

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## MAJOR CONTRACT AWARDED FOR GAWLER CIVIC CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

The Gawler Civic Centre redevelopment project has reached a major milestone with the awarding of the building and construction contract to Badge Constructions (SA) Pty Ltd.

The \$11.64 million building contract will see BADGE undertake all building works associated with the exciting project that will transform the town's iconic and State Heritage-listed Gawler Institute and Town Hall buildings.

The construction works to be undertaken by BADGE include the necessary internal demolition, building additions and heritage restoration of these key buildings plus the internal design fit-out to create the Civic Centre's proposed new digital business innovation hub, multi-purpose function venue, social enterprise café and the new-look Gawler Heritage Collection Gallery and Council Library.

"This is an important milestone on the path to delivering this transformative project," Gawler Mayor Karen Redman said.

"Extensive due diligence has been applied by Council and staff and our evaluation experts to arrive at a refined construction plan that delivers a cost-effective project without compromising the integrity of what we want to deliver.

"The design for the Civic Centre project has incrementally changed in order to maximise the opportunities for accommodating the many planned uses we have for these new spaces.

"But Council's aim has always been to deliver a financially affordable and sustainable project that provides a return on our, and the Australian Government's, investment by acting as a catalyst for job creation and economic development in Gawler and our region."

Construction work on the Civic Centre redevelopment is expected to start in March.

## BACKGROUND

- The \$14,311,415 Gawler Civic Centre project is underpinned by a \$5.6 million grant from the Australian Government's National Stronger Regions Fund, awarded in 2015.
- The redevelopment will transform the iconic and culturally significant Gawler Town Hall and adjacent Gawler Institute buildings to create an architecturally significant hub for economic and social enterprises that will act as a catalyst for renaissance of the Gawler CBD.
- The project will restore the Gawler CBD as the business and cultural centre for the greater region of Gawler, Mid North, Northern Adelaide Plains and the Barossa regions.
- This is a 21<sup>st</sup> century project adopting best practices in design, environmental principles and smart technology to create a seminal example of adaptive reuse of nationally historic and significant buildings.
- The restoration of the Institute and Town Hall is vital for the condition and life expectancy of these historic buildings which are the heart of our CBD and community.
- Housed in the new Civic Centre will be:
  - Regional Digital Business Innovation Hub,
  - Gawler Heritage Collection Gallery and Research Centre,
  - Regional Multi-Purpose Function Venue,
  - A Social Enterprise Café
  - A Regional Smart library

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ENDS

The media may also wish to make contact with Mayor Karen Redman on 0421 839 359