



# Media release

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**Authorised by: DENNIS WELLINGTON, MAYOR**

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## **Next stage of works for Centennial Park Sporting Precinct to begin**

Work is about to begin on the western area of the City of Albany's major Centennial Park Sporting Precinct project.

The Centennial Park Sporting Precinct is a grand vision to transform Albany's sport and recreation district into the Great Southern's premier sporting facility, catering for a wide range of indoor and outdoor sports as well as creating a range of public amenity improvements.

On 6 July, 2015, the City of Albany will commence civil works on the Western Precinct along North Rd, between Sanford Rd and Barnesby Drive.

This will include earthworks, sub-soil drainage, irrigation, the laying of new turf, and the building pad for the new Cricket/Soccer Pavilion. Planned for completion in November 2015, the early works will support the establishment of turf for the growing season in November ready in time for the Winter Sporting Season (April 2016).

City of Albany Community Services Executive Director Cameron Woods said the beginning of this work signalled another key milestone in the multi-year project.

"During 2014 we installed high quality new 100 lux lighting and irrigation at Railways Football Club," he said.

"We also completed construction of the new multi-use field adjacent to Sanford Road, including 100 lux lighting. In addition, the schematic design phase for the overall project was completed and adopted by Council."

As part of the Western Precinct works, the City is reviewing the current location and impact of the blue gum trees along North Road. It is essential that some of these trees are removed and replaced with a more suitable and less invasive species in order to:

- Accommodate the extension of the playing fields;
- Enable new cycle paths to be built without root invasion;
- Reduce winter shade on the new turf playing surfaces and;
- Improve safety for residents by decreasing risk of tripping and falling branches.

The City will work towards retaining as many trees as possible. An on-site community briefing will be conducted by City staff on Wednesday 17 June, 12-1pm. Members of the community are encouraged to meet at the gravel car park immediately to the north of Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre at 12pm on that date. Staff will be on hand to explain the reasons for the tree replacement.

The City will endeavour to keep restrictions to a minimum during the Centennial Park Sporting Precinct project and would appreciate co-operation in working with our staff during works.

**END**

*Summary of improvements next page*



*Western Precinct Cricket/Soccer (Schematic design drawing – Gresley Abas)*

## **Background**

The Centennial Park Sporting Precinct will be the Great Southern's premier shared sporting precinct. The precinct is a large area between Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre and Campbell Road.

The project aims to deliver a realistic and workable design; focusing on shared use, improved playing surfaces; and enhanced event spaces that are economical and socially sustainable.

The design also includes elements of shared civic spaces and facilities, such as a central "spine" - a community pathway which extends through the centre of the whole precinct.

This is a major, long-term project which will be completed in stages over several years. \$26 million in funding has been committed so far. The project is funded by the Australian Government, the WA State Government, and the City of Albany.

## **Summary of improvements \***

- New Football Stadium, grandstand, clubrooms, and event space.
- Additional (multi-user) soccer and cricket club room and storage facilities.
- New multi-use field behind the PCYC.
- Additional playing surfaces.
- Sport fields lighting and power upgrades.
- Shared pathway trail connections.
- Installation of park furniture.
- Public amenity improvements.
- Integrated signage, interpretation and public art.
- Improved vehicle access and circulation spaces.
- Ambient and aesthetic lighting throughout the precinct improving public safety.
- Civic park.
- Drainage and reticulation improvements.

*\* Some aspects may be subject to funding*