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MEDIA RELEASE

Mid Murray Community Plays Role in Final Mary Ann Reserve Concept Design

A community reference group have given the seal of approval to the first stage of Mid Murray Council's Mary Ann Reserve Master Plan, with concept design features set to showcase the region's river history.

The preliminary design for stage 1 for the Mannum riverfront reserve features recreational facilities including BBQs and seating, playground equipment improvements, upgraded lighting and waterfront remediation works.

Mid Murray Council's Acting Director, Infrastructure Services Dave Hassett says the first stage of works will also feature a reference to the region's extensive maritime history.

"Along the reserve and by the houseboat mooring sites, Council will be erecting wooden interpretive bollards or 'totem poles' with riverboat captains etched into them," Mr Hassett says.

"It'll be a bit of a maritime story featuring our river history with historical figures and themes."

Mr Hassett says extensive consultation with the community reference group and the Mannum Progress Association, was carried out by Council over a number of months.

"This is an all-community space so it's vital to take the views and thoughts of the whole community into account when revamping the space," he says.

"A major discussion point for local residents was keeping the wide open spaces and the reserve uncluttered, so the design features retention of green open space areas and new planting areas."

"The first stage sets the groundwork for the additional stages in coming years so there will also be linkages to adjoining community facilities, improved traffic flow and shared road/pathways on Trewartha and Wattle Streets to the commercial precinct."

Copies of the plan will be made available at each of the Council Offices at Mannum, Cambrai and Morgan prior to tendering for stage 1 of the project.

Council adopted the Mary Ann Reserve Master Plan in mid-2017, with the plan envisaged to be delivered in stages over a 10-year period.

Mid Murray Mayor Dave Burgess says the impending works are exciting for both Council and the community.

"This major project has been anticipated by the community and Council for many years and we're looking forward to breaking ground on the first stage of works," he says.

"Mary Ann Reserve is a wonderful asset for the Mid Murray community to utilise and supports a diverse range of recreation and tourism activities and Council wishes to make it a destination for future generations to enjoy."

Read more about the Mary Ann Reserve Master Plan at [Mid Murray Council's website](#).

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