

# KEEPING ADELAIDE A SAFE CITY



City of Adelaide

# Keeping Adelaide a Safe City

The City of Adelaide is committed to taking the lead in maintaining the City as a safe and welcoming place for residents, workers and those who visit it. A safe City is one where crime rates are low, the general amenities and physical environment promote a feeling of safety and good order, and opportunities are created for the safe interaction and involvement of people in the City. Safety has significant implications for the social and economic well-being of the City; keeping the City a safe place will make it a more vibrant, socially inclusive and welcoming place for everyone.

The City of Adelaide actively works in partnership with a number of key stakeholders to maintain a safe City. Our major emphasis is on the personal safety of people who use the City. Partnerships are crucial because no single agency can prevent crime nor have a major impact on community safety on its own. This brochure provides details of crime prevention and community safety initiatives, which have been implemented in the City to keep our city safe.

## City Safety & Drugs Advisory Group

The City Safety and Drugs Advisory Group was established in August 1999 to advise on the management of issues regarding crime prevention, drugs, safety and people's perception of safety in the City. Since the City of Adelaide is committed to a partnership approach to safety and crime prevention, this Advisory Group brings together a cross-section of people from diverse backgrounds and a variety of organisations, all of whom have a strong interest in keeping the City a safer place.

The Advisory Group includes representatives from:

- Aboriginal Drug & Alcohol Services Council
- Adult Crisis Services
- Attorney-General's Department
- City Businesses
- City of Adelaide
- Community Advocates
- Community Health Organisations
- Community Youth Organisations
- Drug & Alcohol Services Council
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Office of the Liquor & Gaming Commissioner
- South Australia Police
- Vietnamese Community in Australia
- Young Ambassadors



The City Safety and Drugs Advisory Group focuses on three main areas:

- Illicit drug use in the City of Adelaide;
- Achieving safer practices in relation to alcohol and illicit drug use in licensed premises; and,
- Geographical crime or safety "hotspots".

### Local Crime Prevention Program

For over four years the Council has sponsored the Adelaide City Crime Prevention Program. This program is funded by the Attorney-General's Department and takes a problem-solving approach for selected crime prevention projects. Through this program the Senior Project Officer (City Safety and Crime Prevention) undertakes projects, which implement strategies aimed at addressing crimes against the person.

### Neighbourhood Safety

The City of Adelaide responds to a number of complaints about anti-social behaviour, nuisance or safety issues in the streets of Adelaide. Responses vary for each situation but can include recommendations for lighting enhancements, urban design strategies, liaison with other service providers and referral to relevant agencies for action. In order to enhance this response, the City of Adelaide has employed a Neighbourhood Safety Officer to work with residents, community organisations, the Police, precinct groups and traders to provide an immediate response to street issues, assist in resolving neighbourhood issues and provide a balanced, even-handed approach to conflicts between people with different interests and agendas. The Neighbourhood Safety Officer will work strategically over the long-term with all City users to encourage communication and cooperation on safety issues, and to promote a shared sense of responsibility for community safety.

### Agency Collaboration

No one agency can prevent crime or achieve a safe community. Coordination and cooperation is required from a wide variety of agencies and the community. The City of Adelaide continually collaborates with other agencies and stakeholders to exchange information and to provide a coordinated response to crime and safety issues in the City. These agencies and stakeholders include:

- Business Groups;
- Community;
- Community groups including Resident Groups, Business Watch and Neighbourhood Watch;
- Department of Human Services and other Government organisations ;
- Non-Government agencies; and,
- South Australia Police.



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## A SAFE CITY

### **Navigator Project**

The Navigator Project is an ongoing collaborative crime prevention project involving the City of Adelaide, multiple inner city youth services, the Police, and the Passenger Transport Board. The project is aimed at reducing the number of young people stranded and at risk in the inner city, particularly overnight. Police and workers from participating inner city youth agencies distribute single trip transport tickets to eligible young people to enable them to get home or to another safe environment. The Public Transport Board provides the tickets and their distribution is coordinated by the City of Adelaide.

