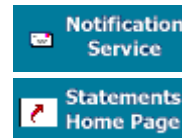


Government of Western Australia
Media Statement

Statement Released: 28-Sep-2006
Portfolio: Planning and Infrastructure

Champion lakes facilities closer to completion.

28/09/06

The Champion Lakes residential, recreation and tourism facilities near Armadale are closer to completion with the awarding of two major contracts for civil works and landscaping.

Planning and Infrastructure Minister Alannah MacTiernan said the Armadale Redevelopment Authority had awarded:

- a \$1.68million civil works contract to JJ McDonald and Sons Engineering Pty Ltd to provide roads, drainage, water, sewage and electricity connections from Lake Road to the facilities island; and
- a \$1.9million landscaping contract to DME Contractors.

Work would begin in October and both projects were expected to be completed in early 2007.

"Champion Lakes is now moving quickly towards hosting the first major events on site, due in April next year," Ms MacTiernan said.

"These works will give the finishing touches to what will be a world class venue for rowing, canoeing, triathlon events and community recreation."

In addition to its civil works contract, JJ McDonald and Sons was also constructing a \$2.8million traffic bridge, a pedestrian access bridge and associated infrastructure to link the lake's facilities island with the shore.

The Minister said landscaping works would include:

- planting out of the main water body with reeds;
- planting of native vegetation endemic to the area along the western boundary;
- grassing of areas for future spectator viewing areas and for parking;
- grassing of sections of the facilities island; and
- installation of reticulation, with the capacity to draw water from the lake.

"Significant rehabilitation and revegetation work will also take place in and around the Champion Lakes site," Ms MacTiernan said.

"This will include the rehabilitation of the Bush Forever Site 260 at the southern end of the project area around Wungong Brook and the rehabilitation of a spur of land adjacent to Tonkin Highway, north of the project area. A remnant wetland will also be rehabilitated.

"The landscape works will also play an important role in the development of an interpretive trail and amphitheatre for the planned Aboriginal Interpretive Centre. This very important cultural facility will be located adjacent to the entry road leading into the park."

Once completed, the Champion Lakes rowing course would be complemented by a range

of additional facilities, including:

- a proposed world class white water rafting park;
- picnic areas;
- cycling paths;
- 26ha of residential land;
- small commercial outlets; and
- short-term accommodation.

There is also scope for a future conference centre and facilities to support international regattas, as well as corporate and community functions and events.

Minister's office - 9213 6400

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