

ALBANY CENTENNIAL PARK SPORTING PRECINCT REDEVELOPMENT — STATE CONTRIBUTION

1048. Mr T.K. WALDRON to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:

The state government this week committed a further \$3 million to the ongoing redevelopment of the Centennial Park Sporting Precinct in Albany. Can the minister please update the house on how the state's contributions are assisting this project?

Ms M.J. DAVIES replied:

I thank the member for the question. He is entirely right; the state government has announced a further \$3 million towards the Centennial Park project in Albany. It is a good decision by this government, and we have now contributed \$11 million towards Centennial Park.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Albany, I know you are excited, but calm down!

Ms M.J. DAVIES: For those members who do not know, Centennial Park is Albany's premier sporting precinct and is home to a large number of sporting associations and clubs from junior right through to senior sporting codes. The state government contributed \$8 million towards the stage 1 works associated with the precinct's redevelopment, and this assisted in the \$3 million extension of playing courts at the Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre, the development of numerous soccer fields, the upgrade of Railways Oval, irrigation, drainage and lighting works, and the construction of new clubrooms. The majority of these works are now completed and the City of Albany has led the transformations in this project. I congratulate it on its vision for creating a world-class sporting precinct for the Albany community. It will offer top-class facilities to encourage more people to engage in sport and recreation.

The City of Albany tells me that the project will cost in total almost \$29 million, so it is not an insignificant project. It has been successful in attracting Regional Development Australia funds, and the state government has brought forward \$3 million in funding so that the City of Albany can meet the deadline for attracting further funds to complete the project. There is still some outstanding funding to be considered and the state government will consider that through the state budget process. All in all, I am very happy to announce this week, with the Premier, \$3 million to allow this project to continue. It will look fantastic and will be a fantastic sporting precinct for Albany. I look forward to updating members in this house as we go into the budget process for further considerations.