Tuesday, 11 February 2020

**Million dollar grant boosts redevelopment of Cockburn’s premier soccer ground at Beale Park**

The City of Cockburn is edging closer to a $9m+ redevelopment of its premier soccer ground at Beale Park following a $1m grant from the State Government.

The grant from the Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund will help provide a new pavilion, floodlighting, increased playing field space and numerous oval improvements.

City of Cockburn Recreation & Community Safety Manager Travis Moore said Beale Park was one of the City’s largest active sporting reserves and home to the City’s premier football club, Cockburn City Soccer Club.

“The project will redevelop the ageing facilities and infrastructure at Beale Park, including expanding the active playing field space to allow the club to continue increasing itsmembership numbers,” Mr Moore said.

The redevelopment is due to begin mid to late 2021 and will include:

* New 1,000sqm clubroom facility including unisex change room facilities to support increased women’s participation
* Additional playing field space
* New and expanded car parking area
* New sports field lighting

The projected budget for the redevelopment is $9.65m, comprising $2.4m from Developer Contributions, $6.25m from the City of Cockburn and $1m from the State Government.

Minister for Sport & Recreation, Mick Murray, said the State Government was committed to making sure communities had quality places for people to get out and play sport.

“New sporting infrastructure ensures clubs can attract new members and retain existing ones – keeping communities healthy, engaged and inclusive,” Mr Murray said.

Fremantle MLA Simone McGurk said Beale Park had enormous potential as a hub for grassroots sport in Spearwood, Coogee and Hamilton Hill.

“Our $1m investment will help realise that potential and transform Beale Park into a first-rate sporting facility for our community,” Ms McGurk said.

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For more information contact:  
Media and Communications Officer  
City of Cockburn  
T: 08 9411 3551  
E: media@cockburn.wa.gov.au