



Robyn Preston MP

Member for Hawkesbury

MEDIA RELEASE

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MORE THAN \$1.7M SECURED FOR HAWKESBURY RESERVES

Member for Hawkesbury Robyn Preston announced \$1.7 million in funding for local improvement projects for Crown Land Reserves and community facilities in the Hawkesbury area.

Ms Preston said the funding is being provided by the NSW Government under its Crown Reserves Improvement Fund.

“This funding will see the building of significant infrastructure, improvements to river banks and maintenance of Crown Reserves through pest control,” Ms Preston said.

“The construction of the new pavilion at Hawkesbury Showground will provide a modern facility for a range of events including exhibitions, markets, trade shows, field days, meetings and presentations, livestock shows and much more.”

Local projects being funded in the Hawkesbury include:

- \$1,655,082 towards construction of a multipurpose trade, industrial, livestock and machinery pavilion at the Hawkesbury Showground;
- \$50,000 towards the cost of constructing a seawall to stabilise a Hawkesbury River bank that is currently eroding;
- \$29,803 to control feral goats at Wisemans Ferry. Feral goats can cause soil erosion, spread disease and pose a risk for vehicle collisions.

The Mayor of Hawkesbury, Councillor Patrick Conolly welcomed the NSW Government’s announcement. “The new pavilion at Hawkesbury Showground will be a great boost for the local economy,” Mr Conolly said.

President of the Hawkesbury District Agricultural Association, Ross Matheson said “This is an amazing project for the showground. After being here for 35 years with lots of hard work put in by the volunteers of the Hawkesbury District Agricultural Association, it’s wonderful to receive such a significant funding boost.”

Mr Matheson also stated that “this pavilion will be utilized not only during show time to accommodate our alpacas, sheep, goats and donkey exhibits but will also have the capacity to host trade shows and exhibitions. It will also serve as a great asset to the Hawkesbury Community for use as an evacuation centre during future bushfire seasons. This type of facility is lacking in the area which was highlighted during the 2019 bushfires.”

Ms Preston said 'The funding for the new pavilion, is in addition to the \$323,827.90 already announced by the NSW Government through the Showgrounds Stimulus Funding Program. The total funding package for the construction of the building, is over \$1.9 million.

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Rob Stokes said the NSW Government's Crown Reserves Improvement Fund received a \$40 million boost this year in response to COVID-19 and bushfires, on top of \$17 million already budgeted.

"Crown land is for the people of NSW to use and enjoy, and to support organisations at the heart of our communities," Mr Stokes said.

"This record \$51.7 million investment will support 705 maintenance and upgrade projects on Crown reserves right across NSW."

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