

SENATOR THE HON RICHARD COLBECK

Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians Minister for Youth and Sport

Ref No: MC20-040446

Mayor Tracey Roberts JP City of Wanneroo Locked Bag 1 WANNEROO WA 6946

Dear Mayor

Thank you for your correspondence of 6 October 2020 to the Minister for Health, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, concerning Alkimos Aquatic and Recreation Centre. Your correspondence has been referred to me as the Minister for Youth and Sport with portfolio responsibility for this matter.

I am pleased to learn that planning continues to develop for the Alkimos Aquatic and Recreation Centre, which will service the growing community in the northern coastal growth corridor of the City of Wanneroo.

The Australian Government has committed \$5 million towards this project, with funding arrangements being managed through the Department of Health's Female Facilities and Water Safety Stream Program.

I acknowledge your request on behalf of the City of Wanneroo for an additional \$15 million toward the project, which has an estimated total cost of \$40–60 million. Unfortunately, there is no further funding available within the sport portfolio at this time.

I understand the Western Australian Government has committed \$10 million towards the project. I would encourage the City of Wanneroo to consider a staged approach for the project, including options for the short to medium term, to utilise funding commitments from both the Western Australian and Australian Governments.

As you are aware, the Government is providing significant funding to local governments across Australia for roads and community infrastructure.

In the 2020–21 Budget, the Government announced a \$1 billion extension of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI Program). This program supports local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects across Australia, supporting jobs and the resilience of local economies to help communities bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic. Allocations under the LRCI Program will be available shortly at: www.investment.infrastructure.gov.au/Irci. The Government is also providing \$2.6 billion in untied funding to local governing bodies under the Financial Assistance Grant program. Further information is available at: www.regional.gov.au/local/assistance.

The City of Wanneroo may also wish to consider additional funding opportunities through the Western Australian Government. Further information is available at: www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/funding/sport-and-recreation-funding.

Thank you for raising this matter.

Yours sincerely

Richard Colbeck

The Hon Greg Hunt MP, Minister for Health cc:

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