

Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Local Government

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\$320,000 State Government grant for Whyalla Leisure centre upgrade

Whyalla's only indoor recreational centre with an adult and children's pool is set for an upgrade through State Government funding of \$320,000 from the Regional Development Fund's Community Infrastructure Program.

Regional Development Minister, Geoff Brock said the project would significantly improve the centre as a community facility for the State's second largest regional city, as well as employing local labour for the construction work and creating additional ongoing jobs.

"This project will include upgrading the activity hall and equipment, including the pool area air conditioning and ventilation system, new thermal pool blankets and the boiler for heating pool water," Mr Brock said.

"A new roofing system for the activity hall will include skylights and high level windows for natural light and ventilation.

"The centre will provide better facilities for the community, improve operating efficiencies and create at least five ongoing jobs as a result of the upgrade.

"This project is a great example of how the State Government's expanded \$15 million a year Regional Development Fund is supporting South Australia's rural communities," Mr Brock said.

Whyalla City Council Mayor, Jim Pollock said the Community Infrastructure Program grant money meant the centre upgrade will be able to progress a lot earlier and more quickly than would otherwise have been possible.

"Council is very pleased to have this support from the State Government," Mayor Pollock said.

"The Regional Development Fund grant means we can confidently proceed on significant refurbishment and construction work to upgrade the Leisure Centre.

"The money will go specifically to construction, machinery and materials for the upgrade and we will be looking to employ local labour on this work," Mayor Pollock said.

The Whyalla Leisure Centre is the only indoor recreational facility in the city that offers a 25 metre pool, children's and toddlers' pool, a waterslide, spa, sauna, gymnasium, weights area, fitness classes, squash courts and a multi-function sports hall all in one complex.