

Reference: AF11/877
Enquiries to: Mr Mark McShane

MAYOR MEMBERS

NOTICE is hereby given that I have called a Special Meeting of the Council to be held at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier on the following date and time:

Tuesday 24th April, 2018 - Council Chamber – Civic Centre (commencing at 6.00 p.m.)

For the purpose of:

1. Consideration of the Expression of Interest prepared by Council relating to the 2018 Mount Gambier Regional Sport and Recreation Centre.

An Agenda for the meeting to be held on the 24th April, 2018 at 6.00 p.m. is attached.



Andrew LEE
MAYOR

20th April, 2018

AGENDA INDEX

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3.1. Mount Gambier Regional Sport and Recreation Centre - Report No. AR18/15113

COMMITTEE	Council
MEETING DATE:	24 April 2018
REPORT NO.	AR18/15113
RM8 REFERENCE	AR18/112
AUTHOR	Judy Nagy
SUMMARY	The submission of an Expression of Interest (EOI) for funding under the Federal Government’s Regional Growth Fund (RGF) for the proposed Sport and Recreation Centre reflects Council’s resolution to progress the funding application. Elected Members have been provided with documents that address the criteria in the RGF guidelines and will consider if the EOI will be submitted and if so, what the next stages of the application will be.
COMMUNITY PLAN REFERENCE	Goal 1: Our People
	Goal 3: Our Diverse Economy
	Goal 4: Our Climate, Natural Resources, Arts, Culture and Heritage
	Goal 4: Our Climate, Natural Resources, Arts, Culture and Heritage

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That Council Report No. AR18/15113 titled ‘*Mount Gambier Regional Sport and Recreation Centre*’ as presented to the Council on 24 April 2018 be noted.
- (b) That Council endorses the submission of an Expression of Interest (EOI) to the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities for the Regional Growth Fund to secure funding for a Regional Sport and Recreation Centre by the due date of April 27th 2018.
- (c) Staff are authorised to make non material changes to wording and content of the EOI to finalise for submission.
- (d) That Council, in anticipation of the EOI being favourably assessed;
 - i) endorses the continued development of the full business case for the building and operation of a Regional Sport and Recreation Centre as proposed in the EOI;



- ii) endorses funding of \$80,000 to enable more detailed architectural design, project management, costings and associated work to be prepared to satisfy the criteria of a full business case submission;
- iii) engages with a broad range of stakeholders in developing the design and functionality of the proposed centre;
- iv) continues to lobby the State Government for a funding commitment of not less than \$ 10 million as a vital portion of funding for the construction of the Sport and Recreation Centre;
- v) resolves for the Councillor Working Party to be continued and seeks nominations for participation in the next stage of development work for the proposed Sport and Recreation Centre, and
- vi) reviews the full business case for stage two of the application process prior to the submission deadline (date not yet known), confirming Councillor commitment to the funding application for the proposed Sport and Recreation Centre.



Background

Council discussions about the community need for an indoor aquatic centre and more recent discussion incorporating other indoor sporting facilities have been a recurring issue since before 1995. The recent opportunity to submit an application for funding under the Federal Government's Regional Growth Fund, involving a two stage process with an Expression of Interest (EOI) required by 27th April 2018, resulted in the following resolutions being made by Council.

Resolution from Council Meeting - 20th March, 2018

13.7 Project Management - Proposed Indoor Recreation Centre – Ref. AF17/22

- (a) *That Council allocates \$30,000 this financial year for the preparation of documentation for a proposed multifunctional indoor recreation and aquatics centre, including a feasibility study, concept plans including initial engagement with stakeholder groups, facility management options and a ratepayer impact report.*
- (b) *That documentation to be tabled at the Strategic Standing Committee meeting by or prior to July 2018.*
- (c) *That the documentation will form the basis of an extensive community and stakeholder engagement process to be determined after the completion of the above reports.*

That Council establish a working party comprising the Mayor, Councillors (to be determined at tonight's meeting), the Chief Executive Officer, the General Manager City Growth and other relevant stakeholders as determined by the working party, to develop an expression of interest for the Federal Government's Regional Growth Fund. The EOI will be further considered by Council ahead of potential lodgement by the 27th April.

Significant developments now inform these resolutions and have contributed to the work undertaken to prepare the EOI.

The timelines for submission have been acknowledged as challenging and have impacted the depth of research and consultation that was possible in the tight timeframes. While Council can, by weight of past investigation claim significant previous development, the work of the past needs to be updated and re-contextualised to incorporate new knowledge, community needs and voices and an appreciation of the commitments a decision to move forward may require.

Discussion

Council established a working party comprising the Mayor, Crs Morello, Greco and Perryman and Chief Executive Officer and General Manager City Growth. Five meetings were held over 4 weeks to which all Elected Members were invited and correspondence was also circulated to all Members.

The notion of an indoor sport and recreation centre has benefitted from community voices at various stages in previous years and in the current process of preparing the Regional Growth Fund EOI.

Initial community consultation specific to the EOI process included the following;



- participation by the Mayor and CEO in a Community Forum attended by 350 members of the community. Preliminary information about the proposed centre was provided and audience questions answered.
- key stakeholders were asked by Council to complete a questionnaire and also invited to meet with the Council working party to provide input into the proposal
- letters of support have also been requested from schools, sporting groups, health entities and Members of Parliament. Both State and Federal Ministers have been very proactive in promoting and supporting the submission of this Expression of Interest to secure funding.
- We also note that an independent Community Working Party was formed to simultaneously develop, promote and manage a Community Petition.

Two Council Working Party meetings included the opportunity for 12 stakeholder groups representing, swimming, netball, basketball, tennis, soccer, football and allied health, to provide Council with input into the type of facilities that may be included as part of Council's EOI Application. Stakeholder feedback indicated strong support for an indoor facility with an appreciation that the proposed centre could not provide solutions for all needs and would require cooperation between sporting codes to share the facilities. Discussion also appreciated the need for clubs to understand that a 'user pays' principle would be necessary and this may mean that club fees and charges would reflect this.

With knowledge gained from eight site visits by Council in previous years, numerous reports and input from the Council Working Party and key stakeholders, a design brief was discussed with the Simply Great Leisure Consulting Group (SGL). Councillors may recall that in 2006/7 SGL was engaged by Council to undertake a feasibility study for an Indoor Recreation Centre and thus, SGL is familiar with the site and detailed work undertaken at that time. Reports prepared by SGL in 2007 included:

- A Demand Analysis Report that included
 - 300 random households to complete a survey
 - Recreation Facility Users Survey
 - School Survey
 - Recreation and Sport Focus Group
- Design Cost and Location Report - where community feedback identified the existing outdoor pool site as the preferred site for any new facilities.
- Feasibility Analysis with modelling of projected revenues and expenses for different types of recreation activities that may be undertaken in the proposed facility.

SGL in partnership with *dasharchitects* have been able to meet the timeframes of the EOI and have prepared a high level concept design and Rider Levett Bucknall have provided preliminary cost estimates for the design. Timing did not allow for more detailed works to be completed at this stage.

The high level of community and stakeholder interest, input and support for an indoor sport and recreation centre has been noted and reflected in the development of the EOI and the draft design. It must also be noted that at this stage the design is very preliminary and will require detailed input by stakeholders and others in stages to come. Council considers that the development of an indoor sport and recreation centre is a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity and while still ultimately dependent on grants from Federal and State Government, Councillors considered that the facility should be designed with capacity for the future, be multipurpose and accommodate the diverse needs of the community. It should also reflect our City as the regional capital for the Limestone Coast and our capacity to attract events, tourism and new populations to our City.



The draft sport and recreation centre design reflects input to date and at this time consists of;

- Six multipurpose indoor sport courts. One court will be a 'show court' with retractable seating for major sporting and other events.
- Aquatic facilities including a 25 metre, 10 lane lap pool, a separate learn to swim and activity pool with a splash pool for children.
- Function and meeting space with a kitchen on the first floor.
- A commercial kitchen on the ground floor.
- Kiosk and crèche.
- Associated amenities for the aquatic facilities and for the sports hall areas.

The predicted costs for such facilities have been estimated and the following represents the summary of the proposed funding structure.

