

Sturt Street Closure Q&As

Heavy demolition from 7 November 2022 – why is Sturt Street closed?

Lendlease has closed Sturt Street between City Road and Kavanagh Street to traffic to commence heavy demolition of the Harold Alexander Terrace behind Arts Centre Melbourne. By closing the street, Lendlease will be able to undertake the work during the day and avoid working at night.

Lendlease's programme indicates that the closure will be required until 13 December.

What about emergency access via Sturt Street over this time?

Access along Sturt Street during these works will be made available in the event of an emergency.

Is the Arts Centre Melbourne Loading Dock open?

Yes, arrangements have been made to ensure vehicles can still access the Arts Centre Melbourne loading dock for deliveries during these works.

Is there pedestrian access via Sturt Street?

From 7 November 2022, pedestrian access via the Sturt Street stair will be permanently closed. Signage and traffic management is in place to redirect pedestrians via Arts Centre Melbourne Car Park, Southbank Boulevard or City Road.

Arts Centre Melbourne's Theatres Building Stage Door has moved. Access to the new Stage Door is via the main entrance to the Theatres Building, off the St Kilda Road Forecourt. After-hours access is via the Level 6 doors of the Barre restaurant.

When are you planning to permanently close Sturt Street?

We are planning to close Sturt Street permanently in two stages. The first stage is the section of Sturt Street between City Road and Kavanagh Street which is expected to close permanently by the end of 2022, subject to final permits and approvals, to enable construction work to continue on the northern end of the project.

The remaining section of Sturt Street between Kavanagh Street and Southbank Boulevard will close in early 2023, subject to final permits and approvals. Closing this section will allow for construction of the new NGV Contemporary.

The project has undertaken modelling to gain to understand the traffic impacts to the neighbouring streets. This is helping to guide planning for the changes.

Will this closure for heavy demolition mean that there is no longer access via this section of Sturt Street?

We are still working on gaining the final approvals for the permanent closure of Sturt Street. If the permanent closure is approved prior to the end date of Lendlease's programme, it may mean that the section of Sturt Street does not reopen.

Why are you closing Sturt Street permanently?

Closing Sturt Street means we can build the decking structure that will support the 18,000 square metres of public green space, new back of house facilities for Arts Centre Melbourne, and improved shared services for Arts Centre Melbourne and the NGV.

Can I still park at Arts Centre Melbourne and the Ballet Centre carpark?

Yes. Access to the car parks is being maintained throughout works.

- The recommended detours:
 - to access Arts Centre Melbourne's carpark from City Road, turn left into Southbank Boulevard, then left into Kavanagh Street and straight ahead into Arts Centre Melbourne's car park.
 - to access The Primrose Potter Australian Ballet Centre's car park, turn left into Southbank Boulevard, then left into Kavanagh Street and left into the car park entrance

When Sturt Street is closed permanently, access to the Arts Centre Melbourne car park will be directly via Kavanagh Street. Left and right turns from Sturt Street into and out of the car park will no longer be possible.