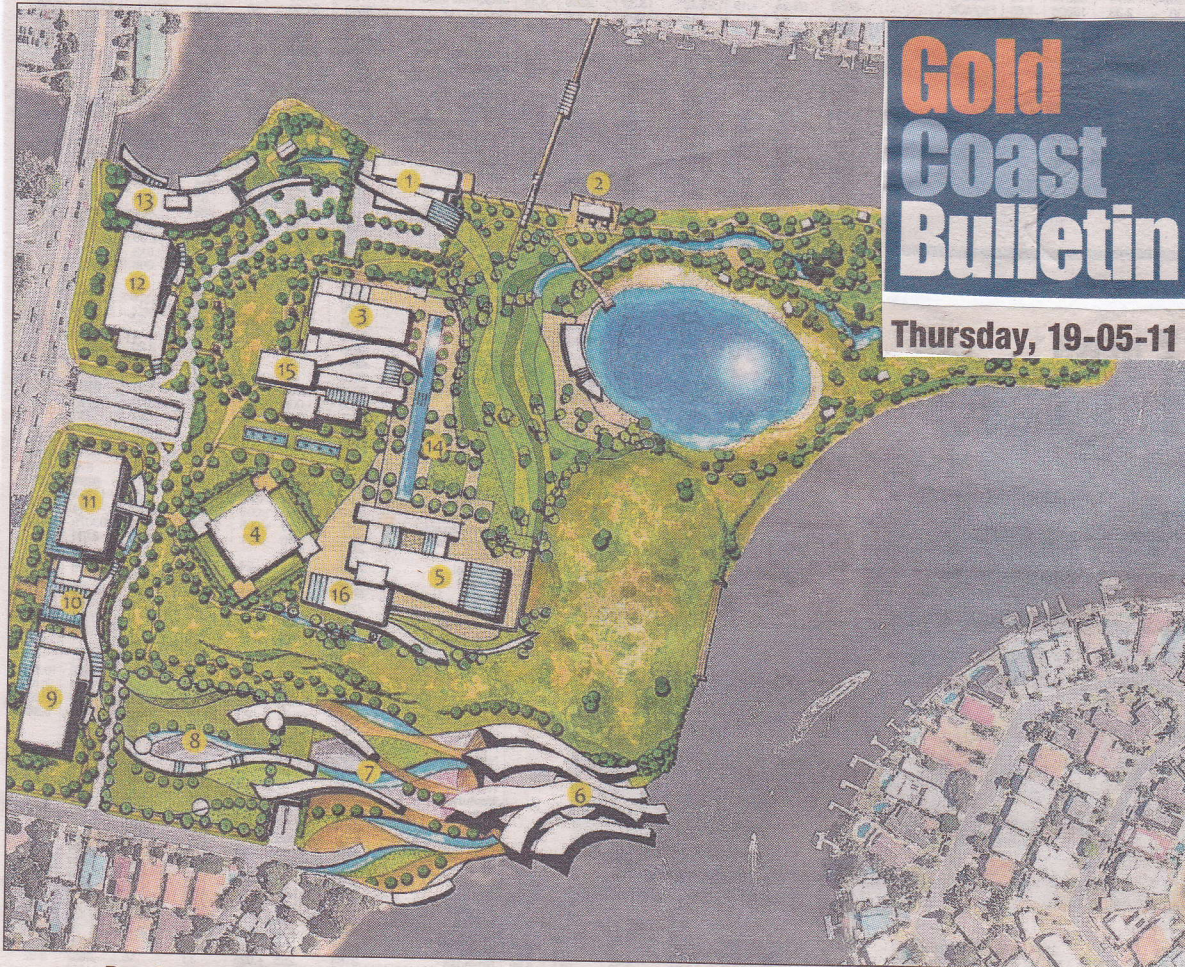


Architect's vision lifts cultural plans



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SITE MASTERPLAN

LEGEND

1. Waterfront Hotel
2. Cafe
3. Galleries, arts & libraries
4. Council Chambers
5. Theatres & Cinemas
6. Concert Hall
7. Concert Hall Piazza
8. Multi level car parking
9. Office and commercial building (provides additional car parking to the site)
10. Outdoor cafes and wine bar
11. Council Offices
12. Office and commercial building (provides additional car parking to the site)
13. Waterfront cafes, retail & restaurants
14. Plaza over multilevel car parking (raised podium)
15. Educational faculty
16. Educational faculty

Bryn Lummus's plan for the Evandale cultural precinct includes commercial buildings along Bundall Road to pay for the cultural centre

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PRELIMINARY plans for the \$284 million cultural precinct at Evandale would be turned on their head if Gold Coast architect Bryn Lummus had his way.

Mr Lummus drew up his own plans for the site when he saw what the Gold Coast City Council was considering for the cultural centre.

Key to his vision are commercial buildings along Bundall Road, which he says would help to fund the complex.

"I would like to see it more like South Bank, where you see buildings when you drive along Gray Street and the design is incorporated into the urban landscape instead of being separate from it," Mr Lummus said.

There was a total of 1100 responses from the community about the plans during the consul-

This is a critical opportunity to position the Gold Coast as a major city

- Gold Coast architect Bryn Lummus



tation phase, which finished recently.

Other architects and industry groups are pushing to make the lake the centrepiece of the design and Mr Lummus backed them up.

"I stayed away from the lake when I looked at it because I got the impression that council wanted the buildings back from it," he said.

"But I think more should be made of it and perhaps the concert hall should be built around it."

The cultural centre includes a 5000sq m art gallery and 2000-seat theatre, plus a 300-seat drama theatre and council's administration building would be relocated to

Robina to make way for it when it progresses.

Mr Lummus said he believed council should take full control of the Evandale site to make the best of the opportunity to develop it.

"This is a critical opportunity to position the Gold Coast as a major city," he said.

Gold Coast City councillor Susie Douglas agreed and said the views of Mr Lummus and others would be taken into account before the cultural centre plans moved to the next stage.

Cr Douglas said she was satisfied with the level of response from the community, but would have liked a

greater number of people to participate in the consultation process.

The community feedback also included complaints about the preliminary plans being too dull and Cr Douglas said the final design needed to be iconic.

"These plans were never intended to be final," she said.

A council spokesperson said the cultural precinct taskforce was "considering the feedback" and a report would be delivered to council next month which included the views.

"As part of the consultation process, council engaged with the Urban Design Advisory Board for input and the forthcoming report will also include and consider its views," he said.

The cultural centre would also be used during the Commonwealth Games if the project goes ahead and the city wins the right to host the Games in 2018.