Proposed Sport and Recreation Centre	
Project cost (per Rider Levett Bucknall estimates)	\$40,000,000
Proposed Funding Contributors	
• Regional Growth Fund	\$20,000,000
• State Government	\$10,000,000
• Council and Community	\$10,000,000
TOTAL	\$40,000,000

Economic modelling through Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast, using \$40 million as an inflow of funds to the region and estimated centre operating requirements predict the following initial employment and economic benefits flowing to the community.

Employment	Direct	Indirect	TOTAL Jobs	Economic Benefits
Construction	121	185	306	\$107,310,000
On going	21	11	32	\$7,340,000

We have been advised through Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast that the review process for the EOI may take up to 12 weeks. The guidelines suggest the following timeframes may apply.

Date	Activity
27 th April 2018	EOI submission
April – 20 July 2018	12 weeks assessment of EOI Council continues with the application process
July 2018	Possible invitation to submit Stage 2
October 2018	Stage 2 submission (3 months to complete)
October – January 2019	Assessment of Stage 2
Feb - May	Tendering and contracts. Construction must commence within 12 weeks from funding agreement execution.
May 2019	Estimated commencement



Next steps of the two part process.

An invitation to progress to stage 2 by the funding body may be made in July. Should Council’s EOI find favour, the work required to prepare the type of documents with the level of detail expected for a full application will not be achievable within the three month timeframe. This necessitates that Council engage in ongoing development work in anticipation of a favourable outcome. In the event that the EOI does not find favour, the proposed development work will become an investment placing Council in a strong position for any future opportunities for funding.

Should Council endorse the EOI there are a considerable number of other phases in development that will need to be addressed. These include and go beyond the following:

- Confirmation of funding from other sources
- Community engagement strategy
- Stakeholder engagement and input
- Tender for intermediate architectural drawings and costings
- Long Term Financial Plan Modelling
- Refinement of Furniture and Fitting Costs
- A full business case that includes the following
 - Procurement Plan
 - Proposed operating model
 - Detailed operating budget with projected revenues and expenses for 5 years
 - Prudential report
 - Risk assessment and evaluation strategy

Other considerations

1. Capital funding represents only one of the complex issues associated with establishing and maintaining a sport and recreation centre. Recent research reports have recognised that broader social benefits are also important outcomes for a year round sport and recreation centre. Aside from greater engagement with sport and general health and wellbeing, benefits can accrue to a community through a mix of measurable and non measurable, direct and indirect factors. The health benefits of aquatic physiotherapy for chronic health conditions, for rehabilitation in relation to workplace and other injuries as well as for recovery by sports groups such as football are important community outcomes. Opportunities to promote social inclusion and encourage youth engagement can also be important outcomes as will facilities for an increasingly aging population to provide active and passive opportunities for recreation. It is clear that users of public indoor sport and recreation centres are more likely to be part of healthier communities, be fitter, stronger, less prone to illness, be more confident and engaged and contribute to the social capital of the community.
2. The strong alignment of this project with other Council Strategies is important to consider when committing to such a major infrastructure project.

Strategy	Alignment
Futures Paper and Community Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our People - “A safe, inclusive city where access to quality services and facilities supports a socially connected, vibrant and healthy community” (p.7). • Our Location - “A perfectly centred place where people aspire to live, work, visit and invest” (p.10).
City Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attraction and retention of workers to the region



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of new jobs through operations, events and tourism • More business for shops, restaurants and accommodation providers • Opportunities for youth employment
Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fit for purpose recreational facilities and specifically “Council consider the health, wellbeing and social benefits clearly articulated by young people regarding the development of an indoor pool facility/aquatic centre” (p.8). • Opportunities for engagement through a place to go after hours
Culture and Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater connectivity and social inclusion • Increase in year round engagement opportunities • Spaces for creative events and workshops

3. Issues of financial, environmental, social and cultural sustainability are all important considerations for long term operations to ensure economic and social benefits are captured for the community. The centre will require an initial increase in rate revenues to assist with operating costs. Opportunities for commercialisation within the centre and maximising use will contribute to minimisation of operating costs.
4. While research shows that significant community benefits are gained from sports and recreation facilities there are costs to the community. Site visits undertaken at similar sport and recreation facilities elsewhere in South Australia indicate that ongoing operational costs are considerable with the most significant factors being building depreciation and loan repayments. However, this needs to be interpreted with caution as aquatic facilities are combined in various ways with other court areas and direct comparisons of facilities is not possible.
5. It is also important to recognise that some businesses in the community may be affected by the proposed sport and recreation centre. Those who manage indoor sport spaces may have reduced opportunities to earn income if clients move to a new centre.

Conclusion

A decision by Council to submit the EOI under the Federal Government’s Regional Growth Fund for the proposed Mount Gambier Regional Sport and Recreation Centre will require ongoing development work in anticipation of an invitation to progress to stage 2.

Commitment to the work will ensure that Council is able to lodge a competitive full proposal within the time frames allowed. In the event that Council is not invited to progress to stage 2, any development work will still be a valuable investment in the documentation necessary for future funding opportunities that may arise.

Attachments

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Attachment 1 (AR18/15713) | Expression of Interest |
| Attachment 2 (AR18/15714) | Plans |
| Attachment 3 (AR18/15715) | Budget |
| Attachment 4 (AR18/14254) | Summary of Community Engagement |

Supporting Documents: Attachments A, B, C and D (index at front of each section).





Dr Judy NAGY
GENERAL MANAGER CITY GROWTH



Mark McSHANE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

18 April 2018
MJT

Meeting closed at p.m.

AR18/13547



REPORT ATTACHMENTS

Report attachments commence on the next page.



Mount Gambier Regional Sport and Recreation Centre

Expression of Interest

Grant applications are submitted online with challenges when many people are using the same system and are uploading large files. The following document provides details of the written content for the three compulsory 'Merit Criteria' which have word limits and need to be supported by evidence. Text in blue highlights information from grant guidelines.

Project name: 250 Characters

Mount Gambier Regional, Sport and Recreation Centre (52)

Project description 1500 characters

Responding to a significant grassroots community campaign to secure year round facilities for sport and recreation, the proposed 'indoor sport and recreation centre' (ISRC) has been discussed over decades and is now regarded as crucial for economic development and social cohesion. The centre will provide for improved health and wellbeing outcomes, increase participation in exercise, provide opportunities to further develop event tourism and provide new employment through additional recreation programs, operations and asset management. Commercialisation opportunities will assist with operational sustainability to balance economic and social benefits for the region.

Retaining the existing outdoor seasonal use pool, funding will contribute to the building of a new ISRC on the same centrally located site controlled by the City of Mount Gambier. The new centre will fill significant gaps in recreation infrastructure through the provision of a 25 metre, 10 lane indoor pool, additional pools for recreation and rehabilitation, 6 multi-purpose indoor courts (including one show court with retractable seating), multi-purpose creative, meeting and function rooms and associated amenities. As a consolidated site providing a year round focal point, the community will have opportunities for recreation and leisure pursuits, provide youth with engagement choices, promote social inclusion for disability and migrant communities and contribute to regional population retention and attraction strategies.

(1491) = what and why

Merit Criteria

Job creation as a result of your project including direct employees during and post construction and indirect employees post construction (20 points). You should define, quantify and provide evidence to support your answers.

Criteria 1 Create jobs 20 points (5000 characters including spaces)

- Increasing the number of jobs
- Increasing indigenous employment
- Increasing youth employment 16-24 years

- Number of Direct full-time jobs that will be created during construction.
 - Number of these that are Indigenous
 - Number of these that are youth (16-24 years)
- Number of Direct full-time jobs that will be retained as a direct result of this project.
 - Number of these that are Indigenous
 - Number of these that are youth (16-24 years)
- Number of Indirect full-time jobs that will be created during construction.
 - Number of these that are Indigenous
 - Number of these that are youth (16-24 years)
- Number of Indirect full-time jobs that will be retained as a direct result of this project.
 - Number of these that are Indigenous
 - Number of these that are youth (16-24 years)

Mount Gambier (population 26,500) is a service centre for a broader regional catchment of approximately 66,683 (2016) people. It is situated 435 kilometers from Adelaide where the nearest state public 'indoor sport and recreation centre' (ISRC) is located and 119 kilometers from a facility in Victoria at Portland. The climate in Mount Gambier during winter is cold (July mean maximum daily temperature of 13.2C and mean monthly rainfall of 100.2 mm) limiting outdoor recreation opportunities. Profile ID Reports attached provide more demographic details.

