

MEDIA RELEASE

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Walker Place Redevelopment – Grant Success

Council has been successful in its application to the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure's Places for People Grant Program for funding support towards the redevelopment of Walker Place. The State Government is committing \$1m towards the \$2.3m project that will upgrade Walker Place and parts of the surrounding Precinct creating a modern, vibrant and inclusive space.

The upgrade to Walker Place and surrounds will activate the town centre and create a modern, vibrant and inclusive space that will attract new commercial activity, provide placing making and event spaces for social connections and showcase Gawler's distinctive and vibrant arts and cultural life.

"The reimagining of Walker Place will provide a pedestrian friendly environment with the footpaths blending into the roadway using paving at one level. No more kerbs and gutters so the space becomes truly accessible," said Mayor Redman. "The redevelopment will include reconfigured carparking spaces with public seating, trees and landscape design being used to delineate the carparks that can transform into open public spaces for events."

"The ageing toilet block on Whitelaw Terrace will be removed and replaced with a brand new public amenity block closer to the playground adjacent to Apex Park. The new amenity block will have disabled access and family facilities which the current facilities lack. This is a

great outcome for users of our shared path network, playground and Apex Park,” said Mayor Redman.

Once the project is completed, Walker Place will be Gawler’s first Smart Precinct with smart lighting, publically accessible Wi-Fi and a digital wayfinding solution to assist locals and visitors alike with finding out more about Gawler’s iconic sites, shops, eateries, events and more.

“The commitment from the State Government enables Council’s vision for an economic, commercial and cultural precinct within Gawler’s Town Centre to become a reality. Council hopes to commence construction on the project later this year or early next year,’ said Mayor Redman.

Some of the key features of the Walker Place upgrade are:

- An integrated paved one-level road way for increased and safer pedestrian access
- New public amenity block with disabled access and family facilities
- Reconfigured car parking spaces with removable bollards to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility
- Materials and design elements inspired by the local community reflecting Gawler’s history and culture creating a strong of 'sense of place'
- Adaptable furniture, communal spaces, natural shade and catenary/festive lighting providing a unique ambiance and atmosphere for evening and all-weather events.

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ENDS

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