

Adrian Pederick MP

Liberal Member for Hammond

Friday, 7 March 2014

Marshall rejuvenates Murray Bridge

A Marshall Liberal Government will provide \$15 million for the Murray Bridge Racing Club Gifford Hill development to reignite the South Australian horse racing industry and create jobs in the Murraylands region.

Under Premier Weatherill and Labor, the Murray Bridge Racing Club development has stalled and South Australia's racing industry, which is a huge employer in South Australia, has received little support.

The State Liberals' \$15 million commitment will kick-start the development, a joint project between the State and Commonwealth Governments, the Murray Bridge Racing Club, Thoroughbred Racing SA and the private sector.

The Gifford Hill project will include a new state of the art racecourse with an all-weather track, associated equine training and racing facilities with a multi-purpose function centre.

The project will allow the existing racetrack in the heart of Murray Bridge to be utilised for new housing, with another housing development earmarked adjacent to the new track at Gifford Hill.

"The development could lead to more than 1,000 direct jobs being created if the Murray Bridge Council proceeds with other development opportunities created by this investment," said State Liberal Leader Steven Marshall.

"This will have significant economic flow-on effects for Murray Bridge and the surrounding region and secure racing all-year round on safe all-weather surfaces.

"The State Liberals will support our regional areas to create jobs and put South Australia back on track.

"Currently, the unemployment rate in Murray Bridge is 10.3 per cent.

"That's why the State Liberals are committed to working with the Murray Bridge Racing Club to bring new economic opportunities to the region.

"The Gifford Hill development is one of the most exciting projects underway in the region and will become the new site for South Australian thoroughbred racing and underpin the future success of the State's racing industry.

“Only a Marshall Liberal Government will have better priorities to put our State back on track.”

Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick, who has worked hard with the Murray Bridge Racing Club welcomed the announcement.

“This announcement is fantastic for Murray Bridge and the Murraylands,” said Mr Pederick.

“It is great to provide this commitment and support to the Murray Bridge Racing Club.

“I am excited about the possibilities this project and funding commitment will open up for Murray Bridge and the Murraylands.

“The Murray Bridge Racing Club Gifford Hill development is a visionary project which will create a number of significant flow on impacts.

“Most importantly, this commitment will help create much needed jobs for the area and positive economic growth.”