



**Date issued:** 8 January 2016

**Authorised by:** Deputy Mayor Greg Stocks

**Record No:** MR16116850

### **Demolition to start on Albany Agricultural Society buildings**

Albany Agricultural Society's buildings in the eastern precinct of the Centennial Park Redevelopment will be demolished over the next two months as works progress on creating a state-of-the-art sporting precinct in Albany.

Demolition contractor Warren Bennett Homes will carry out demolition works over about 10 weeks from the time it takes possession of the site on Monday, January 11.

It comes after the City of Albany and Albany Agricultural Society signed a Deed of Agreement in December paving the way for the multi-million dollar redevelopment to proceed.

Most of the buildings and other infrastructure will make way for the \$16 million redevelopment of the eastern precinct, which will include new ovals, the construction of a new stadium, carparking and landscaping.

The McCormick Pavilion will remain for the next 12 months to house the Albany Agricultural Society while works are carried out.

City of Albany Executive Director of Works and Services Matthew Thomson said a lot of effort had gone into reducing the impact on community groups and sports clubs, including finding new homes for community groups that were using many of the buildings.

"There is minimal impact on the sporting clubs as they have been engaged in the process in respect to the redevelopment project, however there are a number of community groups who had arrangements with the Albany Agricultural Society to use buildings for community purposes," Mr Thomson said.

"The Society and City have been working with these groups to facilitate their requirements moving forward and ensure they can continue to function."

Mr Thomson said the demolition works were a major milestone in the project and would herald a new era in sporting facilities in Albany.

"The City is respectful of the history of Centennial Hall and other pavilions and the strong connection they have had with community groups," he said.



“The removal of Centennial Hall in particular has been a difficult decision arrived at in consultation with the Albany Agricultural Society and after considering advice from a structural engineer.

“The retention of the hall is not possible, however the City is working with the Society to retain the timber floor if practical.”

As a result of last year’s signing of the Deed of Agreement, the City and Albany Agricultural Society now share a common goal on the Eastern Precinct of the Centennial Park Redevelopment.

“We look forward to continuing the good relationship to ensure the benefit to the community from this project is maximised,” Mr Thomson said.

“It will deliver a precinct that the whole community can be proud of and enjoy for many decades to come.”

**END**