### **Safe Pedestrian Routes**

The City of Adelaide undertook the Safe Pedestrian Routes project in 1999 as a result of concern about personal safety in the City and an identified potential for the creation of safer pedestrian routes. The project undertook a safety audit of four key pedestrian routes in the City. The findings were used to develop a number of recommendations on how pedestrian routes could be made safer. These included physical improvements, such as the installation of directional signage, enhanced lighting, landscaping and maintenance and the establishment of safety shops.

The findings of the project have been incorporated in the City of Adelaide's Integrated Movement Strategy. A rolling program for implementing its recommendations on a series of designated pedestrian routes throughout the City has been established. The concept of establishing a system of "Safe Shops" along these routes is currently being developed.

### **Improved Lighting**

Lighting is a key factor in enhancing both safety and perceptions of safety in streets and public places. The Council currently commits approximately \$1.4 million on lighting improvements to enhance community and pedestrian safety in the City. The City has also upgraded lighting in a number of areas, which have been identified as areas of concern.



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## Safe Environmental Design

The physical environment has a great impact on the types and locations of crime problems, safety and people's perceptions of safety. Good design and effective use of the built environment can assist in reducing the opportunity for crime as well as the fear of crime and perceptions of safety. The City of Adelaide is committed to ensuring that the built environment promotes both real and perceived safety. In support of this, the General Principles within the City of Adelaide Development Plan highlight that community safety and crime prevention will be considered in the assessment of all planning applications. The City of Adelaide also ensures that public spaces are well designed and maintained and that safety issues are a key concept in the design of the public realm.

## CCTV Cameras

A closed circuit television system has been operating in high profile locations in the Central Business District since 1995 to enhance public safety and to act as a deterrent to crime and anti-social behaviour. The cameras have been installed in areas where there is either a higher risk or where there is a perception that the area is unsafe.

The Police Security Services Division monitors the cameras during peak times in a specialist control centre and a 24-hour coverage is provided by the Hindley Street Police Station. Police are able to provide a quick and effective response to problem situations, as there is a direct link between the control centre and the police communications centre.

