

7 October 2008

New sporting and entertainment facilities for Gungahlin Town Centre

A re-elected ACT Labor team will build an enclosed oval for the people of Gungahlin and will work to ensure the community has access to more entertainment venues to meet the community's growing needs.

Minister for Planning and Minister for Sport and Recreation Andrew Barr said today a re-elected ACT Labor team would build the enclosed oval to complement ACT Labor's commitment of up to \$20 million to build an indoor leisure centre and pool.

"We have already invested \$400,000 in the forward design for the new enclosed oval on the site near the new \$67 million Gungahlin College," Mr Barr said.

"Today, ACT Labor commits to building a state of the art sporting precinct in the Gungahlin Town Centre if re-elected. This investment in a new, drought-proof, multi-sport facility will also complement the extra \$1 million we are already investing in the Harrison District Playing Fields and the work we have done in designing the Throsby District Playing Fields and Netball Courts.

"Through the planning system, we will also work to ensure the community has access to facilities such as cinemas, more bars and restaurants, more open space, playgrounds and parks which the community told us they want through the Gungahlin Town Centre Planning Study released in September," Mr Barr said.

The Gungahlin Town Centre Planning Study showed community support for the plans ACT Labor has for the future development of the Town Centre including plans for a new pool and sports complex and changes to the ACT Planning System designed to help drive employment in Gungahlin. The planning study also revealed strong support for future entertainment and leisure facilities such as cinemas, pubs, bars and live music venues.

"Gungahlin is a growing community and its needs for more entertainment and sporting facilities are growing too. ACT Labor has already begun the work of delivering these facilities and if re-elected we will build an enclosed oval for the Gungahlin community and help develop an entertainment precinct in the Town Centre," Mr Barr said.

"ACT Labor is committed to building a better city and a stronger community.

"The responsible economic management of the ACT Labor team has put the ACT's finances on a sustainable footing allowing us to make this commitment to the people of Gungahlin. Only Labor has the experience, stability and record of responsible financial management to ensure the people of Gungahlin have better access to sporting and entertainment facilities," Mr Barr said.

Minister Barr will be available for comment at 10.30am TODAY at the site of the new oval at Crinigan Circle, service station end of Hibberson Street, Gungahlin.

Statement Ends

Media Contact:

Paul Kindermann 6205 1690 0403 600 955
(Minister Barr's Office)

paul.kindermann@act.gov.au

Campaign Media Release 066/08