

Lae Main Market redevelopment

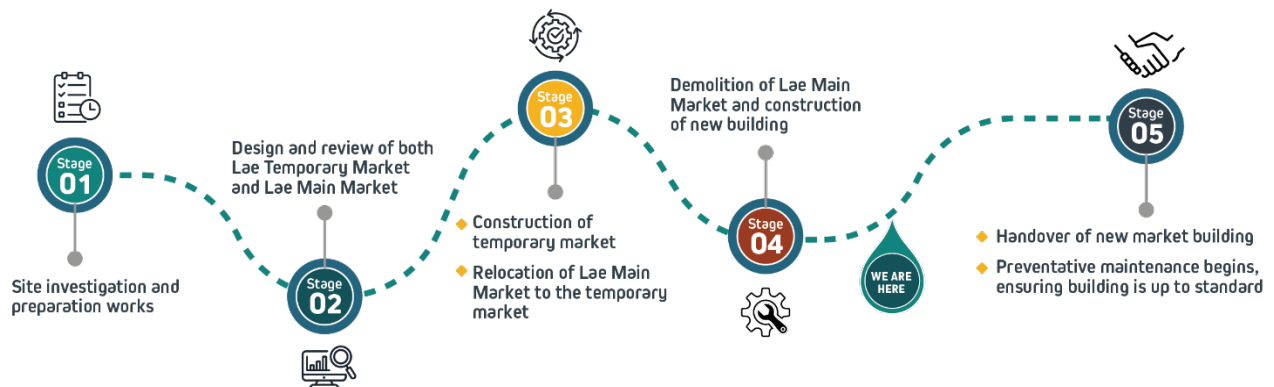
Update

May 2025

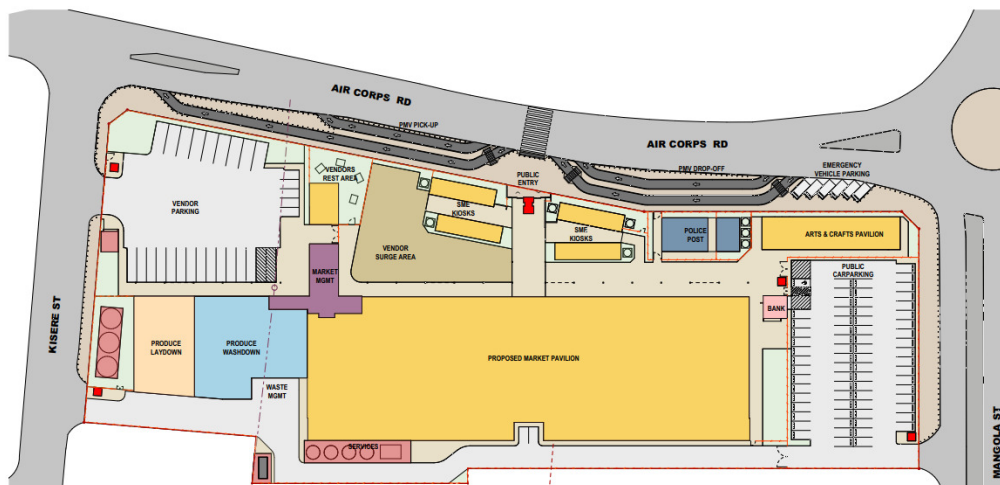
The Lae Main Market Redevelopment Project is jointly funded by the Australian Government, New Zealand Government and the Lae City Authority (LCA). The project is implemented by the Economic and Social Infrastructure Program (ESIP).

The project's phased approach aims to limit disruption to market services and provides increased opportunities for local contractors. The project is being implemented in five stages.

Project timeline



New market site map



The redeveloped Lae Main Market aims to cater for the region's current and future needs in a safe, universally accessible venue.

Frequently asked questions

What happens next?

A tender is now underway for construction of the main market. Awarding the tender will enable the new main market's construction works to begin.

When will construction start?

Construction works are expected to begin from July 2025. Construction is expected to take between 18 and 24 months.

Will there be opportunities for work?

Yes. The construction phase will create local jobs and opportunities for local and national businesses.

What are the new market's key features?

- A new, accessible 2-storey dual pavilion market
- SME kiosks, market offices, secure customer parking, waste management, dedicated vendor entry, new police post, and banking and ATM facilities
- Disability-inclusive toilets and showers for vendors, visitors and patrons

Who will manage the new market when it opens?

LCA will manage the new market.

Market news and updates

High-level visit to the Lae Temporary Market

On 3 February 2025, the New Zealand High Commissioner, Mr Peter Zwart, and Australian Consul-General for Lae, Mr Brenton Kanowski (pictured right), visited the Lae Temporary Market and viewed progress at the main market site.



Bustling wholesale activity at the Lae Temporary Market

While work continues at Lae Main Market, it is business as usual at the temporary market. The wholesale section of the temporary market is supporting efficient distribution of goods, further highlighting how the new main market will boost trade and economic growth.



Restoring the market you know and love

Lae City Authority is working to ensure that the new market can serve vendors and customers' needs. In November 2024, staff from the Lae City Authority visited the recently completed Kimbe Market in West New Britain Province. The trip enabled LCA staff to see a high-quality new market facility in action and meet with Kimbe Market Management as part of their preparations to open the Lae Main Market, once completed.

Pictured right is Lae City Authority staff with Kimbe Market management and Australian and New Zealand High Commission representatives.

