



TOWN OF VINCENT

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New public land surrounding Perth Oval to be co-named after original owners, and redevelopment of oval set to forge ahead

The proposed redevelopment of Perth Oval took a major step forward on Tuesday night when Vincent Council gave the green light for the major land transaction to proceed. The meeting also approved the naming of up to 35,000 m² of new public open space which will be created around the oval.

Vincent Mayor Nick Catania said the new open space would be named Loton Park, which would restore the original name of the land on which Perth Oval now stands and which was a name of great historical significance in the area,

“We also approved co-naming the park ‘Yoordgoorading’, subject to further consultation with the Aboriginal families who have an interest in the land,” he said.

Both names are subject to approval by the Department of Land Administration Geographic Names Committee.

William Thorley Loton was an entrepreneur, parliamentarian, benefactor, civic worker, and the Lord Mayor of Perth from 1901 to 1903. He built the state heritage-listed Dilhorn House overlooking what became Loton Park and later Perth Oval. Mr Loton sold 15 acres of his estate on the site of Perth Oval to the City of Perth, on the understanding that the land would become a park and recreation ground.

“The park was aptly named after Mr Loton and the tennis courts adjacent to Perth Oval still bear his name,” said Mayor Catania.

“So by co-naming the park Loton and Yoordgoorading, we are recognising all the original owners of the land.”

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The approval to proceed with the redevelopment of Perth Oval followed an extensive six week public consultation, which Mayor Nick Catania said had drawn an overwhelmingly positive response to the \$10.548 million plans for the historic oval.

“Now that we know our proposal has public support, we will be asking four companies, whose Expressions of Interest demonstrated their capacity to handle such a major project, to submit a tender for the construction of the multi-purpose rectangular sports stadium and redevelopment of Perth Oval,” he said.

The four companies are Broad Construction Services Pty Ltd., Entact Clough, BGC Construction and John Holland Pty Ltd.

The redevelopment of Perth Oval is being undertaken by the Town of Vincent in partnership with the State Government, as part of the State Sporting Facilities Plan prepared by the Department of Sport and Recreation. The project will turn Perth Oval into Western Australia’s key international standard, multipurpose rectangular sports stadium.

Mayor Catania said work was proposed to commence in late May 2003 and be completed by November 2003, in time for the 2003-04 National Soccer League season.

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