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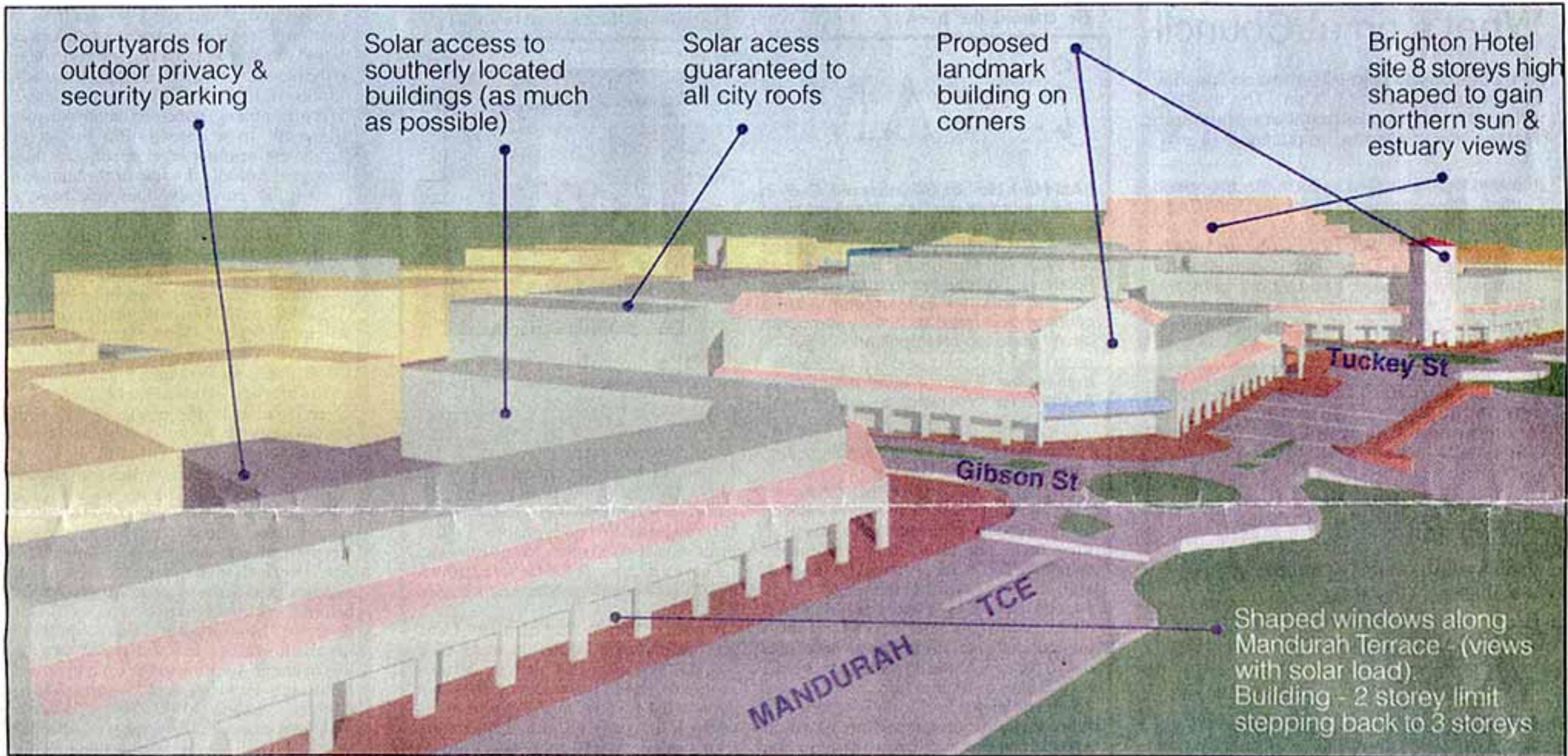
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Mandurah's Leading Newspaper

Mandurah 2020

A city with rights to the sun



2020 ON: A concept drawing showing how the city council's vision for Mandurah 2020 can be achieved.

A VIBRANT city with cars taken away from the foreshore and services within easy walking distance for inner city residents is the vision Mandurah City Council is aiming to achieve by the year 2020.

The vexatious and long standing issues of parking and the city skyline are being addressed in a landmark report that Mayor Keith Holmes has described as 'one of the most crucial and innovative policies of its kind in Australia.'

Chief Executive Officer Stephen Goode is claiming an Australian first with the city on track to being the first in the nation to adopt such a skyline policy.

The report will form the basis of a policy from which will evolve a

blueprint for the future development of the city centre.

A team of consultants has drawn up a plan tackling the issues of parking and skyline restrictions and key policy documents will soon be presented to council.

One of the main themes of the plan is a tiered skyline policy that allows every roof in the city to have 'rights to the sun' maximising city views.

Good solar design will be of increasing importance in years to come and cities that have planned for the future will be well placed to take advantage of new solar technology and energy efficiencies.

Height and setback guidelines would control future developments and centrally located off-street parking

courts would reduce street parking.

Chief Executive Officer Stephen Goode said property owners and developers may find it hard to accept general height restrictions and setback guidelines.

"However it must be stressed that we are in the planning stages for a 20 year goal and there are enormous benefits from a solar efficient city," he said.

In the next two decades Mandurah would experience increased residential density.

The policy's aim was to rejuvenate the city both economically and environmentally.

SEE City Voice for more about the Mandurah 2020 plan.