

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the aim of the project?

Step back from the riverside and you enter a public space which is unconnected, confusing and difficult to navigate. Waterloo City Square will radically rethink this complex labyrinth of streets, squares, subways, raised walkways and poorly thought out street design.

The scheme aims to create an attractive, welcoming and well-managed space which connects the Station, the surrounding streets and the riverside. It will improve pedestrian accessibility and transport interchange, help reduce crime and create a high quality urban realm.

What are the boundaries of the site?

In brief, the site takes in the IMAX roundabout and Waterloo Road as far down as the Old Vic.

The boundaries of the site are the junction of Waterloo Road and Belvedere Road to the north, the junction of Waterloo Road and the Cut to the south, the junction of Stamford Street and the IMAX roundabout to the east and, finally, the junction of York Road and Mephram Street to the west, encompassing Sutton Walk and Concert Hall approach.

Will the scheme close Waterloo Road to private cars?

The idea of closing Waterloo Road to private vehicles was originally raised in the Waterloo Opportunity Area Planning Framework. However, all stakeholders, including Transport for London, have agreed that this does not form part of the Waterloo City Square brief. There are no plans to close Waterloo Road to private traffic.

Who is leading this project?

South Bank Employers' Group has been appointed to manage the design competition in behalf of the London Development Agency.

The judging panel comprises the landowners and other stakeholders who have come together to improve this area for the benefit of local residents, employees, commuters and visitors: Greater London Authority, London Development Agency, Transport for London, London Borough of Lambeth, British Film Institute, Coin Street Community Builders, P&O, CABA (space), Network Rail, Southbank Centre, King's College London and Shell.

How can I get more involved?

We are inviting the public to give their views and comments as part of the public consultation which runs from 31 January – 5 February at an exhibition, a social evening and also online. The public will be asked to assess each team against a number of criteria which reflect the design brief. The consultation will be advertised extensively in the New Year throughout South Bank and Waterloo.

You are also encouraged to visit www.waterloocitysquare.info to read more about the project and to sign up for e-mail updates,

What is the judging process?

The judging panel will meet to consider the design teams' entries, taking into account the results of the public consultation and technical panel review. A decision is expected in March 2009.

Waterloo is changing. Will the scheme fit into the future Waterloo?

Waterloo has been identified in a number of high profile strategic documents as a hotspot for new jobs and housing. The Waterloo City Square scheme is a vital element of creating the right public spaces around the major new developments which are expected in the area, including Elizabeth House (P&O Estates), Doon Street (Coin Street Community Builders) and, in the longer term, Waterloo Station (Network Rail). The scheme also links together several other local public realm improvements, including various projects in the Lower Marsh area as well as Emma Cons Junction. Finally, Waterloo City Square is being taken forward in the context of ongoing transport improvements, such as cycle routes.