

Media Release



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Premier

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Member for Adelaide

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Community-backed location for new state-of-the-art aquatic centre

Following extensive community consultation and site analysis, the location of the new \$80 million Adelaide Aquatic Centre has been decided, marking an important milestone for the project.

The new fit-for-purpose Adelaide Aquatic Centre will be built immediately south of the existing facility at Park 2 in the northern Adelaide Park Lands.

This is in line with the south-west corner site consulted on, but with a minor amendment - in response to residents' feedback, the proposed footprint has been moved further north. The selected location will allow the existing centre's carpark to be utilised where possible, ensuring the existing row of trees along Barton Terrace West is retained.

Of three proposals considered, the south-west location was backed by 55 per cent of the 989 respondents who provided feedback on the preferred site for a new facility. Only 20 per cent of respondents preferred the south-east corner, 15 per cent supported the north-east corner, and 10 per cent indicated no preference.

A 12-member Community Reference Group reviewed all feedback received during the engagement period before supporting the new south-west location, which attracted significant support due to its proximity to existing infrastructure.

The option also had the least impact on existing trees, while new trees will also be pre-ordered and grown off-site to enable planting of semi-mature trees in 2025.

Delivering, owning and operating a new Adelaide Aquatic Centre is a key election commitment for the Malinauskas Labor Government.

In a boost for local jobs, the Aquatic Centre will be designed by experienced Adelaide-based architecture firm JPE Design Studio. JPE will lead the design process, working in collaboration with aquatic and recreation architecture specialist Warren and Mahoney, who have previously helped deliver the University of South Australia's \$50 million Pridham Hall development and Victoria's \$65 million Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre and \$50 million La Trobe University Stadium.

The design process will include developing a concept plan for the new aquatic centre and a masterplan for the western side of Park 2, which will also identify vehicle, pedestrian and cycling path connections to the new facility. Further community feedback will be sought to inform these.

Importantly, the development of the new Adelaide Aquatic Centre will result in no net loss of Park Lands, with the existing site to be returned to Park Lands once the new centre is built.

Quotes attributable to Premier Peter Malinauskas

Choosing the location of the new Adelaide Aquatic Centre is an exciting milestone for this project, which is a key election commitment for the Labor Government.

We asked the community where they wanted the new centre - and they have told us clearly that the south-west location is their preferred option.

Importantly, 78 per cent of people who provided feedback on the new site location are users of the existing aquatic centre.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Tom Koutsantonis

Now that a suitable location has been identified for this project to proceed, we will be seeking more feedback from the community in coming months to help inform the design of the new aquatic centre.

It's great to have local architecture firm JPE Design Studio on board to use this community feedback to design the best possible facility that will benefit South Australians for many years to come.

Quotes attributable to Member for Adelaide Lucy Hood

Building the centre alongside the existing one allows current services to continue for the centre's thousands of users.

This is so important, given the Aquatic Centre is such a unique community hub that keeps people active, healthy and connected.