



MEDIA RELEASE

Southern Mallee District Council – Commercial Centres Revitalisation Project
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Construction to start for \$4m Pinnaroo, Lameroo town centres

People will start to see the \$4 million upgrades to the Pinnaroo and Lameroo town centres kick off in the coming weeks as Southern Mallee District Council has now awarded a major tender for a significant portion of the project's stages 1, 2 and 3.

Following a competitive tender process, experienced open space experts LCS Landscapes will begin construction on both sites from the start of April as part of the *Commercial Centres Revitalisation Project*.

This phenomenal regional project is thanks to investment from the Australian Government's Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) (\$2.25 million) and Drought Communities Programme (DCP) Extension Funding (\$1 million). Southern Mallee District Council is also investing \$750,000 in the project.

For Lameroo, the first portion of work, to be completed by the end of June this year, includes the installation of a new playground. It includes a customised 22-metre long centre pivot structure which pays homage to the district's strong agricultural history. It will also include installation of a dog park, new pump track, BBQ shelter, paving, and other civil works.

In Pinnaroo, the initial works to be completed (in the same time frame) will include the beautification of open space along Railway Terrace South (the main street area). This includes providing extra open space to form a new edge to the road, formalising the parking edge for cars and RV/Caravans, plus a significant upgrade to the museum entry and environs. Elements from Stages 2-3 of the Pinnaroo program of works will also be completed under this contract (as part of an efficiency measure), these works include refurbishing the War Memorial, development of a new civic square, new paving, seating shelters, BBQ and other civil works.

Mayor Jeff Nickolls says this milestone will allow the community to watch the much-anticipated transformation of their town centres come to life.

"It's an exciting time to be living in the Southern Mallee," Mr Nickolls says.

"Council has been able to work with the community to develop these town centre designs, undertake a detailed design process with the two steering committees, secure significant external funding and see the designs commence becoming a reality in our main streets in a relatively short time. The delivery of this project is going to create a real buzz within our towns and across the whole Mallee region.

"These projects are creating community assets that our children and grandchildren will be able to enjoy for decades, and hopefully go a way to retaining and attracting more people to our district who want a rural lifestyle but with many of the benefits of living in bigger centres. And off the back of Pinnaroo winning SA's Ag Town of the Year, why wouldn't you want to come and live here!?"

"The upgrades will not only be great for the local community, but also for our tourism and business economy. News of our new open spaces will help attract more tourists travelling between South Australia and destinations in the eastern states. The timing is almost perfect as COVID-19 travel



restrictions have calmed, and people are travelling interstate more and more by car – which means they’re passing through our towns.”

“The work that has gone on behind the scenes to make this happen, partnered with the exceptional support from the Australian Government, has been nothing short of amazing and I can’t wait to see it completed.”

Member for Barker, Tony Pasin, said the upgrades for Pinnaroo and Lameroo town centres will create local stimulus for the towns’ economies and develop state-of-the-art recreation facilities and community spaces to bring residents together.”

“I am really excited to be partnering with the Southern Mallee District Council to see Pinnaroo and Lameroo Commercial Centres revitalised,” Mr Pasin said.

“This is a transformational project that will help ensure the communities of Pinnaroo and Lameroo remain our productive and vibrant, strong, resilient and prosperous in the long term,” Mr Pasin said.

“BBRF projects strengthen our local economies and drive much-needed local procurement, with thousands of jobs expected to be supported throughout regional Australia,” Mr Pasin said.

“In the midst of the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression the BBRF program is literally putting shovels in the ground and generating important economic activity.

LCS Landscapes are planning on beginning construction at both sites in early April, with a goal for completion of this stage of works by 30 June 2021.

It’s important to note that this is the first round of works to be undertaken as part of the project, with further work on stages 2 and 3 to come after 30 June as part of the BBRF funding portion.

Local residents can anticipate significant construction activity in both areas, Council encourages people to watch the new spaces take shape, however community members should be aware that there may be short-term footpath closures during the construction period.

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