

Tjulyuru Cultural and Civic Centre Warburton Community

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## Shire's plan to invigorate Warburton tourism

The Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku is planning a new look for the Warburton Roadhouse surrounds and Civic Centre, as well as the expansion of the Tjulyuru Regional Arts Gallery.

The Warburton Concept Plan will consider how best to revitalise the area, such as adding public toilets, creating communal sitting areas, new parking, upgrading landscaping and more. Shire President, Damian McLean said the potential upgrade to the facilities will be a tourism boost for the Ngaanyatjarra Lands known for its rich Indigenous culture and heritage.

"The Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku is committed to working with the community to achieve our strategic goals, including supporting appropriate tourism initiatives and boosting the local economy," said Cr McLean.

"The redevelopment of the roadhouse precinct, civic centre and arts centre will provide a creative and cultural base for community members, benefiting our people for generations to come."

Cr McLean said the Warburton upgrades will provide an inviting and welcoming area, encouraging tourists to stop and stay longer.

"One of the main objectives of the concept plan is to improve tourism experiences within the Shire," said Cr McLean.

"We believe by improving the gallery and its surroundings we can entice tourists to stay and discover what the land has to offer."

Cr Andrew Jones said it would be a great opportunity with the proposed extension of the gallery to house the local Warburton Art Collection reputably the largest collection of community-controlled Aboriginal art in a more secure environment.

Councillor Lalla West hopes to launch an artist-in-residence program as part of the revitalisation of the Tjulyuru Regional Arts Gallery, giving tourists the opportunity to see local artists at work at the gallery.

The first round of community consultation on the Warburton Concept Plan commences next week and will help inform how best to revitalise the facilities in Warburton.

"The Shire will be conducting stakeholder engagement workshops to invite the community to participate in the process and provide feedback on the development project," said Cr McLean.

"The community will be the main drivers on seeing this project come to fruition. It's important for them to be 100% behind the project for it to move forward and succeed."

The Shire has engaged The Fulcrum Agency to develop a business case for the Warburton Concept Plan which will see Warburton facilities upgraded.

"Following the procurement process, the Shire has appointed The Fulcrum Agency because of their extensive experience in managing projects in Aboriginal communities," said Cr McLean.

Following the community consultation phase, the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku will focus on developing the business case and sourcing funding for the project.

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