## Safe Sharps Bins

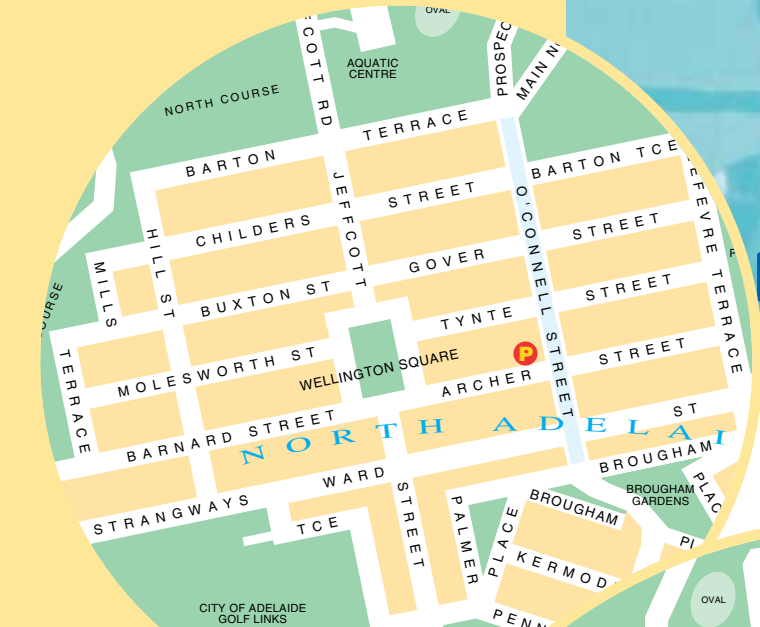
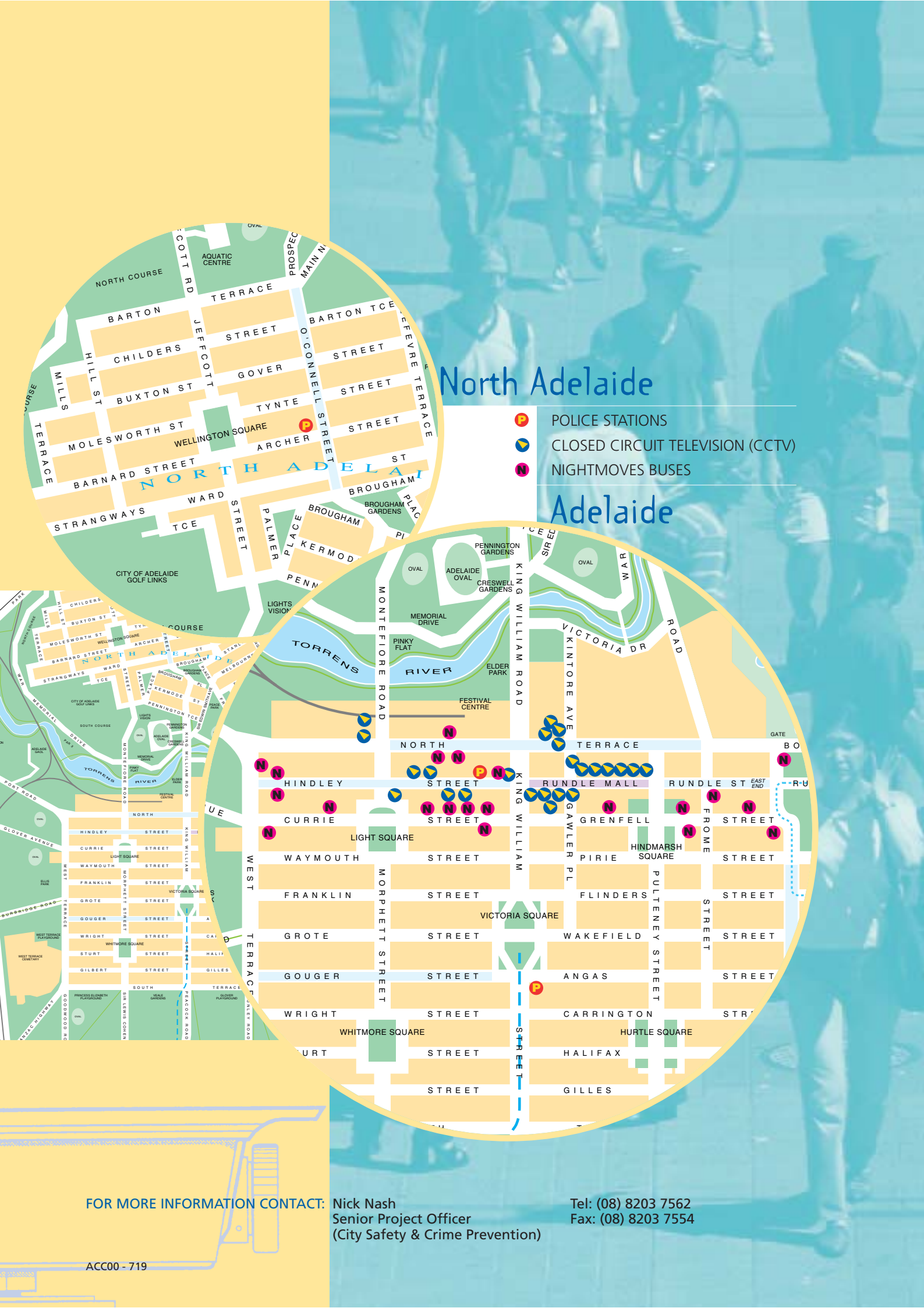
The impact of illicit drug use in the City is of concern to members of the community. In order to reduce the risk of infection and to ensure community and user safety it is essential that a facility exists for the safe disposal of used needles. The City of Adelaide has installed safe sharps disposal bins for the disposal of needles and syringes in all public toilets in the City.

## Safe Public Transport

The Adelaide Metro system of trains, trams and buses has recently improved its safety and security for passengers. Every train trip to and from the City after 7pm will have security personnel. After 8pm all bus drivers carry a mobile phone so that passengers who need to can arrange to be collected from their bus stop.



