

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **TRURO PROJECTS CREATING LOCAL BENEFITS**

Two projects resulting from partnerships between the Truro community and the Mid Murray Council are set to create a number of benefits for the local community.

Work has begun on the construction of new public toilets in Truro's main street to replace aging facilities along the busy Sturt Highway precinct.

The \$340,000 project will deliver six cubicles, including two disability access compliant facilities, in a new building with a contemporary design. The project will increase both amenity and accessibility for both locals and visitors to the prominent location.

The project, funded through \$300,000 from a grant to the Mid Murray Council from the Australian Government Drought Communities Program (Round 2) and \$40,000 in Council funding, has been designed in collaboration between the Council and the Truro and District Community Association.

Mid Murray Mayor Dave Burgess said the new facilities would enhance both the streetscape and the visitor experience in Truro.

"Truro is a popular rest stop for travelers along the Sturt Highway, but the previous public amenities were ageing and in need of replacement," Mayor Burgess says.

"The Commonwealth Government funding has allowed us to prioritise this project and demolish the old facilities and build modern, aesthetically designed amenities of a standard that is fitting for such a busy town centre precinct.

"These new toilets will enhance accessibility for all, which in turn will provide comfort and convenience for visitors. Once they stop, we hope they'll stay and explore the town and its local businesses, which further benefits our economy.

"While a bypass of the Sturt Highway around Truro is planned, Truro will still be a popular destination and stop over for travelers and visitors. Having improved facilities will only enhance other works Council and the Truro community do in future to increase local amenity and assist in building the town's tourism profile."

Work on the project is expected to be completed by the end of September.

The Truro and District Community Association is also seeking funding through the Australian Government's Powering Communities Grant Program to pay for the installation of a power storage battery. That will allow the group to capture and store electricity generated by the existing solar panel system on the Truro Town Hall – and substantially reduce the Association's power costs.

Council agreed this month to support the Association in its application for the grant to cover the battery purchase and installation, which is expected to cost about \$12,000.

"Council is pleased to work with the Truro and District Community Association on both of these projects, which will deliver benefits to the local community," Mayor Burgess says.

“Our communities are at the heart of what we do as a Council. Working with proactive local community associations helps us identify project priorities, support funding applications, and create outcomes that reflect each individual community’s goals.”

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**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Mid Murray Council Chief Executive Ben Scales

P: (08) 8569 0100 | E: [postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au](mailto:postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au)