In a world where innovative technology is ever evolving our understanding of what society needs and what it will become, our proposal looks to the future of city building.

With approximately 200,000 businesses located in the Brisbane metropolitan area, and an associated economy valued at $135 billion in 2012, the 14 suburbs making up this central heart are connected by the key transport and infrastructure networks such as that which runs through Fortitude Valley.

As a driver, your experience of this metropolitan landscape is vastly different to that of pedestrians and cyclists. Both struggle to navigate the inefficient and complex network, which offers minimal benefits for either user group. Extending from the urban hub of the CBD into the up-coming commercial realm of Fortitude Valley, dilapidated buildings can been seen alongside historical landmarks and new multistorey towers. An opportunity exists to build a better future.

Our solution seeks to capitalise on the innovation that the future brings, though evolving our understanding of what a ‘road’ network entails, up-cycling and repurposing existing buildings, unlocking underutilised land and increasing development potential.

Our understanding of the site complexities is framed by our knowledge as architects, urban designers, landscape architects and master planners. It provides benefits for everyday Queenslanders, be it drivers, pedestrians or cyclists through reduced congestion, improved pedestrian circulation patterns and the provision of increased open space. The proposed urban enhancements will offer an enviable commuter route to and from workplaces throughout the city. Local residents to the CBD and Valley will experience similar benefits, with increased retail outlets as a result of an invigorated openspace, improved public transport and repurposed heritage buildings.

For developers, the greatest gains will come from the improved social atmosphere which continues to drive-up property values in revitalising communities such as Bowen Hills, Hamilton and Eagle Farm. The development potential of Fortitude Valley therefore rests in the hands of the transport and infrastructure panning which connects the city centre with the eastern fringe of the metropolitan zone and the social environment which it fosters.

The technological advancements in driverless cars, ‘straddie’ busses and virtual augmented realities is changing the face of ‘city building’. Our design therefore focuses on achievable solutions that visionary while also improving amenity and increasing development potential, through creating an activated extension of the city which is safe for pedestrians and cyclists day and night.

The proposed design integrates changes to traffic direction and streetscape layout which will allow for improved public transport. It sees increased openspace and enhanced non-vehicular connectivity to the city, valley and riverfront which will allow for improved pedestrian circulation. To support the creation of a more usable network, an increase of high quality commercial space will encourage revitalisation and in turn, activation of the public realm. To future proof Brisbane as it grows and develops into a new world city, we must evolve our infrastructure and built form, to respond to the ever evolving technology and associated needs of the next generation.
BRIDGING Boundary & Ann Streets

SATELLITE extension of Queen Street Mall