staff, and world-class hospitality staff," Mr Bekier said.

UDIA highlights SEQ's economic growth forecast

The proposed Queen's Wharf Brisbane development is one of four projects driving tourism, business and community which were highlighted at the Urban Development Institute of Australia's (UDIA) Brisbane Development Showcase this month.

Presenting to more than 150 property sector representatives, Echo Entertainment Group Managing Director Queensland Geoff Hogg said the company was deeply committed to growing South East Queensland's economy.

"Our commitment to South East Queensland is very significant, when you consider the infrastructure, jobs and public realm that are part of our Queen's Wharf Brisbane proposal," Mr Hogg said.

Delegates also heard from representatives of Fraser's Property, Amex Corporation and Mirvac about their projects in the region.

Key market targeted in telecast business promotion

A discussion on Brisbane's developing business, innovation and tourism opportunities will be broadcast to the Asian business community in a live telecast of a Queen's Wharf Brisbane presentation on 30 October.

With Asia identified as a key market for Australian's inbound tourism, the event will help profile our city and our state's future growth prospects.

Echo Entertainment Group CEO Matt Bekier.

Destination Brisbane Consortium, led by Echo Entertainment Group, will present at the business networking luncheon.

Echo Entertainment Group CEO Matt Bekier will join a panel of guest speakers including Craig Davidson of Dreamworld, WhiteWater World and Skypoint; Bob East from Tourism and Events Queensland and Mantra Group; and Sean Ryan of News Corp Australia.

Bookings for the event can be made online at http://store.sofitelbrisbane.com.au. The event will be telecast live on APAC Channel 648 on Fox.

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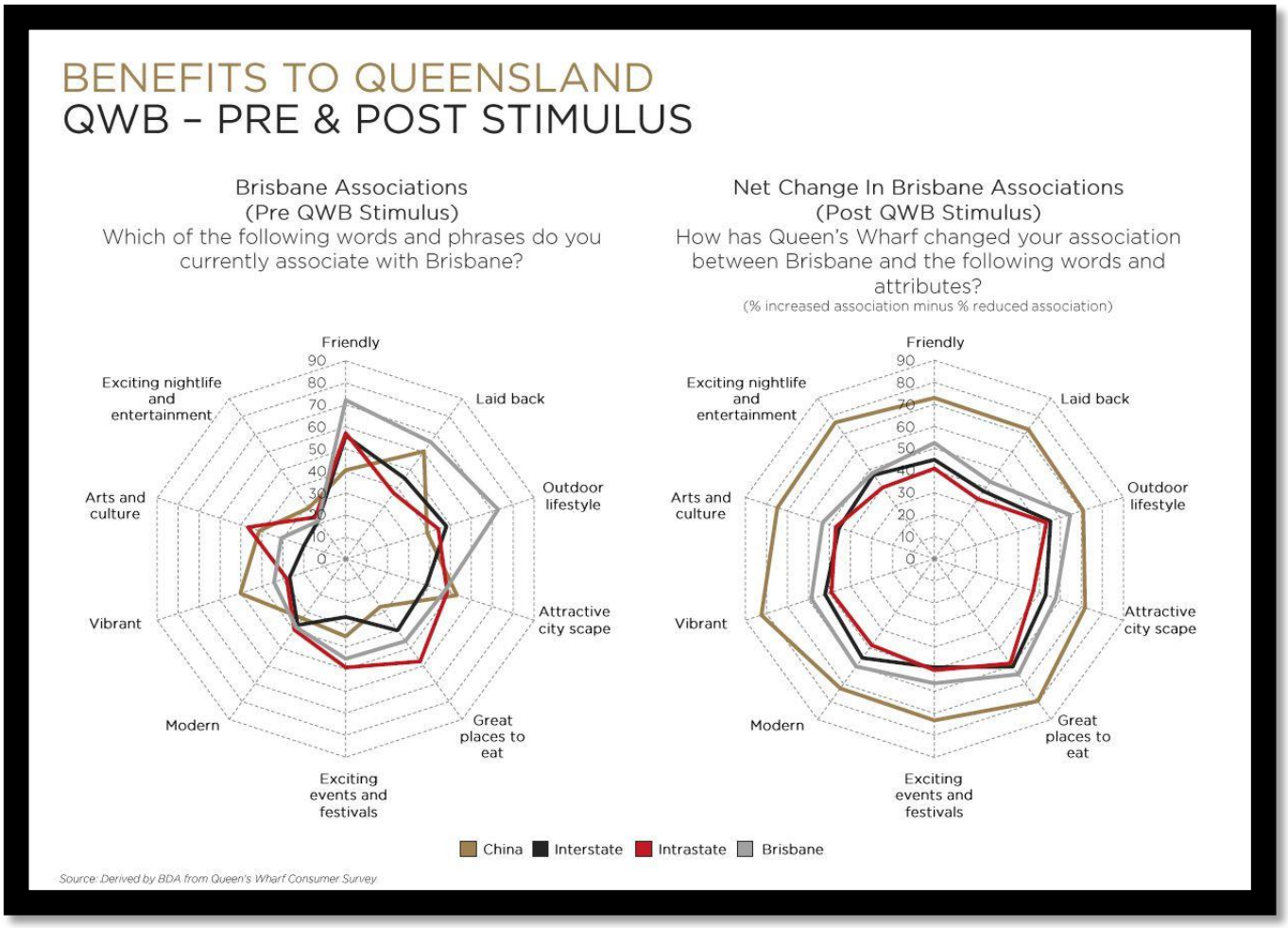
Consumer survey highlights Brisbane's growing reputation as a modern and exciting city