The City of Mount Gambier has embarked on a program of identifying and pursuing economic development opportunities via a number of targeted projects prioritised through a process that distilled 118 recommendations from numerous strategic reports. Securing a strong evidence base for action to build the economy and create jobs in areas of competitive strength has been the focus over several years. The City Growth Strategy 2017 by ACIL Allen Consulting has already identified opportunities for jobs growth in the Tourism economy through expansion of the current reputation for hosting summer sports. The Digital Strategy 2016 and Visitor Information Servicing Report 2017 have informed current works to build the capacity of our tourism operators to enhance visitor experiences. The successful partnership between Council, Flinders University, the Department of State Development and the Federal Government to create an Innovation Hub in Mount Gambier signals our desire to create an effective innovation supply chain with the objective of small business start-ups and SME expansion and jobs creation. Complimentary to the development of new businesses is the need for recreation and engagement infrastructure for families as part of retention and attraction strategies. "The comparative advantage of Mount Gambier will continue to shift dramatically over the next ten years, with an ongoing shift away from manufacturing to a service and knowledge based economy with a greater focus on tourism, business services, education and health services" (City Growth Strategy 2017, p. 3). There is a strong alignment between social and economic strategies being pursued by the City of Mount Gambier underpinned by community action with quality community infrastructure being a critical enabler for this vision.

The creation of jobs will be both direct and indirect in the following area:

1. Construction – both direct and indirect through building works, associated industries and consumption
2. Predicted on going staffing 21 FTE as follows:
 - Pool will require additional staff for year round pool attendants and instructors currently 45 x .22 FTE (6 months) or 10 FTE (Summary of Initial Community Engagement) For 12 months = 10 new FTE.

- Staff required to run administration, manage the centre and kiosk will be a mix of full time and fractional staff = 6 FTE staff
- ongoing coaching that would take place to maintain fitness over winter and the ability to attract new higher level coaches if quality facilities are in place (as per sporting club feedback) = 2 FTE
- events staffing = 1 FTE (estimate)
- new allied health facilities coupled with NDIS needs = 2 FTE with significant growth potential
- clubs have all indicated that there would be significant volunteering opportunities for youth to assist with tournaments and events as a means of building employability skills.

Profile iD population statistics from the 2016 census note that 1210 persons or 1.9% of the region's population identify as Indigenous. In addition ABS data notes that 27% of the Australian Indigenous population are in the working age group and applying the national percentage to this region suggests that there are approximately 327 working age Indigenous persons in this region. This represent 0.8% of all persons of working age in the region (40,093) who may seek employment in relation to this project, with the data below reflecting this proportion. ABS statistics also identify that 7150 persons (17.8%) of the working age group are between 16-24 years. However, sport and recreation are more likely to favour employment of those in the youth age group and for ongoing employment the weighting for youth employment is 75% as per feedback from sporting groups.

Economic modelling provides details of local jobs (impacts outside the region have not been included) that are likely to be created during construction and for ongoing employment that are both direct and indirect. The modelling predicts the following FTE values;

Using \$40 million for the build costs:

	FTE Direct				FTE Indirect				FTE
	Indig.	Youth	Other	Total	Indig.	Youth	Other	Total	TOTAL
Construction	1.0	21.5	98.5	121	1.5	32.9	150.6	185	306
On going		15.8	5.2	21		8.2	2.8	11	32

4741

Criteria 2 Drive Economic Growth 20 points (5000 characters including spaces)

The economic benefit your project will deliver to the region during and beyond the construction phase (20 points). You should define, quantify and provide evidence to support your answers.

You must provide evidence of how your project will increase economic activity, improve productivity, provide wider access to markets or provide fairer and more equitable economic outcomes. Examples of how your project could demonstrate these economic benefits include:

- increasing the establishment of new businesses, the relocation of a business or part of a business from an ineligible area to an eligible area or the production of goods and services in the region (this includes direct and indirect opportunities created through the project)
- providing transformational growth in existing sectors through combined benefits, e.g. tourism, agriculture, manufacturing, communication
- the use of local suppliers and goods
- increased use of Indigenous enterprises and suppliers
- improved accessibility for businesses to markets and supporting services

- support from state or territory or local governments. This can be in the form of letters of support for the project, the project being included in regional or state strategic plans, co-contribution to the project, etc.

You must provide details on the impact your project may have on other businesses or sectors of the economy, whether they be positive or negative.

The City Growth Strategy 2017 (CGS) highlights that, “The City of Mount Gambier has taken a proactive role in facilitating economic development, working with business and the local community to help stimulate growth and opportunity. This includes building a smart digitally connected City, increasing investment in infrastructure, helping to grow tourism and events, improving planning and business support, and accelerating innovation and opportunities for business (p.1).” A focus on digital transformation through Gig City partnerships and successful Innovation Hub funding with Flinders University has placed the region on the pathway to diversification through connectivity and knowledge building. Drivers for economic growth are thus being positioned to maximise growth opportunities (refer EconSearch Snapshot).

Mount Gambier has a diversity of services acting as a drawcard for surrounding regional towns. It is predicted that for Mount Gambier the proportion of population over 65 years will increase by 31.5 per cent over the next ten years to around 22 per cent of the population by 2026. This will have implications for labour force participation and the future workforce in Mount Gambier, but will also create opportunities in terms of attracting mature age tourists, investment and people, based on the region’s lifestyle and affordability as a retirement destination (City Growth Strategy 2017, p. 2). The facilities being proposed in the ISRC will also provide additional opportunities for employment in the provision of allied health services particularly in response to the new NDIS policies and the aging population.

The Limestone Coast Region Plan is part of the South Australian Planning Strategy and provides the strategic link between broad state-wide planning aims and local, council specific planning needs. This project strongly aligns to strategies outlined in the plan. Of specific relevance are the following aspects of the plan:

- Attracting and retaining a skilled and flexible workforce to support a stronger economic base.
- Valuing the strong sense of community spirit and regional identity
- Providing greater employment, recreation and other opportunities to retain young people.
- Supporting the development and maintenance of social and community services and facilities, including sporting, education, health, recreational and other facilities to service the local population.

In May 2017 the Australian Federal Government released its Regions 2030 plan: Unlocking Opportunity in Regional Australia. This regional policy promotes decentralisation as a means of creating jobs and driving economic development in rural Australia. Development of start-of-the-art community facilities is one approach to support decentralisation and increase the attractiveness of the region to skilled workers. Council polices already proactively provide weightings to tender applications in favour of local suppliers and encourage applications from indigenous persons where possible.

Youth retention and employment issues are of concern to the community with number of 16-19 year olds as a percentage of the population being just under national figures, however for 20-24 year old age group the comparison is 5.1% to Australian figure of 6.7%, with this disparity widening to 5.2 compared with 7.1 for the 25-29 age group (refer Youth Population). The ABS has identified that those aged 15-24 years had the highest rate of involvement (44%) in organised sport and physical activity and it is this group that Mount Gambier is actively seeking to engage and retain in this community. Of significance is that as part of Council’s Youth Engagement consultation process the lack of ‘fit for purpose recreational facilities’ was a key finding.

Construction phase and ongoing economic benefits to the region have been modelled using Economic iD tools. For construction, the total direct and indirect benefits to the local economy is \$83.01 million output and value added of \$24.30 million with an estimate of benefits that may flow from operational and sporting club employment providing an additional \$4.56 million output and \$2.19 million value added benefits. Potential benefits from events that may be attracted to the ISRC is estimated at \$0.59 million with flow on consequences for consumption (see Summary of Initial Community Engagement). Total \$114.65 million.

Recognising that opportunities to secure funding to improve aging sporting infrastructure, as noted in Issues and Directions Paper 2009 (Office of Sport and Recreation SA), is beyond the capacity of individual councils without assistance from other levels of government, this application is supported by both State and Federal MPs, and the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (representing seven councils in this region). A request for funding support has been made to the Hon Steven Marshall Premier of South Australia.

