

Architect to steer Chinatown revamp

Landscape architect and urban designer Jeremy Macmath has been appointed to a key role that will help steer the \$12 million revitalisation of Chinatown.

His core responsibilities include developing a two-year commercial activation strategy to create and market events, along with activities and promotions that increase activity in Chinatown.

Part of his focus will be developing a laneways strategy to bring existing and new laneways to life, along with exploring grant funding to help tenants and land owners activate their laneways.

Mr Macmath moved to Broome three years ago to work on a range of design projects, but more recently has been involved in engagement, visioning and construction projects with the Shire of Broome, Nyamba Buru Yawuru and the community.

He also played a big part in the recent successful Shinju Matsuri Jetty to Jetty projection project.

Revitalisation project funding has come through \$10 million from Royalties for Regions, \$2 million from the Shire of Broome and \$600,000 from Tourism WA.

It is delivered by the Shire, Kimberley Development Commission and LandCorp to increase activity in Chinatown through major improvements to street, landscape, facilities and



Landscape architect and urban designer Jeremy Macmath.
Picture: Glenn Cordingley

laneways over the next two years, and conduct feasibility studies on three long-term transformation projects.

Shire president Ron Johnston said the role was vital to Chinatown's revitalisation success.

"This position was created to not only ensure local businesses and landowners are kept

informed every step of the way, but also to encourage people to undertake their own events and activities, which can be supported through the project," he said.

"Ideally, we would like to see traders, community groups and other organisations coming to Mr Macmath with their ideas and concepts."

1.1m hectares of reserves

■ Glenn Cordingley

A newly declared 230,000ha conservation park takes the area of reserves created in the Kimberley to more than 1.1 million hectares since 2008.

The Walyarta Conservation Park and five other new parks and reserves adjoin Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park between Port Hedland and Broome.

Environment Minister Albert Jacob said the new park and reserves were the result of the State Government's partnerships with traditional owners the Karajarri, Nyangumarta

and Ngarla people. The reserves were also the first to be jointly vested under recent amendments to the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984.

"The creation and joint management of these conservation areas delivers on the Liberal National Government's commitment to protect the region's natural and cultural values under the Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy," Mr Jacob said.

He said Walyarta Conservation Park protected internationally significant wetlands of the Eighty Mile Beach Ramsar site.

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