A survey shows the proposed Queen's Wharf Brisbane development is set to dramatically transform the way Brisbane, intrastate, interstate and overseas travellers view our River City.

According to a BDA Marketing Planning consumer survey, the proposed Queen's Wharf Brisbane development already has locals and visitors thinking positively about Brisbane's destination appeal.

The survey results, as shown below, reveal respondents believe the project will improve Brisbane's reputation as a modern city, as a destination that will offer exciting events, festivals, nightlife and entertainment, as well as having great places to eat.



Echo Entertainment Group CEO Matt Bekier spoke about the findings during his presentation at a Property Council of Australia (Queensland) lunch in Brisbane in October.

"It's pleasing to see that our development is changing the way people think about Brisbane in that it will truly deliver a world-class tourism, leisure and entertainment precinct that will transform Brisbane as Australia's New World City," Mr Bekier said.

The Honourable Dr Anthony Lynham MP, Minister for State Development and Tourism & Events Queensland Chief Executive Leanne Coddington also shared their views on how the development will contribute to Queensland's economic growth.

Ms Coddington voiced support for the proposed development and the need to create a more authentic tourism experiences for visitors, while the Minister said the project will be transformational for Brisbane.

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Multi-million dollar heritage conservation program

Queensland Heritage Masonry's stonemason Colin Taggart, Vince Mackenzie-Ross and David Profke.

The conservation program underway at Brisbane's grand Treasury Casino & Hotel offers a sneak peek into the work that lies ahead to preserve the many heritage buildings dotted throughout the Queen's Wharf Brisbane precinct.

In total, nine heritage buildings are located in the site, and all of them will be opened up to public access as part of the development.

The original Lands and Administration Building will be repurposed into a Ritz-Carlton Hotel and the Treasury building will become a premium department store.

Queensland Heritage Masonry Director Vince Mackenzie-Ross is leading the small team behind the current heritage conservation program.

"We completed works on the Queen Street façade of the Treasury building, and works are now occurring on the George Street side, before we eventually move onto the Elizabeth Street façade," Mr Mackenzie-Ross said.

Since taking stewardship of the buildings 20 years ago, Echo Entertainment Group has invested more than $55 million to restore and repurpose them for public use so that they continue to be part of Brisbane's history.

In October, the National Trust of Australia (Queensland), supported by Treasury Casino & Hotel, held a seminar to reveal the traditional art of stonemasonry as well as update participants on the buildings' multi-million dollar heritage conservation program.

For more information about the stonemasonry work please click here.

Ipswich resident Carlyn Hough learns about the traditional art of stonemasonry during a stone carving display in Queens Park, as part of the seminar held by the National Trust of Australia (Queensland).

Queen's Wharf Brisbane project timeline

July 2015
Destination Brisbane Consortium announced as preferred proponent for Queen's Wharf Brisbane development

2017
Anticipated start of construction activities following completion of 1 William Street. Likely activities include the removal of non-heritage buildings, then start of underground car park construction

2018
Commence foundations for core development area

2019
Foundations, car park completed. Heritage work commences

2020
Core development starts to take shape as construction progresses above ground

2021
Internal fit out commences of Integrated Resort Development buildings

2022
Opening of core Integrated Resort Development including hotels and all public realm areas. Conversion begins of Treasury building and beneath Queens Gardens to create a retail zone that links Queen Street Mall to the heart of the precinct

2024
Anticipated opening of the repurposed Treasury building

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QUEEN'S WHARF BRISBANE

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