4909

Criteria 3 Building Stronger Regional Communities 10 points (5000 characters including spaces)

You must provide evidence of how your project will increase the regional resilience to economic fluctuations by strengthening and building capacity, including:

- Improving productivity
- Improving liveability
- Improving connectivity
- Increasing diversity of jobs

In the community of Mount Gambier discussion of a need for an 'indoor sport and recreation centre' (ISRC) date from 1995 with discussion focusing on economic benefits. However, recent reports have recognised that broader social benefits are also important outcomes for a year round sport and recreation centre with health and wellbeing benefits accruing to a community through a mix of measurable and non measurable, direct and indirect factors. It is clear that users of public ISRC are more likely to be part of healthier communities, be fitter, stronger, less prone to illness, be more confident and engaged and contribute to the social capital of the community (Community Benefits of Aquatic Facilities and Economic Benefits of Recreation Centres). Government, through investments of public money to generate benefits for the community also accrue indirect benefits through increased productivity and reductions in health spending. The construction of ISRCs are generally expensive and can only occur with strong alignment between sectors of government with maintenance and operational responsibilities subsequently resting with local government. Issues of financial, environmental, social and cultural sustainability are all important considerations for long term operations to ensure economic and social benefits are captured for the community as noted in Guidelines for Management of Recreation Facilities.

The environmental and demographic specifics of the Mount Gambier region are highlighted in reports from three levels of Government confirming that regional SA has less than average engagement in exercise, one of the highest obesity levels in the nation, and is where the impact of youth unemployment (identified in the Brotherhood of St Lawrence Top 20 Hotspots for Youth Unemployment at 16.3%) on economic indicators is challenging. National evidence from "A picture of overweight and obesity in Australia" 2017 and the Heart Foundation's Level of Exercise Statistics 2014/15, also identify South Australia and regional South Australia as having the highest levels of sedentary behaviour.

This report also notes that the burden of physical inactivity increases with age, and is higher among people from lower socioeconomic groups. SEIFA data for Mount Gambier ranges between 733 and 1021 highlighting a significant disparity within the community with disadvantage and disengagement a strong focus of youth engagement strategies.

The general health benefits of aquatic physiotherapy for chronic health conditions, for rehabilitation in relation to workplace and other injuries as well as for recovery by sports groups such as football, are current gaps in service provision that would be assisted by having the proposed centre. Feedback from stakeholders also highlighted that tournaments, carnivals and other sporting events provide great opportunities for volunteering as both a way of building youth capacities, and for social connectivity.

In 2017 Council conducted an extensive community consultation process that culminated in a Youth Engagement Strategy and a Culture and Heritage Plan. The extensive engagement process over 4 months ensured that many voices were heard through consultation methods such as; visioning workshops, surveys, an Online Hub, chalk boards and postcards, roundtable sessions, door knocking, school visits, community BBQs and Café drop in sessions. Community feedback detailed in the Culture and Heritage Plan highlighted the need for year round engagement and participation venues to encourage vibrancy, connectedness, inclusiveness and a sense of community.

The specific need for indoor aquatics featured across a number of engagement groups. The Youth Engagement Strategy identified as its highest ranking recommendation that “Council consider the health, wellbeing and social benefits clearly articulated by young people regarding the development of an indoor pool facility/aquatic centre” (Recommendation 1.2, Youth Engagement Strategy 2018). Building confidence through the encouragement of creative opportunities, the opportunity for part time work at the ISRC and ultimately retaining youth in the community to provide the future workforce are desired outcomes for the community.

These reports have allowed Council to identify community needs and wants highlighting that an ISRC is a community priority. Of equal importance is the campaign by a Community Working Party representing sporting clubs and associations seeking support from across the community through a petition (‘20,000 signatures in 20 days’) and through promoting support letters for this application. Key stakeholders have discussed how they may work with Council to ensure an ISRC is well planned, utilised and viable. The campaign reflects strong community support with details and prior consultation activities contained in the attached Summary of Initial Community Engagement.

4904

Evidence 20 documents file names less than (45 characters including file extension)

1. Profile iD Community Profile
2. Mount Gambier City Growth Strategy
3. Summary of Initial Community Engagement
4. Economic iD Modelling Construction
5. Economic iD Modelling Ongoing
6. EconSearch Snapshot
7. Limestone Coast Region Plan
8. City of Mt Gambier Youth Engagement Strategy
9. Youth Population
10. Issues and Directions Paper
11. Community Benefits of Aquatic Facilities
12. Economic Benefits of Recreation Facilities
13. Guidelines for Management of Rec. Facilities
14. SEIFA Summary Profile iD
15. Cultural Heritage Plan
16. Summary of letters of support



ISSUE FOR COST ESTIMATE

For

Mount Gambier Regional Sport & Recreation Centre

For City of Mount Gambier Council

#	TITLE	SIZE	REV
SK01	Cover	A3	-A
SK02	Master Plan Demolition 1:1000	A3	-A
SK03	Master Plan Proposed 1:1000	A3	-A
SK04	Ground Floor Plan 1:500	A3	-A



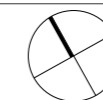
Location Plan

issued for cost estimate 19/4/18

Mount Gambier Regional Sport & Recreation Centre



Cover

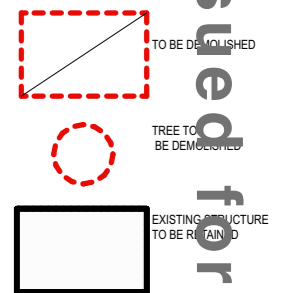
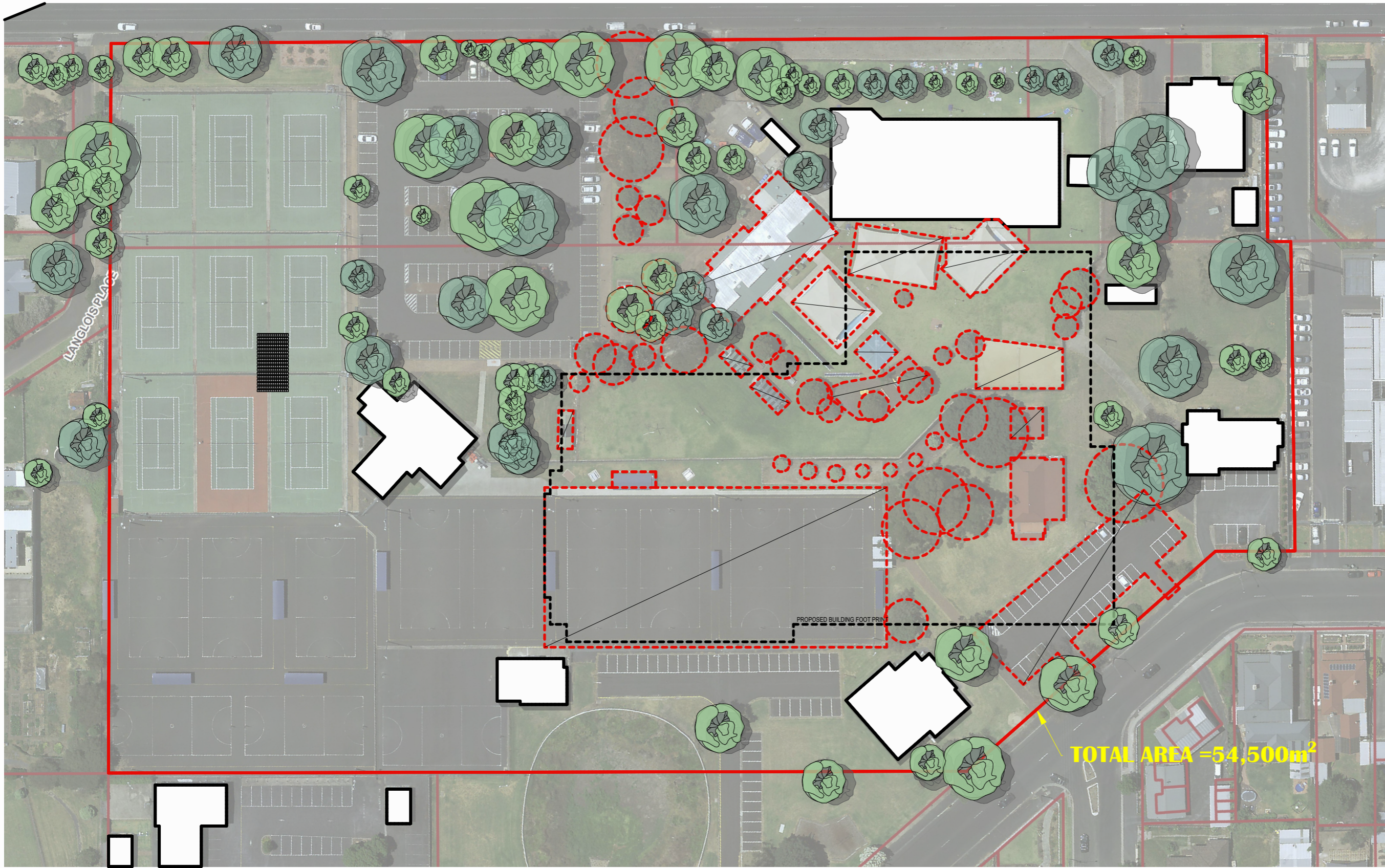
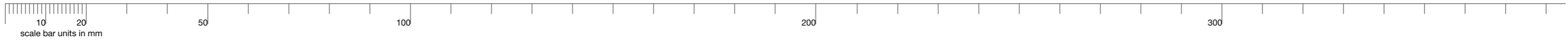


