



MEDIA RELEASE

Buloke Shares in Funding

16 February 2017

Four Buloke communities have shared in \$2.3 million dollars of funding announced by the State Government to help drought proof recreational facilities. These announcements are in addition to previous funding commitments to the Charlton and Donald Recreation Reserves.

Berriwillock, Charlton, Sea Lake and Watchem will each have projects funded under the Sustainable Water Fund – Community Sport and Recreation Program.

Council has successfully applied for \$370,000 of funding for three of these projects; Berriwillock Bowls Green Redevelopment (\$150,000), Sea Lake Recreation Reserve and Tyrrell College Drought Proofing Project (\$150,000) and the Watchem Recreation Reserve Project (\$70,000).

Funding for the Berriwillock Bowls Green Redevelopment project will now see the construction of a \$400,000 synthetic bowling green. This valuable community project has been more than five years in the making and will ensure the longevity of the club.

The Sea Lake Recreation Reserve and Tyrrell College Drought Proofing Project will provide untreated water from Wimmera Mallee Pipeline to the Sea Lake Complex and Tyrrell College. On completion of this \$258,000 project there will be new playing surfaces in Sea Lake for football and cricket. The new and highly efficient irrigation system coupled with drought tolerant grasses will save significant money on water for the Sea Lake Community Centre Inc. as custodians of this important community asset.

Watchem Recreation Reserve as well as local park facilities will be connected to a storm water system in the Watchem project. This will improve the recreation reserve playing surface as well as benefiting green spaces in the township whilst saving money for Council and the Watchem Panthers Cricket Club.

Charlton Park and Donald Recreation Reserve have also been successfully funded through this program, receiving \$75,000 each for irrigation upgrades on the football/cricket ovals in each community. This will see outdated irrigation equipment upgraded to modern systems, improving water efficiency at the sites.

Charlton College has also been successful in its application for its Water Security Project receiving \$22,800.

“This announcement has been quite significant for Buloke. Drought proofing projects such as the ones funded are critical in providing connectedness through sporting pursuits during times of drought. Buloke loves its sport and securing funding to enhance and maintain these recreational facilities is tremendous”, said Mayor, Cr David Pollard.

The grants form part of the State Government’s \$10 million Drought Support Fund announced in April 2016.

End release

For further information contact Media and Communications Officer, Travis Fitzgibbon on 1300 520 520 or tfitzgibbon@buloke.vic.gov.au