

Building our Regions

Smithfield Street Revitalisation Project



Funding*

Total project cost	\$2,640,000
BoR funding	\$1,320,000
Council funding	\$1,320,000

Gympie's town centre is being transformed into a pedestrian-friendly "Eat Street" to secure its future as an attractive and desirable place to live, work, play and visit, and to boost economic activity.

The newly revitalised Smithfield Street, jointly funded by Building our Regions and the Gympie Regional Council, is a major component of the town centre upgrade, and was officially opened in July 2017—four months ahead of schedule.

Mayor Mick Curran says the Smithfield Street makeover has brought with it new opportunities to reinvent the town centre as a vibrant hub of economic activity and sustainability in the region.

"This was more than improving the functional streetscape; it was about promoting growth in our central business district that would have long-term flow on effects for the community and our local economy.

"The project created employment in the engineering and construction sector, as well as other related industries. Additional employment then leads to consumption effects with more people spending locally on goods and services.

"On behalf of Gympie Regional Council, I would like to thank the Queensland Government for its financial contribution through the Building our Regions program.

"The revitalisation of Smithfield Street is a success which has been embraced by our CBD businesses, the wider community and people who come to visit our beautiful region."



Official opening celebrations on Smithfield Street, Gympie





'River of Gold' barrier rail

Opening night saw the unveiling of two art installations—the River of Gold barrier rail lining the centre of the street, and the interactive gold-making machine, Alchemy.

“The artwork in Smithfield Street will be one of the first experiences visitors to the street will connect with so it needed to be stimulating, imaginative and engaging day and night.”

The streetscaping also features extensive landscaping with trees, more than 1200 native shrubs and groundcovers; drinking fountains, bicycle racks, bench seats and bollards; themed lighting to enhance ambience, wayfinding and safety; and widened pedestrian pavement areas, outdoor alfresco spaces, events spaces, designated crossing points, and improved traffic and parking layout.

* Funding amounts referenced are as approved.



Local resident Suzie Williams and her family checking out 'Alchemy'