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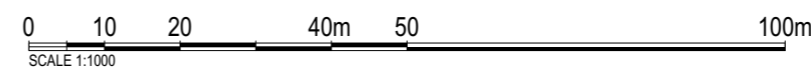
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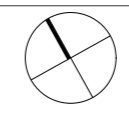


issued for cost estimate 19/4/18

Mount Gambier Regional Sport & Recreation Centre



Master Plan Demolition 1:1000

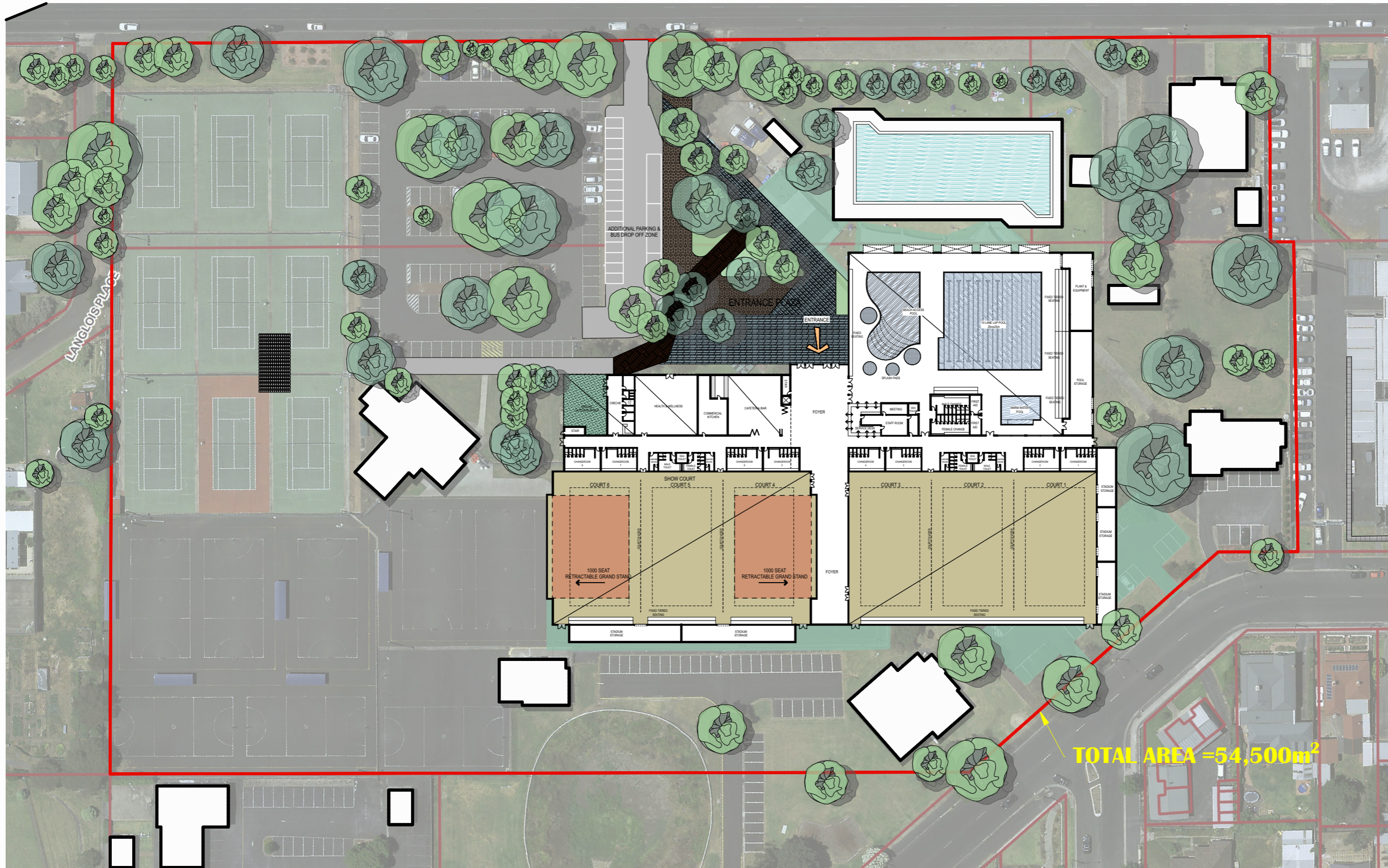
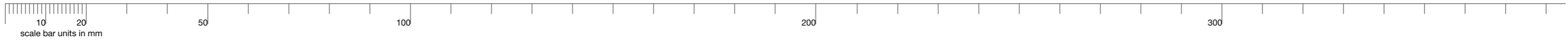


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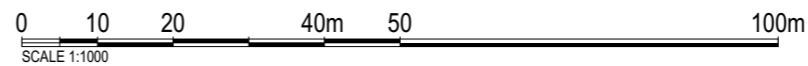
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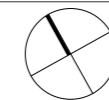


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Mount Gambier Regional Sport & Recreation Centre



Master Plan Proposed 1:1000

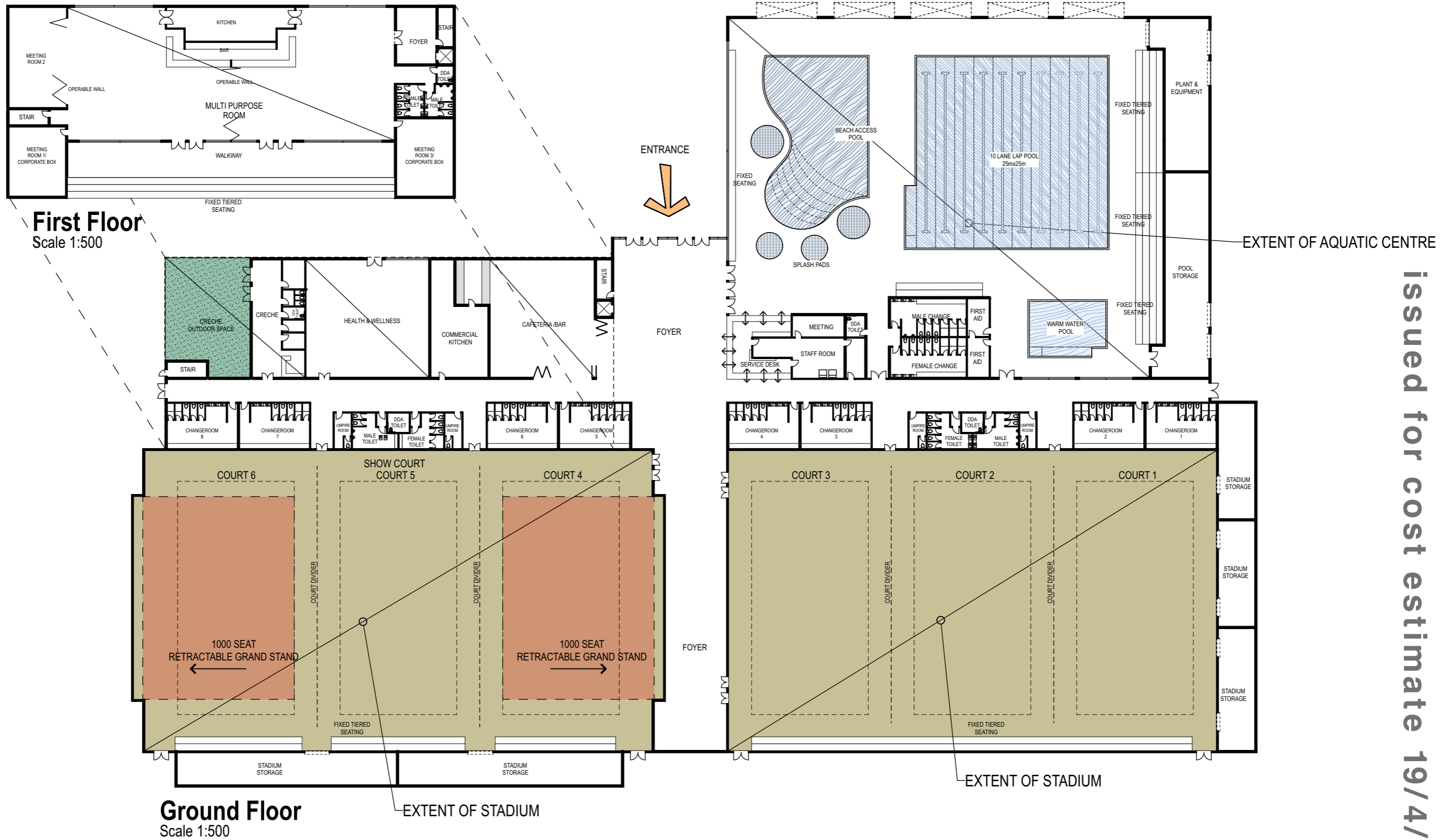
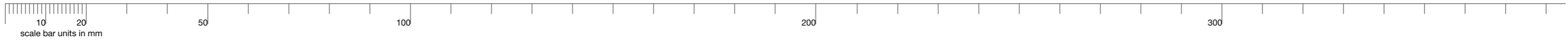


