

## MEDIA RELEASE

**Wednesday, September 16, 2020**

### Federal funding secured for projects including Sports Centre upgrades

Plans to upgrade the Wynyard Indoor Sports Centre are in the pipeline as Waratah-Wynyard Council plans to inject more than half a million dollars into improvements.

Council secured funding for four separate projects from the Australian Government under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program.

The program was created to support councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects to help communities bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Waratah-Wynyard Council received funding for four projects, with the largest grant of \$400,000 being for improved amenities at the Wynyard Indoor Sports Centre. The Sports Centre is managed by the Wynyard Basketball Association and is home for the Wynyard Wildcats basketball teams as well as badminton and volleyball competitions.

Waratah Wynyard Mayor Robby Walsh said the facility contributed to the success of some of the Coast's biggest sporting names such as Olympic medal-winning basketball champion Carla Boyd.

"We are pleased to invest this money into the Sports Centre, which is home to a thriving basketball community," Mayor Walsh said.

"Additionally, we are looking forward to the opportunity to inject money into the community in the wake of the impacts of COVID-19."

President of the Wynyard Basketball Association, Scott Wilson, welcomed the news.

"It's a great opportunity for the community and the Wynyard Basketball Association," Mr Wilson said.

"The funding will improve the facilities and help the Club have a greater impact within the community."

It is expected councils, where possible, will use local businesses and workforces to deliver projects under the LRCI Program to ensure stimulus funding flows into local communities. Projects must be completed by 30 June 2021.

#### **Waratah Wynyard Council**

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Waratah Wynyard Council applied for funding towards four projects to total \$564,684 as follows:

Improved amenities/changerooms Wynyard Indoor Sports Centre \$400,000

Provision of updated change rooms at Wynyard Indoor Sports Centre to provide amenities for male and female sports, increase number of showers and toilets and provide updated Disability Discrimination Act compliant facilities. Council is working with the Wynyard Basketball Association and Basketball Tasmania on this project. The project has a total cost of \$508,300 of which Council will cover the remaining \$108,300 and any additional costs.

Improved Car parking – Anzac Park, Somerset \$101,185

Upgrade to car-parking and footpaths to support the ANZAC Park All-ability Playground currently being designed. Current car-parking is non-compliant and requires upgrades.

Cam River Masterplan - Pedestrian Refuge Murchison Highway, Somerset \$34,055

Design and construction of a pedestrian refuge across the Murchison Highway to give residents safe access to the Cam River Recreation Reserve.

Virtual Fencing – Sisters Beach \$29,000

Installation of new virtual fencing to stop Tasmanian Devils (among other animals) crossing the road in the Rocky Cape National Park environmentally sensitive area.

**Authorised for general media distribution by Shane Crawford, General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on Wednesday, September 16, 2020.**