



7 October 2019

The Hon Mick Murray MLA  
Minister for Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering; Sport and Recreation  
2 Havelock Street  
West Perth WA 6005

Dear Minister Murray,

**REQUEST TO REALLOCATE \$590,000 KUNUNURRA WATER PLAYGROUND**

We are writing to seek approval to utilise the McGowan Government election allocation of \$590,000 for a water playground in Kununurra to be used for the purpose of preparing detailed design work for upgrades to the Kununurra Leisure Centre Aquatic Facilities, which includes the construction of the water playground. This use of funds will ensure that the Shire realises the full potential of the funding approved for this important element to the leisure (aquatics) facility.

As you know, following your visit to Kununurra in July 2018 the Shire is engaging with the community, user groups and preparing business cases to upgrade what is an important but aging facility with critically failing infrastructure. To this end, the Shire has prepared concepts which it is refining and which integrates the water playground to meet the government's election promise. The preparation of detailed design work will enabled the Shire to ensure that the project is 'shovel-ready' and will assist in seeking external support and funding.

The Shire is committed to create a facility that helps to bind families through shared experiences and bring people together, providing opportunities for social interaction. The new aquatic facilities including the water playground and BBQ and picnic areas will create an environment where the facility will become the hub of community life. It will provide a key destination for families who may choose to spend the day or just a few hours. It will give residents and visitors a viable social activity within the heart of Kununurra. It will be centrally located within a 10 minute walk from most households. It will also improve liveability in the region.

We hope that the Shire receives your support for this request and your favourable consideration for additional funding in the future to realise the community's vision for this important hub and which in turn will both realise and enhance your government's vision.

Should your officers need to discuss these issues in more detail or require additional information, please contact the Director Planning and Community Development, on 08 9168 4100 or via email [Nick.Kearns@swek.wa.gov.au](mailto:Nick.Kearns@swek.wa.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

Carl Askew  
Chief Executive Officer



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**Minister for Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering;  
Sport and Recreation**

Our ref: 68-09264

Cr David Menzel  
President  
Shire of Wyndham East Kimberly  
PO Box 614  
KUNUNURRA WA 6239  
mail@swek.wa.gov.au

Dear Cr Menzel

I am writing regarding the McGowan Government's recent announcements regarding the WA Recovery Plan.

The WA Recovery Plan is one of the most significant investments in sport and community infrastructure in Western Australia's history, with a \$300 million package to be rolled out across the State. The historic plan will benefit the community through the delivery of a range of projects and also creating a pipeline of WA jobs, with local small businesses and contractors set to benefit.

I am very pleased to advise you that the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberly will receive \$3.2 million for the Kununurra Water Playground.

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (the department) will contact you in the near future to discuss the funding opportunity in more detail. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Rob Thomson, Director Infrastructure Planning and Investment, at the department on (08) 9492 9731.

I wish you every success in delivering this/these important community project.

Yours sincerely

HON MICK MURRAY MLA  
**MINISTER FOR SPORT AND RECREATION**

31 AUG 2020



Kimberley Echo  
Thursday 10/9/2020  
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Brief: PARLWA-WA1  
Page 1 of 3



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**\$3M WATER PARK TO BE BUILT NEXT YEAR**

# QUICK AS A SPLASH

## New water playground set to make a splash

**ELISE VAN AKEN**

Kununurra is likely to have its long-promised water playground by this time next year after the State Government committed a splash of cash to the tune of \$3.2 million.

Plans for the park, which will be included

in the \$22 million redevelopment of Kununurra Leisure and Aquatic Centre, were unveiled to the Shire and other major stakeholders of the project last week by Minister for Sport and Recreation Mick Murray.

**REPORT PAGE 8**



## Kimberley Echo

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Page 2 of 3



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Construction on Kununurra's long-promised water playground is set to break ground next year after a multimillion-dollar funding commitment was announced by the State Government.

Minister for Sport and Recreation Mick Murray unveiled the final plans for the facility with the Government's contribution of \$3.2 million to build the park at Kununurra Leisure and Aquatic Centre, as part of stage one of the centre's wider upgrade, during a visit to the town on Friday.

The playground, recommended for children up to 12 years old, will be located out the front of the Kununurra Leisure and Aquatic Centre and will be free for the entire community to use.

It is set to be a facility the whole family can enjoy, featuring a splash pad, slides and a water spray area for toddlers.

Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley chief executive Vernon Lawrence said the grant was a "major win" for the Shire and community.

"We are absolutely delighted with the announcement, from how the project was originally conceived, this is so much better," he said.

"It doesn't add to the Shire's operational costs in any significant way and that was always going to be a major win for us.

"So we're getting a huge piece of community infrastructure, that's free to access for the kids in town to use, without really being an impost on the ratepayers to any significant degree.

"Maybe this time next year, we will have a fully functional water park, which would be absolutely brilliant."

The park's funding was allocated as part of the State Government's WA Recovery Plan, with the goal of stimulating the local economy by providing opportunities for local contractors during its construction.

Mr Murray said the project received "significantly more funding" than it otherwise would have following "sustained advocacy" from Kimberley MP Josie Farrer.

"I am delighted the State Government is able to fund this new facility, which will form the first stage of a much-needed upgrade of this leisure centre," he said. "In a climate such as this, the aquatic playground will be a

fantastic facility that local young people and visitors alike will be able to enjoy year round.

"Thanks must go to Josie Farrer and the Shire of Wynd-

ham-East Kimberley for both their advocacy and work bringing this project to fruition — with the facility set to be a great boost to the Kununurra community."

Ms Farrer said the park would make Kununurra an even better place for local families to live.

"The new water playground will be a lot of fun for local kids, providing a healthy opportunity to cool down and be active," she said. "The water playground will make Kununurra an even better place for local families to live, and importantly, will be free for all to enjoy."







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Page 3 of 3

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**SWEK president David Menzel, Minister for Sport and Recreation Mick Murray and SWEK chief executive Vernon Lawrence unveil plans for the centre redevelopment.** Picture: Elise Van Aken



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**Minister for Seniors and Ageing; Volunteering;  
Sport and Recreation**

Our ref: 68-06837

Mr Carl Askew  
Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley  
PO Box 614  
KUNUNURRA WA 6743

Dear Mr Askew

Thank you for your letter dated 7 October 2019 requesting the reallocation of the \$590,000 election commitment for a water playground to be used towards the detailed design work for the upgrades at Kununurra Leisure Centre (KLC).

The Member for the Kimberley, Ms Josie Farrer MLA, and I would like to meet with you as soon as practicable to discuss the KLC redevelopment and the election commitment contribution towards the water playground.

My office will be in contact soon to arrange a suitable time to discuss the matter in person.

Thank you for your commitment to sport and recreation and I look forward to meeting with you in the near future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mick Murray".

**HON MICK MURRAY MLA  
MINISTER FOR SENIORS AND AGEING; VOLUNTEERING  
SPORT AND RECREATION**

12 NOV 2019