

Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Local Government

Thursday, 11 September, 2014

Riverland Fund My Idea winners announced

Community projects in Renmark and Loxton in the Riverland have been awarded grants under the State Government's new \$50,000 'Fund My Idea' program.

St Joseph's School at Renmark will receive \$20,000 for its 'Active Learning Space' project and the Loxton Netball Club has been granted \$30,000 to upgrade indoor and outdoor multi-use courts as part of the Loxton Stadium Redevelopment project.

71 project ideas were lodged on the 'Fund my Idea' website for public voting. The three most popular projects voted as best assisting the community to meet its economic and social needs were then assessed by a State Government panel.

Premier Jay Weatherill said the two winning projects would deliver significant community benefits, and in particular, would encourage young people to become more active.

"The 'Active Learning Space' project in Renmark will turn the concrete entrance of St Joseph's School into a valuable outdoor learning space that can be used by the wider community," Mr Weatherill said.

"This space will promote children's health and wellbeing with a variety of interesting outdoor games and activities.

"The Active Learning Space project will also engage local people and businesses in its creation and delivery bringing economic benefits to the local community.

"Funding will also be provided to assist in Stage 1 of the Loxton Stadium redevelopment replacing the ageing infrastructure of the existing indoor and outside courts.

"This work contributes to a broader plan of redeveloping the entire sporting complex over several development stages to create a premier sports and recreation hub.

"This is a major undertaking which will bring significant benefits to the Riverland community as the stadium is used by a wide variety of sports and recreation groups from across the region," Mr Weatherill said.

The Country Cabinet 'Fund My Idea' program is part of the enhanced \$15 million Regional Development Fund negotiated by the Regional Development Minister, Geoff Brock as part of his agreement with the Premier.

Mr Brock said he was impressed with the number of submissions and the calibre of the projects submitted for the Riverland round of 'Fund My Idea'.

"The program gives communities the opportunity to have their say about what activities they would like to see happening in their regions," Mr Brock said.

"It's great to see local people getting behind the initiative and putting forward a vast range of ideas forward for consideration.

"The two successful Riverland projects are great examples of how the grant funding can be used in local communities.

"The 'Fund My Idea' program is providing \$150,000 each year for the next four years to regions hosting a Country Cabinet meeting with three meetings to be held each year.

"The next Country Cabinet will be in the Adelaide Hills, Mount Barker and Alexandrina Council areas with a public forum on Sunday, September 14 for locals to meet and ask questions of the Premier and Cabinet Ministers.

"After this forum 'Fund My Idea - Adelaide Hills, Mount Barker and Alexandrina' will be open for submissions.

"I encourage people in these areas to think about what they would like to see happening in their community and submit their ideas via the YourSAy website, www.yoursay.sa.gov.au"