

March 30, 2017

## **Community-led makeover of CBD starts this weekend**

Pack your work boots, thinking caps and elbow grease – the community-led 7 Day Makeover of the Gladstone CBD kicks off this Saturday!

The people-powered project will transform tired public spaces into vibrant community hubs in just seven days, using volunteer efforts, a treasure-trove of upcyclable materials, and the expertise of internationally renowned placemaker David Engwicht.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the event would start with a two-day planning workshop to develop the project ideas, and a short volunteers briefing to form the community workforce that would bring those ideas to fruition.

"The project will be conceived entirely by our community, this Saturday and Sunday at the planning workshop. People of all ages are welcome to attend either or both days," Councillor Burnett said.

"If you can't make the workshop, we'd love you to attend the volunteers briefing on Sunday afternoon and sign up for a task or project that suits you."

Cr Burnett said workshop attendees would "learn from David the secrets of placemaking, explore the CBD's possibilities, generate ideas and decide as a group where and how our city centre will be transformed".

Program creator, Mr Engwicht said the planning workshop was a "fun, hands-on process" in which "even people who believe they don't have a creative bone in their body suddenly find themselves generating fantastic ideas".

Cr Burnett said the projects would be implemented from Monday to Friday next week by volunteers working a flexible roster, with guidance from Mr Engwicht.

"Individuals, families and groups can attend the volunteers' briefing, advise their availability and be matched with a project team or task," he said.

"Everyone is welcome to take part – there are important jobs for everyone and you can give as little as an hour."

(-MORE-)

**media release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The 7 Day Makeover of the Gladstone CBD will take place as follows:

- Planning workshop: Saturday, April 1 and Sunday, April 2 at the Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre
- Volunteers' briefing: 4pm, Sunday, April 2 at the Gladstone Entertainment Convention Centre
- Implementation: flexible roster, April 3 – 7, from the coordination point at 69 Goondoon Street

Mount Larcom will also receive a 7 Day Makeover from April 22 – 28.

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**MEDIA INFORMATION: For further information contact Council's Communications & Marketing Section on 4977 6803 or [media@gladstonerc.qld.gov.au](mailto:media@gladstonerc.qld.gov.au)**