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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **'BIG' VISION TO REVITALISE PINNAROO GETS THE GREEN LIGHT**

A bold new vision to revitalise the heart of Pinnaroo has been given the go-ahead by the Southern Mallee District Council and the town's community.

The Pinnaroo Village Green Masterplan, which was endorsed by Council this week, includes a long-term plan to create a recreation, visitor and community hub on underutilised rail corridor land in the town centre.

The seven-stage plan includes a 'big' attraction – such as an animated sculpture with lookout and lighting which has been flagged by the plan's designer. This is along with walking and cycling trails, a bike track, skate facilities, new playgrounds, improved museum entry, refurbishment of the war memorial, a civic square, new seasonal wetland, improved access and parking for caravans, RVs and large vehicles and substantial landscaping.

More than 80% of respondents to the draft plan during community consultation in March offered their support for the vision.

Southern Mallee Mayor Andrew Grieger said the community's input had helped shape an exciting plan for the town's future.

"We thank the community for their support for and input into this project right from the start," Mayor Grieger says.

"From the very early planning stages in 2019, local residents have been committed to adding their voices to this project. More than 160 people – from school children to the elderly - have offered their ideas and aspirations for Pinnaroo and those have played a valuable part in shaping this final plan.

"It's an exciting plan that will significantly transform the heart of Pinnaroo into a space that will attract visitors and locals alike to play, relax and explore.

"With the addition of some impressive recreation facilities – and a yet-to-be-designed 'big' artwork – this plan will put Pinnaroo on the map as a 'must stop' destination for the thousands of travellers who pass through each year, adding economic benefits for our region."

The Masterplan received strong community support during public consultation in March, with 44 of the 55 submissions in favour of the plan. Some minor changes were made to the plan following community input including:

- Adding a one-way vehicle circulation route around the museum
- Providing substantial long vehicle parking
- Removing two of the northern pedestrian paths
- Adding a larger forecourt area in front of the museum.

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Work on Stage 1 of the plan will be funded through \$500,000 from the Federal Government's Drought Communities Program (Round 2) grant to Council.

Those works include new street trees, improving the entry plaza and landscaping around the museum, formalising the RV/Caravan and large vehicle pull in and turn around area, adding a pull in bay for short-term parking and drop-offs, and a large vehicle access road and parking area.

A start date is yet to be set, but Council is keen to progress Stage 1 as soon as possible.

Council is also pursuing other grant funding opportunities to cover the costs of future stages of the plan.

For more information on the project, visit [www.southernmallee.sa.gov.au](http://www.southernmallee.sa.gov.au).

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