Date: 19/4/18
Project Number: DA183567

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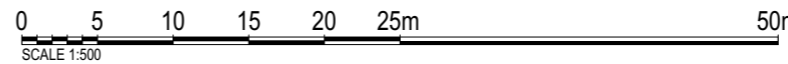
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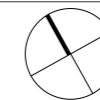


issued for cost estimate 19/4/18

Mount Gambier Regional Sport & Recreation Centre



Ground Floor Plan 1:500



Date: 19/4/18
Project Number: DA183567

SK04
Drawing Number

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Revision

**MOUNT GAMBIER REGIONAL SPORT AND RECREATION CENTRE
Preliminary Budget for Building Construction
April 2018**

Budget Item	Source	\$
Estimated Construction Costs (Includes Contingency)	Rider Levett Bucknall	40,000,000
Proposed Funding		
Regional Growth Fund	Regional Growth Fund	20,000,000
State Government	Request made 18 th April	10,000,000
Council and community		10,000,000
		40,000,000

Expression of Interest Status

Documents to complete	Status	Due
EOI Merit Criteria	Complete	Thur 19 th April
Project Management Plan and Timeframes	Complete	Thur 19 th April
Proposed Implementation methodology	Complete	Thur 19 th April
Procurement Plan	Complete	Thur 19 th April
Risk Management Plan	Complete	Wed 18 th April
Evaluation Plan	Complete	Wed 18 th April
Budget/cost estimates	Complete	Wed 18 th April
Details of regulatory approvals and Crown lands notification	Complete	Wed 18 th April
On line form - completion and institutional details	Outstanding	Wed 25 th April
EOI Deadline		Friday 27 th April

Regulatory Approvals

There are two issues to consider.

1. The subject site is Crown Land under the care and control of the City of Mount Gambier. The site is already endorsed for use associated with recreation activities and the development will need a letter from the relevant Minister responsible for Crown Land agreeing to the development. Advice of intent (subject to funding) has already been provided to the minister.
2. As the Mount Gambier Regional Sport and Recreation Centre is in excess of prescribed dollar limits for Council assessment, in accordance with Schedule 10 of the Development Regulations the State Coordinator General determines the State Planning Commission as the relevant Authority for approval. These time frames are likely to be 3 months

MOUNT GAMBIER AQUATIC CENTRE & STADIUM

Initial Estimate - April 2018

Location Summary

GFA: Gross Floor Area
Rates Current At April 2018

Location	GFA m ²	Cost/m ²	Total Cost
DE DEMOLITION & SITE PREPARATION			318,360.59
BW BUILDING WORKS			
AF Aquatics Facility	2,252	4,111	9,256,941.01
SH Sports Hall	5,199	1,826	9,494,385.99
CS Commercial Spaces	2,195	1,972	4,328,165.75
SA Support Amenities	3,111	1,898	5,904,836.81
EB Existing Facilities			Excl.
BW - BUILDING WORKS	12,757	\$2,272	\$28,984,329.56
EW EXTERNAL WORKS & SITE INFRASTRUCTURE			1,682,309.85
FE FFE / AV / ICT			3,000,000.00
ESTIMATED NET COST	12,757	\$2,664	\$33,985,000.00
MARGINS & ADJUSTMENTS			
Allowance for Construction Contingency	4.1%		\$1,395,000.00
Allowance for Professional Fees	8.2%		\$2,915,000.00
Allowance for Statutory Charges incl CITB Levy	0.4%		\$165,000.00
Allowance for Locality Loading (discounted - assumes use of local trades where possible)	2.2%		\$830,000.00
Allowance for Escalation to Completion (assumed early to mid 2020)	1.8%		\$710,000.00
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST	12,757	\$3,136	\$40,000,000.00

MOUNT GAMBIER REGIONAL SPORT AND RECREATION CENTRE

SUMMARY OF INITIAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Contents

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4.	Key Stakeholders that addressed Working Party	8
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1. Executive Summary

A proposal for an indoor sport and recreation centre is a recurring issue that surfaces regularly within the community and in Council discussions. For reasons associated with:

- the significant capital and operational costs;
- the potential financial consequences for Council and the community;
- the time and expense required to develop proposals for major regional infrastructure;

no previous applications for funding have been undertaken.

However, significant work has been done over a number of years that has allowed both the public and Council to have a better understanding of the likely capital costs, the potential impost on ratepayers and the significant social and community benefits that may accrue from an indoor sport and recreation centre. These are summarised with outcomes noted for each investigation.

Council is now ready to implement a strategy to secure funding to build a multi-purpose indoor recreation facility. Recent community campaigns have been inspirational in reaching this turning point with key stakeholders providing input about the types of facilities that would be valued. In addition, questionnaires have provided insights into what activities and new events could be held in the new centre that would contribute to utilization and viability.

2. Background

The matter of an indoor aquatics centre and more recently an indoor sport and recreation centre has been 'on the agenda' for decades. With each re-emergence of the issue the depth of knowledge has increased and more voices have contributed to the debate. The following provides a summary of some of the more significant actions that have occurred over time.

1994/95

- Council formed a working party to investigate the proposal that an indoor aquatic centre would be a desirable facility for the City, with the working party including a number of community representatives with knowledge/experience in various aspects of aquatics.
- Public opinion in 1995 was that the community were keen to have access to indoor facilities and Council concluded that the most viable option at that time was a new indoor pool facility (including a 25 metre pool, beach entry, learner's pool) could potentially be built immediately adjacent to the outdoor pool.
- A number of solutions were proposed by an entity known as 'Anti Wave' with each of the options escalating in cost. The proposal included some modelling of income and expenditure. The investigations were not progressed.

2006/07

- Council allocated funding to Simply Great Leisure Consulting Group (SGL) to prepare a high level concept plan and feasibility study to gain a detailed understanding of current design standards and the type of facilities/activities typically provided in a modern Indoor Recreation Centre. The work included
 - A Demand Analysis Report that included
 - 300 random households to complete a survey
 - Recreation Facility Users Survey
 - School Survey
 - Recreation and Sport Focus Group



- Design Cost and Location Report - where community feedback identified the existing outdoor pool zone as the preferred site for any new facilities
- Feasibility Analysis with modelling of projected revenues and expenses for different types of recreation activities that may be undertaken in the proposed facility.
- These reports provided a good indication of community views and the likely financial impacts of providing such a centre in Mount Gambier.
- The reports were received by Council and no decision to proceed was made due to other pending major capital projects.

