



The Rural City of  
**MURRAY  
BRIDGE**

Bridge to Opportunity

Local Government Centre  
2 Seventh Street (PO Box 421)  
Murray Bridge SA 5253

T 08 8539 1100  
F 08 8532 2766

[council@murraybridge.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@murraybridge.sa.gov.au)  
[www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au](http://www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au)

ABN 90 501 266 817

## MEDIA RELEASE

**Subject: Murray Bridge Regional Rowing Centre**

**Contact: Michael Sedgman  
Chief Executive Officer  
08 8539 1174  
[m.sedgman@murraybridge.sa.gov.au](mailto:m.sedgman@murraybridge.sa.gov.au)**

**Date: Thursday 14 May 2020**

STURT Reserve will boast a \$2.5 million purpose built regional rowing centre, the first of its kind in the State, honouring Murray Bridge's proud rowing history on the River Murray.

The Murray Bridge Regional Rowing Centre is a joint project between The Rural City of Murray Bridge, Murray Bridge Rowing Club (MBRC), Commonwealth and State Government.

Chief Executive Officer Michael Sedgman said the project would activate the riverfront and provide a contemporary space to showcase the sporting potential of the region.

"This is a fantastic example of three levels of government, working together with the community to achieve a significant outcome for South Australia," he said.

"Our unique location on the magnificent Murray River and our proud rowing legacy make this project an ideal centrepiece for Murray Bridge and the future of Sturt Reserve.

"We hope to honour a passion for rowing passed down for generations in our community by supporting athletes and Olympians of the future with the facilities they deserve.

"It's a great way to pay tribute to the Murray Cods who first brought Murray Bridge fame and glory on the world stage over 100 years ago, and the rowing club that produced talented three time Olympian and two-time Olympic medallist James McRae and continues to support athletes of the future."

The Centre will provide a new home for the Murray Bridge Rowing Club, next to the Murray Bridge Community Club and include five rowing sheds, a race control box, multi-purpose function area including kitchen and gym, and a new public toilet.

Murray Bridge Rowing Club President Craig Christian said the project would have significant economic benefit for local businesses.

"Murray Bridge has arguably the best river rowing course in Australia, and it is fitting that the first regional rowing centre in South Australia is planned for our town," he said.

"The proposed Regional Rowing Centre will provide facilities not only for our local rowers but also for visiting crews from Adelaide."

A new rowing landing will be built to support the facility, along with public art to commemorate the Murray Cods.

Member for Barker Tony Pasin welcomed the announcement saying it was an important step in seeing the project move forward.

“The Rowing facility will be a very welcome addition to Sturt Reserve. Not only is this great news for local club members but for the wider economic benefit of the Murraylands. It will create a destination for rowing and attract visitors from all over the State and the nation. It’s a brilliant project for the whole region and I can’t wait to see the construction underway,” Mr Pasin said.

Schiavello Construction SA is expected to begin on site in May and be completed in November 2020.

The \$2.5 million joint project will be funded by a \$1.6M contribution from The Rural City of Murray Bridge, \$496,900 from the Commonwealth Government's Building Better Regions Fund, \$360,000 from the State Government's Office of Recreation, Sport and Racing and strong support from Adelaide based schools and clubs.