



Latrobe Valley Sports and Community Initiative



Mayor's Message

Work is underway to deliver \$85 million in sports and infrastructure projects across the Latrobe Valley funded by the Victorian Government.

There are six major sites being developed as part of the initiative, including construction

of the long-sought Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre.

As a council we are delighted with the level of support and investment from the State Government and Latrobe Valley Authority, and excited to lead these important works for our municipality.

We have already officially re-opened one site, the Traralgon Tennis Centre, following a \$400,000 redevelopment which will ensure it remains a leading regional sporting venue and source of great pride for Latrobe City.

Read on to find out what's happening on the ground for each of these exciting community projects.

Cr Darrell White, Mayor, OAM

Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre (GRAC) \$46 million

The \$46 million GRAC is coming along swimmingly, with planning progressing for the new facility to be built at Hubert Osborne Park, Traralgon.

Community consultation has provided Council with an insight as to what locals would like to see included in the aquatic centre.

There's more local voices leading the conversation, with community and user group representation on a recently appointed Project Reference Group - a direct link between council and community to help guide the planning and development process.

This group plays a pivotal role in determining what the expanded scope GRAC will contain above and beyond pre-existing plans for the site, made possible by a larger than anticipated funding contribution from the State Government.

Council has appointed a Senior Project Manager to oversee the GRAC development.

Concept design plans are nearing completion, following extensive community consultation, and will soon go before Council for consideration. Council is excited to share plans with the public once approved.

An expression of interest for building contractors has received strong interest with a lead contractor to be appointed later this year.

Timeline: The project is on track for completion by early 2021, with the 18 month build due to commence in 2019.

Meet your GRAC community representative!

Alan McAuliffe is your local champion when it comes to all things GRAC.

The long-time swimmer and Glengarry resident has been selected as the community representative on the Project Reference Group to help guide planning and development of the centre, and determine what will be included. The PRG has already begun its important work, including a recent research tour to a number of comparable aquatic centres across the state.

Community Deep Dive

A Latrobe City survey of local residents revealed a water play area for children and families and an indoor warm pool, spa and sauna were top of the wish list as add-ons to the centre's 50 metre indoor pool with seating. The feedback from the survey is being utilised in concept planning.

Project updates

Traralgon Tennis Centre (\$400,000)

The Traralgon Tennis Centre has received a \$400,000 facelift to ensure the facility can continue to attract and accommodate internationally significant events and provide high quality facilities for local tennis players.

Works to resurface 14 courts, replace the club's 40 year-old perimeter fencing and additional groundworks will be completed this month.

A number of local jobs were created through the project, with Morwell-based contractor Dynamic Industries leading the re-fencing project, using locally sourced steel and subcontractors.

Minister for Sport John Eren officially re-opened the facility on 15 May, marking the completion of the first major LVSCI infrastructure project.

Already home to the annual AGL Loy Yang Traralgon International and ATP Challenger tournaments, the club will now be in a strong position to bid for even bigger events - up to and including Davis Cup and Federation Cup ties - strengthening Gippsland's claim as the regional sporting capital of Victoria.

Timeline: May 2018 completion.



All smiles: Traralgon Tennis Association (TTA) head coach Graham Charlton, Latrobe City Mayor Darrell White, Latrobe Valley Authority CEO Karen Cain, Minister for Sport John Eren, TTA President Darryl Higginbotham and TTA Manager Susie Grumley celebrate the official re-opening of the centre.



Morwell Recreation Reserve (\$9 million)

The Morwell Recreation Reserve will be redeveloped as a centre of excellence for football in the heart of Gippsland. It's exciting times at Tiger-town with a full scale redevelopment of the site's outdoor netball courts and car park now complete, led by Morwell based contractor HCM Constructions.

The first games were played on the new surface on April 28, with lighting now installed to accommodate training and night play.

Traralgon company Langden Constructions is set to begin work on a \$1.6 million shared netball and cricket pavilion at the site in June, with an anticipated completion date of October.

Architects and specialist engineers have been engaged to undertake the initial design work for the redevelopment of the football clubrooms, AFL Gippsland offices and construction of a synthetic oval.

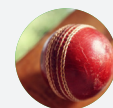
The Keegan Street oval will also be redeveloped as part of the \$9 million project, co-funded by the state and federal governments.

A Project Reference Group has been appointed to help guide the project and held its first meeting this month.

Timeline: October 2018
Stage 1 completion



Ted Summerton Reserve (\$3 million)



Moe's Ted Summerton Reserve will be developed as a regional sporting hub for cricket, housing an indoor centre of excellence to support the region's future stars.

A state-of-the-art indoor cricket training centre will be established in the north-east section of the reserve, incorporating indoor wickets and cutting edge technology to facilitate high-level coaching and player education.

The centre will be multi-purpose, catering to a diverse cross-section of community groups and sporting clubs.

Cricket Victoria has provided a schedule of desired components for the centre of excellence in consultation with regional cricket groups.

A concept has been developed by the architect for further discussion with stakeholders.

A Project Reference Group has been established to help guide the project and its first meeting was held earlier this month.

Timeline: Mid-2019 completion



Traralgon Indoor Sports Stadium (TSS) (\$17 million)

The Traralgon Indoor Sports Stadium will soon undergo redevelopment and expansion for increased multi-purpose use, allowing the centre to host large-scale events such as regional, national and international championships.

This will provide more opportunities for indoor sports participation and develop stronger pathways for elite talent.

Community consultation is underway with existing user groups and potential tenants around the redevelopment, for which Council has a pre-existing master plan.

A Project Reference Group (PRG) has hit the ground running with planning progressing at a number of meetings to date.

The PRG includes members from user groups, council staff, local stakeholders and a community representative, Matthew Addison.

Mr Addison has developed broad community links throughout 25 years in local business, and helped establish the Latrobe City Business Tourism Association where he served as a board member for a decade.

He has a strong association with junior sport as the current president of TEDAS Junior Football Club, an umpire and a junior basketball and football coach.

Council has appointed a Project Manager to oversee the TSS redevelopment, and a consultant has been appointed to develop the business model and components for inclusion.

An architect and quantity surveyor have also been appointed to develop concept plans on the back of this work, with early designs to bring the facility up to eight courts and spectator seating in development.

The preliminary design work is underway with expressions of interest now open seeking suitable contractors for the construction work.

Timeline: Completion early 2020.



Latrobe City Sports and Entertainment Stadium (\$1.7 million)



Latrobe City Sports and Entertainment Stadium will become the centre of excellence for soccer in Gippsland – providing a pathway for promising young athletes to elite sport through Gippsland FC and other high performance programs.

Council has purchased the facility back from its private owners to ensure it is developed and used as a community asset.

Works will include redevelopment of current grass pitches and construction of a synthetic pitch with lighting. Upgrades to grandstands, change rooms and club rooms are also being considered.

Early upgrades have been completed to bring the change rooms up to standard for major events and ensure the facility meets safety requirements.

Community consultation is continuing with user groups and a Project Manager has been appointed to oversee the stadium's redevelopment.

A Project Reference Group has been established to help guide the project and held its first meeting this month.

Timeline: Mid-2019 completion

Join the conversation today!

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