2012/13 December - August

- In December 2012, indoor pool and recreation facilities in Warrnambool, Ballarat and Horsham in Victoria were visited by Council staff to obtain direct information about design, operating costs and ongoing issues. During this same period Council acknowledged receipt of a community petition with 1782 signatures requesting that council build 25 meter swimming pool next to the outdoor pool.
 - 2 workshops were held to discuss the reports prepared from the site visit. The reports included projected capital and operating costs for an indoor aquatic facility adjacent to the existing 50 meter pool.
 - Council resolved to defer any consideration of an Indoor Aquatic Centre until at least 2017/18.

2014/15 October - March

- Council discussed the possibility of preparing a submission for National Stronger Regions Fund for a Community Recreation Centre. Discussion considered the number of capital projects that Council already had in progress at that time, together with supportable debt levels and funding was not pursued. However Council was mindful that additional rounds/stages of funding may emerge which may better suit this form of infrastructure and the issue remained of continued interest.

Over time, emphasis moved from an indoor aquatic centre to an indoor recreation centre. This shift in thinking acknowledged that an indoor aquatics centre, when operating alone, would be financially challenging and a desire for a high quality indoor facility allowing for more flexible programming would be a better option for the community. This logic informed a second program of site visits

2016

- In November of 2016, a number of Elected Members and staff visited the Victor Harbor Alexandrina Recreation Centre, Immanuel College indoor sporting facility, Barossa Recreation Facility and the Campbelltown Aquatic Facility to provide further knowledge about content, costs and operations of indoor recreation facilities.

2017

- Ongoing and more frequent community voices continued to be critical of the lack of indoor aquatics and other recreational facilities with Council discussions responding to the representations.

The greater frequency of discussions and community representations over the timelines noted above have been tempered by;

- Council knowledge of the significant previous works identifying the capital costs which are beyond the affordability of Council on it's own;



- a strong sense of social responsibility for ongoing operational costs which will necessarily flow through as rate increases to the community, and
- a stronger appreciation of the broader non quantifiable social benefits on health, community resilience and wellbeing.

2018

Council became aware of an opportunity for funding under the Regional Growth Fund and with the weight of previous investigations, fact finding site visits and social licence accumulated over time, have now resolved to actively pursue this funding opportunity.

3. Consultation and Community Engagement 2018

The notion of an indoor sport and recreation centre has benefitted from community voices at various stages in previous years as noted above and in the process of preparing the Regional Growth Fund Expression of Interest. Initial community consultation included the following;

- participation by the Mayor and CEO in a Community Forum attended by 350 members of the community. Preliminary information about the proposed centre was provided and audience questions answered. A community interest group was formed.
- key stakeholders were asked to complete a questionnaire and also invited to meet with the Council working party to provide input into the proposal.
- letters of support have also been requested from schools, sporting groups, health entities and Members of Parliament. Both State and Federal ministers have been very proactive in promoting and supporting the submission of this Expression of Interest to secure funding.

Questionnaire

A questionnaire requesting information to specifically inform the EOI included the following topics:

- What new events might clubs be able to hold or secure in the new centre?
- How would the new centre impact sport participation rates?
- What additional employment opportunities may be available?
- Could extensions of employment (currently seasonal) be required?
- What new volunteering opportunities may arise from events or additional programs?

The Questionnaire was provided to the following key stakeholders:

- Western Border Football League
- Western Border Netball League
- Limestone Coast Football Association
- Mount Gambier Netball Association
- Mount Gambier and Districts Tennis Association
- Mount Gambier Basketball Association
- Mid South East Football League
- Mid South East Netball League
- Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre
- Mount Gambier Swimming Club Inc.
- Blue Lake Y Amateur Swimming Club
- Mount Gambier Royal Lifesaving Club
- Beachport Surf Lifesaving Club
- Blue Lake Sports Medicine



Summary of questionnaire responses

The following provides a summary of the questionnaires completed by key stakeholders and notes answers when provided.

Number of Members

Mount Gambier Netball Club	8 Clubs
Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre	500
Mid South East Football League	9 Member Clubs
Basketball Mount Gambier	750
Mount Gambier and District Tennis Association	11 Member Clubs
Mount Gambier Swimming Club	38
Blue Lake Y Swim Club	70
Mid South East Netball Association	1,000
Mount Gambier Surf Lifesaving Club	15
Beachport Surf Lifesaving Club	100

Number of Players

Mount Gambier Netball Association	600
Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre	Up to 350 between 9.00am & 3.00pm each day/week & 1100 afterschool per week do lessons. Overall approximately 66,000 visits from mid October through to end of March each season.
Mid South East Football League	1100
Basketball Mount Gambier	600
Mount Gambier and District Tennis Association	500
Mount Gambier Swimming Club	23
Blue Lake Y Swim Club	45
Mid South East Netball Association	810
Mount Gambier Surf Lifesaving Club	15
Beachport Surf Lifesaving Club	62

Attraction of Events

Mount Gambier already hosts an impressive array of outdoor sporting events that bring significant economic benefits to the region through tourism. Recent investments in more sophisticated online resources that encourage visitors to stay longer have already paid dividends. The potential for the Mount Gambier Regional Sport and Recreation Centre to extend such economic opportunities for the whole year and for a new range of events will provide important direct and indirect employment opportunities that are difficult to measure.

Suggestions of events that could be attracted to the region by key stakeholders (additions from a diverse group of other sporting groups will form part of stage 2 community consultations) and by Council event staff (based on previous inquiries) could be regarded as aspirational. Where events suggested may be in competition with the income earning capacities of an existing club, they have not been included in the table below. However, often the community has insufficient facilities and partnerships with clubs will bring benefits to the community.



Tourism Research Australia 2016 data identifies that domestic visitors to a region spend on average \$136 per person per night and this compares with figures from Sports Marketing Australia who suggest that sports tourism visitors spend \$265 per person per night. Taking a conservative view and estimating a 25% success rate in attracting the events noted below, this represents a significant economic benefit per annum of \$563,752 with multiplier effects on employment and consumption.

Of the questionnaires received an indication of new events that could be attracted to the region utilizing the proposed facilities included:

Event	Month	Local Participants	Visitors to the region	Total	Days	Domestic \$136 per night
Southern Regionals Ultimate Frisbee	February	320	416	736	2 days	56,576
Adelaide 36's visits	August	100	800	900	3 days	217,600
Indoor Bowls SA-	August	450	1186	1636	3 days	322,592
Bocce Nationals - provision to include 8-10 indoor	January-Nationals	120	400	520	4 days	163,200
Bocce Nationals Host with Italian Club.	June-Aust National RAFFA Opens	150	400	550	3 days	108,800
Red Bull Neymar Jr's 5 A Side Football – played on hard courts	March/April/May	260	800	1060	1 day	108,800
National Calisthenics	November	250	1000	1250	3 days	272,000
Triathlon/Duathlon – using pool as one part of the leg in the race	Summer event	120	400	520	2 days	54,800
Gymnastics	all year round	120	300	420	1	40,800
Table tennis	all year round	200	150	350	1	20,400
Badminton	all year round	300	300	600	1	40,800
Handball	new sport to start up All year round	400	250	650	1	34,000
Martial Arts		600	200	800	1	27,200
Indoor concerts with enough seating for over 1000 people as grandstand around outside or retractable seating		1000	1000	2000	1	136,000
Questacon/SciWorld		3000	2000	5000		272,000
State Swimming Championships		200	800	200 com 800 vis	3	217,600
Adelaide Thunderbirds - Exhibition Game		100	150	20 com 250 spec	1	20,400
Regional Netball Academy	February	120	60	180	3 x 1mth	24,480
Super Series Netball preseason	May-Sept	100	100	200	1-2 days	27,200
Regional Swimming Country Championships	March	200	250	450	2-3 days	68,000
Regional Swimming Training Camps	All year	100	40	140	2-3 days	10,880
Combined Coaching Sessions with SW Victorian	Winter	70	80	150	1 day	10,880



Swim Clubs						
Combined SA/Vic Pool Surf Lifesaving Championships		400-600	500	600	2 days	
Combined SA/Vic Pool Royal Lifesaving Championships		200-300	250	250	2 days	
		8280	11,082			2,255,008

Increased Participation

In relation to increased participation rates in a chosen sport approximately 85 per cent of key stakeholders indicated a possible 20% to 25% increase.

