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MEDIA RELEASE



PINNAROO AND LAMEROO TOWN CENTRE REVITALISATION REACHES KEY MILESTONE WITH STAGE 1 TENDER RELEASED

Stage 1 of the revitalisation of the town centres in Pinnaroo and Lamerook moves one step closer with the project request for tender now open.

Going out to tender is an exciting milestone for The *Pinnaroo Village Green Project* and the *Lamerook Town Centre Project* as it signifies that both Stage 1 designs are now finalised.

Stage 1 of the Pinnaroo Village Green aims to draw people into the centre of Pinnaroo, with new paving and landscaping along the north side of Railway Terrace South.

The design also focuses on the development of a civic plaza in the museum forecourt, improvements to the war memorial and rotunda surrounds, and the addition of a caravan and RV rest area.

Stage 1 of the project in Lamerook includes the development of new facilities comprising a pump track, play space and dog park.

These elements have been designed in a series of circles, reflecting the look of irrigated paddocks, with key inspiration behind the design coming from the district's horticultural sector.

The highly recognisable centre pivot structure has also been referenced with an impressive custom designed central pivot play equipment piece a key feature.

The final plans were approved by Council at the recent Council Meeting held 18 November 2020.

Southern Mallee Mayor Jeff Nickolls said, "Stage 1 of both projects will deliver a precinct that will become a hub for play, recreation, relaxation and a magnet for tourists,"

"Both the Pinnaroo Village Green Project Steering Committee and the Lamerook Town Centre Steering Committee have been working hard with Council's consultants to finalise the respective designs and ensure they reflect the Southern Mallee's unique mix of heritage, modern agribusiness and a thriving, connected community."

"To have the final designs signed off and out to tender is very exciting for the community. Everyone is very keen to see the focus shift towards construction in the first half of 2021."

The request for tender opened on Tuesday 24 November 2020, closing in January 2021.

Stage 1 of the Southern Mallee Commercial Centres Revitalisation project has been made possible through the Australian Government's Drought Communities Programme Extension, with a \$1 million grant split equally between the Pinnaroo Village Green Project and the Lamerook Town Centre Project.

Stages 2 and 3 of the respective projects are now in the design phase thanks to a further \$2.25 million from the Australian Government's Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF).



Member for Barker Tony Pasin said, “The Federal Liberal Government is excited to be partnering with the Southern Mallee District Council through the Building Better Regions Fund to see Pinnaroo and Lamerook town centres revitalised.”

“It’s BBRF projects like this that will transform communities and strengthen our local economies and help ensure our productive and vibrant region remains strong, resilient and prosperous in the long term. These projects will deliver long term benefits to both communities while supporting the creation of jobs amidst the worst economic crisis in a generation,” said Mr Pasin.

The BBRF funding will also be equally split across both projects, with Council contributing an additional \$750,000 of its own funds to the projects. The current completion date for stages 2 and 3 is December 2022.

“We are very grateful to the Australian Government and Mr Pasin for their ongoing support for our district and these projects,” Mayor Jeff Nickolls says.

“As a small rural Council, taking on projects of this scale is highly ambitious, and we certainly couldn’t achieve this without this partnership.”

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Media contacts:

Southern Mallee District Council Chief Executive Officer Jason Taylor
P: (08) 8577 8002 | E: jason.taylor@southernmallee.sa.gov.au