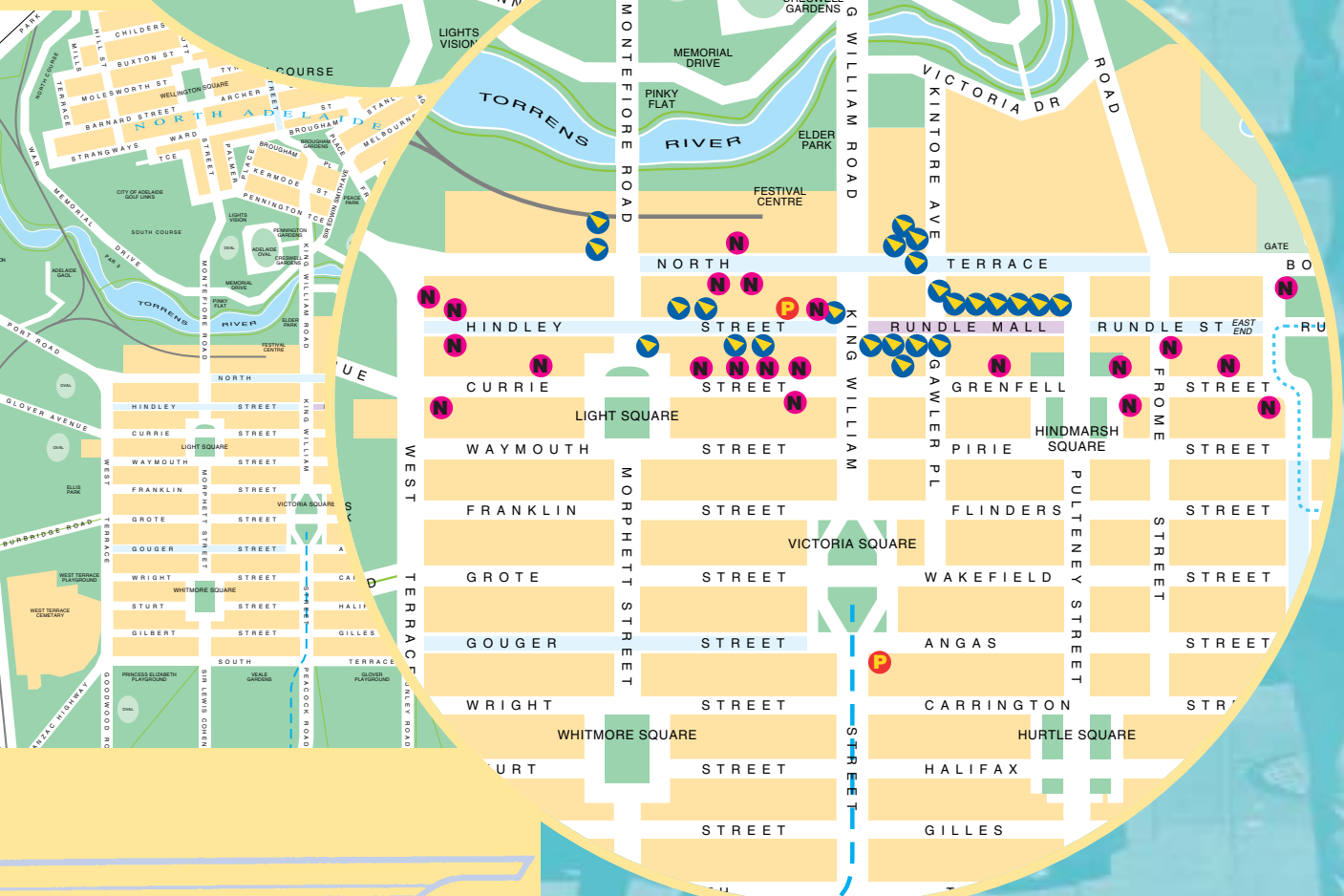
Adelaide Metro's MAC NightMoves late Saturday night buses also provide safe, affordable access to public transport late on a Saturday night to and from the City. For the price of a \$6 ticket passengers can catch a MAC NightMoves bus from a City nightspot to the Outer South, North or Northeast suburbs, Adelaide Hills and Western Suburbs. The fare includes a free taxi or feeder bus to each passenger's door. (Brochures available at Adelaide Metro InfoCentre)



## North Adelaide

- P POLICE STATIONS
- ▶ CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV)
- N NIGHTMOVES BUSES

## Adelaide



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Nick Nash  
Senior Project Officer  
(City Safety & Crime Prevention)

Tel: (08) 8203 7562  
Fax: (08) 8203 7554