15% saw no change as the multi purpose facility was not suitable for their sport, for example football, however for player training recovery the new centre would be very useful.

1. How Many New Jobs

- Mount Gambier (outdoor) Aquatic Centre - currently has 45 to 50 staff with a FTE loading of about 0.22. This would probably remain constant, however shift from 6 months to 12 months (Note: with an additional 1 pool for training and a splash pool to supervise increases in FTE adopts a conservative approach $45 \times .22 = 9.9$ for 6 months and 19.8 FTE for 12 months. As a popular tourist destination Mount Gambier has many families visiting the region during school holidays and pool utilisation is unlikely to decline over school holidays).
- Mount Gambier and District Tennis Association - Potential for coaching staff to be drawn to the region if an all weather facility is available. 1 FTE
- Mount Gambier Swimming Club / Blue Lake Y Swim Club - Potential to offer a paid position to a higher qualified coaches. 1 FTE to facilitate both clubs.

What percentage of jobs are likely to be for persons under 25 years of age:

Some key stakeholders have indicated an estimated 75% of jobs are likely to be for persons under 25 years of age. The consensus is that with a new facility and increased employment opportunities this may encourage young persons to stay in the region rather than move away. Students interested in pursuing a career in physical education may seek employment/work experience if an all weather facility was available.

2. How many jobs may be extended in time because the option for 12 month employment?

With the option of an all year / all weather facility, those Key Stakeholders able to use the facility for their chosen sport indicated jobs would be extended in time because of the option for 12 month employment. Seasonal sports would be able to utilize the facility all year round which would allow for additional training sessions/competitions.

3. How many volunteering opportunities may be created?

All Key Stakeholders acknowledged that there would be an increase in volunteering opportunities per season ranging from 10 - 50 and occasional for events from 1 to 100.

With a new facility attracting more events/tournaments volunteers will be a necessity to be successful. Typically upwards of 10 - 15 volunteers would be required for the running of a tournament with national competitions easily increasing to 50 or more.



4. Other Comments:

Mount Gambier Netball Association

- *current running of the Association is voluntary based. Any growth of our sport would need more volunteers not paid employment.*

Basketball Mount Gambier

- *Current facility was built in 1968/69 and third court in 1973. Urgent need for upgrade and addition of at least a fourth court.*

Mount Gambier and District Tennis

- *Firstly, country sport is about community building and social interaction. Creating a centre for sport and recreation not only facilitates individual participation in healthy sporting activities but also provides an avenue for parents, friends and relatives to either participate in sporting activities together, or simply enjoy each-other's company while watching and/or supporting participants.*
- *Secondly, whilst it reeks of trying to have our cake and eat it, it would be highly desirable for there to be some sort of contingency for the re-development of the existing tennis courts at Olympic Park under this proposed development umbrella. MGDTA has been working for many years to get the facilities at Olympic Park upgraded and is deep into the application process of obtaining funding as its own entity with the greatly appreciated conditional support of Mount Gambier City Council. We all know there is no such thing as a sure bet and it would be soul-destroying should we be unsuccessful in our own efforts to then see a major development, such as the one proposed, occur 'metres' away and for us to be playing tennis on the dilapidated courts we currently have.*

Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre

- *This is an amazing opportunity that Council has to have a real impact on the significant number of young people leaving their families and the community to seek work elsewhere. As an employer in my position it would really allow me to offer better conditions, engage with more professional development opportunities for staff and probably significantly increase the level of our offerings in both quality and quantity.*

Mount Gambier Swimming Club

- *With increased facilities at Olympic Park, this would open up the possibilities for Mount Gambier and Blue Lake Y Swim Clubs to host more events, without the pool complex being closed to the general public. While the outdoor facility may be closed to the general public during main swimming meets, patrons would be able to access an indoor facility, thus generating more income and increased patronage for the Aquatic Centre. This currently occurs at many Aquatic Centres throughout the Barwon South West (Victoria) District which our club is affiliated with as a border club. This has occurred the past two years at Warrnambool and Geelong at the All Junior District Championships, another event that our club could look at hosting in the future.*
- *Should the pool be built to the correct specifications, there would also be the potential for us to host the Victorian Country Short Course Championships, which attracts swimmers from all of regional Victoria.*

Blue Lake Sports Medicine

- *This stakeholder did not complete the questionnaire but provided a detailed statement of inclusions that were desirable from the point of view of other users of the proposed centre. Perspectives about physical spaces included disability access, site access in terms of ease of parking and building design and youth access. Comments relating to the needs of other users included,*



- *disability, rehabilitation, those with chronic conditions requiring exercise therapies*
- *use by those who play sport for recovery and injury management*
- *the facility would be a 'fabulous' social asset.*

Mid South East Netball Association

- *The facility will benefit the region in different ways, MSENA may not use it directly but with the opportunity to attract events will increase the chance to run clinics with visiting top athletes whilst they are here for events.*

Mount Gambier Royal Life Saving Club

- *We are hugely disadvantaged for not having a pool all year round.*
- *To be able to swim all year round will benefit mental health, obesity, recovery of injury.*

Beachport Surf Life Saving Club

- *Pool lifesaving would add an extra dimension to Surf Life Saving during the winter months, enabling members to be rescue ready for the start of the patrol season. Currently if the club were to consider the winter training, the only time available would be restricted to lap swimming on Tuesday evenings and even then the pool is not deep enough to meet the Surf Life Saving pool criteria.*
- *Pool Lifesaving competitions would give the opportunity for our elite lifesavers to display the skills that keep them actively fit and work with other clubs.*
- *Beachport Surf Life Saving Club have unofficially adopted Portland Surf Life Saving Club as their sister club and have worked very closely together this year to provide training opportunities for both in Beachport and at Cape Bridgewater. With an Indoor Pool facility in Mount Gambier, this could provide our clubs to look towards the future with pool training and friendly interclub or border competitions to include South-West Victorian Surf Life Saving Clubs as well as Robe/Beachport Surf Life Saving Clubs in South-East SA.*

Blue Lake Y Swim Club

- *With increased facilities at Olympic Park, this would open up the possibilities for Blue Lake Y and Mount Gambier Swim Clubs to host more events without the pool complex being closed to the general public. While the outdoor facility may be closed to the general public during main swimming meets, patrons would be able to access an indoor facility, thus generating more income and increased patronage for the Aquatic Centre.*
- *This currently occurs at many Aquatic Centres throughout the Barwon South West (Victoria) District which our club is affiliated with as a border club. This has also occurred the past two years at Warrnambool and Geelong at the All Junior District Championships, another event that our club could look at hosting in the future.*
- *Should the pool be built to the correct specifications, there would also be the potential for us to host the Victorian Country Short Course Championships, which attracts swimmers from all of regional Victoria.*

4. Key Stakeholders that addressed the Working Party:

Key Stakeholders that addressed the Council Working Party are as follows:

- Mid South East Football League
- Western Border Netball League
- Blue Lake Y Amateur Swimming Club
- Mount Gambier Swimming Club
- Pioneers Basketball
- Basketball Mount Gambier



- Mount Gambier and District Tennis Association
- Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre
- Rowan Williamson - New Tennis Club
- Mount Gambier Netball Association
- Blue Lake Sports Medicine

Council staff also met with representatives from Tennis SA to discuss the initial proposal.

5. Letters of Support

Letters of support were sought and received from a variety of organisations including:

- Member for Mount Gambier, Mr Troy Bell MP
- Netball SA
- Mount Gambier Netball Association
- Amazons Netball Club
- Intruders Netball Club
- Lakes Netball
- Saints Netball Club
- Zodiacs Netball Club
- Tenison Woods College
- Tenison Woods College, Student Representatives
- Mid South East Football League
- Boandik Aged Care
- St Martins Lutheran College
- Mount Gambier Swimming Club
- Mid South East Netball Association
- Limestone Coast Local Government Association
- Julie Moran
- Beachport Surf Life Saving Club
- Janine Milsop, A/Education Director, Department for Education

A community working party has coordinated a petition in support of the proposed Sport and recreation centre using various means of promoting, distributing and management of the campaign to obtain '20,000 signatures in 20 days'. The petition was presented to Council on 24th April at a Special Meeting convened to finalise the Expression of Interest.

