



Date: Monday 29 March 2021	Embargo: None
Pages: 2	Publication: All local media

Karbeethan Reserve upgrade to kick goals for local community

Grassroots sport in the Town of Gawler is set for a major win, with funding secured for stage one of the Karbeethan Reserve redevelopment.

Council has secured \$900,000 for the project from the State Government's Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program. Council will contribute \$1.051 million to the \$1.951 million project.

The redevelopment includes significant lighting, fencing and irrigation upgrades to better support the playing of soccer, baseball and softball at Karbeethan Reserve, which is home to the Gawler Eagles FC (soccer), Gawler & Districts Softball Association (Bluejays, Giants, Kangas, Trinity and Two Wells clubs) and Gawler Rangers Baseball Club.

LED Lighting upgrades will enable evening training and games to be held, increasing efficiency.

Meanwhile, fencing and irrigation upgrades will provide better game day experiences for players and spectators alike, and support player recruitment. The upgrades will also reduce water usage.

Stage one of the Karbeethan Reserve redevelopment is the first major step in the implementation of Council's Karbeethan Reserve Masterplan.

The plan seeks to optimise the use of the reserve, maximise participation, and future proof the facility as a regional sporting precinct.

Town of Gawler Mayor Karen Redman said Council was committed to supporting grassroots sport.

"The Karbeethan Reserve upgrades will support the significant physical and mental health and social wellbeing benefits that come from playing team sport and getting involved in the community," the Mayor said.

"Hundreds of local men, women and children from across Gawler and surrounding areas use Karbeethan Reserve every week and we expect this will only increase once the works are completed.

"We are proud to be able to provide tangible assistance to the Gawler Eagles FC and Gawler Rangers Baseball Club in their challenge for promotion to higher divisions in their respective competitions.

"This is an investment in an area of Gawler that's experiencing significant urban growth. The upgrade will support that growth and our reputation for being a great place to live.

"The masterplan for Karbeethan Reserve is a long-term, 10-year project. We look forward to seeing stage one completed and Council's vision become a reality."

Full details of works for stage one of the redevelopment:

- Upgrade to the main soccer pitch through replacement of the existing ageing and inefficient pitch lighting, with improved LED lighting, irrigation replacement and fencing upgrade



- Development of sporting infrastructure for Gawler & District Softball Association (currently the Association does not have any fixed infrastructure of its own) – softball diamond with LED lighting, irrigation replacement and backstop fencing
- Upgrade of existing baseball diamond to a Baseball SA Division 1 specification, with installation of LED lighting, irrigation replacement, homerun and backstop fencing

Works for stage one of the Karbeethan Reserve redevelopment will begin later this year and are expected to be finished in 2022.

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