

MEDIA RELEASE

City of Wagga Wagga

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29 March 2010

What is Wagga Wagga's retail experience?

Retailers from across the city will gain valuable insight into retail trading and 'place making' from three industry leading experts, at a forum aimed at providing an opportunity for the Wagga Wagga retail sector to consider the future of retailing in our city.

"The forum is part of Wagga Wagga City Council's development of a Retail Growth Strategy being developed to help guide retail planning and development in the city for the next 15 years and identify opportunities to develop the retail sector and capture an increasing share of retail expenditure in the catchment area," said James Davis, Manager Economic Development Wagga Wagga City Council.

The forum will feature three keynote speakers:

- Gilbert Rochecouste, one of Australia's leaders in creating sustainable communities and businesses, will discuss the concept of retail place making and opportunities for Wagga Wagga. A place making approach to a shopping precinct aims to understand its identity and create a sense of community that will draw the crowds and allow business to flourish.
- Scott Driscoll Executive Director of the Retailers Association will discuss trends and policy developments in the Australian retail sector and how they may create opportunities and challenges for retailers in the city.
- Michael Campbell will provide an overview of the preparation of the Retail Growth Strategy and present preliminary findings.

"We want people to be inspired by the future of retailing at this forum, which is aimed at retailers, centre managers, real estate agencies, planners, developers, architects, businesses within Wagga Wagga and those people with a special interest in retailing," explained James Davis.

"This is an opportunity for retailers to voice their opinions and have their say on the future planning of retail in the city," he added.

Media are invited to cover the forum which will be held from 5:30-8:30pm, Wednesday 31 March at the Commercial Club in Gurwood Street.

Interested media can arrange for interviews guest speakers Gilbert Rochecouste and Scott Driscoll from 2pm Wednesday.