

25 October 2019

**Stadium bounces ahead**

Community members will see construction start on the Surf Coast Multi-Purpose Indoor Stadium before the end of the year.

The new stadium will be formed by adding three courts to the existing single-court stadium at Surf Coast Secondary College in the north of Torquay.

Surf Coast Shire Council resolved at its October meeting to grant a planning permit for the use and development of the land for an indoor recreation facility. Council also awarded the contract for the construction of the stadium to A.W. Nicholson Pty Ltd.

Mayor Rose Hodge said these were exciting steps.

 “The planning permit means work can get underway shortly, so people in the area will start to see some action at the site in the next month or so,” Cr Hodge said.

“We’re working closely with the school to minimise disruption during construction.”

“It’s wonderful collaborating on such an important project with visionary people at the school, in the community and at other levels of government. It’s a real team effort.”

“This is a huge project that is going to have a wide range of benefits. I’m looking forward to seeing how the whole community uses the space – from school activities to sports competitions to local events. It will be a place for all ages and all abilities.”

The stadium plans consist of four courts, a café, meeting rooms, change facilities, all abilities design features and additional car parking.

The planning permit application was publicly advertised and no submissions were made.

“We’re pleased that the design and scale of the building fits in with the character of the school, and the community and civic precinct it will be part of,” Cr Hodge said.

The $13.5 million total project cost is made up of $5 million from the Federal Government Building Better Regions Fund, $3 million from the State Government Better Indoor Stadiums Fund, developer contributions of $2.9 million and a Council contribution of $2.6 million.

“This is the biggest project we’ve undertaken as a Council, so it’s incredibly exciting,” Cr Hodge said.

The stadium is a key project in the Torquay Jan Juc Developer Contribution Plan (DCP). The DCP is a legal agreement between Council and developers aimed at ensuring developers make a financial contribution to necessary community infrastructure.

The construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2020.

 **Not for publication:**

**For further information**

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