

MEDIA RELEASE

New safety works around Mannum Community College to encourage active travel

New pedestrian and cycling safety initiatives will be in place around Mannum Community College as hundreds of Murray and Mallee children head back to school next week.

The new works include kerb and footpath improvements, signage and pedestrian barrier fencing around entry points to the college on Walker Avenue and Adelaide Road.

Mid Murray Council has contributed \$16,000 to the project, while an additional \$21,000 in funding has been granted by the State Government's [Way2Go program](#).

The program works with South Australian schools and Councils and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) to promote the development of safe, people-friendly streets near schools to support independent travel for students and their communities.

Mid Murray Council Mayor Dave Burgess says the works will not only provide a safer environment for college children and their families, but also increase the health and wellbeing of the local community by encouraging a daily dose of exercise.

"It's important to provide a safe environment for our children and these new measures will not only improve safety around the school environment but hopefully encourage more parents to leave the car at home," he says.

"On sunny days, it's easy for children and teenagers to walk, scoot or ride the bike to school, rather than always hitching a ride with Mum and Dad for school drop-off and pick-up time.

"Daily exercise is incredibly important to the health and wellbeing of everyone in the community."

Promoting "active travel" among the region's young people is a theme which Mid Murray Council and their [Obesity Prevention and Lifestyle \(OPAL\) program](#) have worked hard to foster and is an area where they have achieved significant success.

In recent years, a Strategic Bicycle Plan has been implemented in the Mid Murray district, with safe cycling access to schools a strong focus.

Schools at Mannum, Truro, Cadell and Keyneton have also held a number of Way2Go programs to increase student safety to and from school, including road safety education and bike awareness programs.

Additional line marking around the new works will be completed in coming months.

- ENDS -

MEDIA CONTACT: Mid Murray Council Chief Executive Russell Peate | P: (08) 8569 0100 | E: postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au.