

Maximising Asset Use

City of Rockingham - Reserve Floodlighting

Aim/Objective

Installation of training standard floodlighting at Paul Garnett Oval, Koorana Reserve and Warnbro Sports Complex.

Project Background

The City of Rockingham was identified as being a key growth area within the metropolitan area in the South West Regional Sport and Recreation Plan (May 1999). The population is expected to grow from 68,000 to an estimated 95,000 within ten years. The City had previously installed competition standard floodlighting suitable at district level reserves, Anniversary Park and Currie Street. The provision of standard floodlighting to other ovals was seen as a necessity to prevent over-use of these competition grounds.

Approach/Process

The City's Five Year Development Program for Park and Reserves identified the need for increased training floodlight facilities at Paul Garnett Oval, Koorana Reserve and Warnbro Sports Complex. The user groups to be catered for included rugby, soccer, athletics, softball and school sports. The preliminary designs were based on a 120 x 60 metre training area, approximately half a playing field, achieving an average lux rating of 100. The City engaged the services of an electrical engineer to prepare the contract documentation and assist the City's engineer with the technical aspects of the project. Each of the works packages were tendered as one project. Due to construction cost overruns occurring on the Currie Street Reserve, a project that had previously received CSRFF support, the City advised that they would be scaling back the project to two reserves. The finished project saw floodlighting installed at Paul Garnett Oval and Koorana Reserve.

Strengths.

- Increased availability of training times after school/work during winter months when daylight hours are reduced.
- Increased passive users of the reserve as floodlighting makes it safer for night use.
- Location of training lights complements existing sport and recreation facilities such as club/changerooms, carparking and security lighting.

- Floodlighting is controlled by the City's Booking Officer using an automated software system, with user groups having a remote control key pad to access lights at the required times.

Challenges

- Floodlighting to Warnbro Sports Complex was not achieved.
- Glare shields were installed on floodlights at Paul Garnett Oval to prevent excess lighting spill into nearby residences.

Further Opportunities

Potential for dog training groups to use the reserve.

Budget Implications

- Project was delivered within the allocated timeframe and revised budget. Budget was \$84,000 and actual cost \$82,652.
- CSRFF grant funds were proportionally reduced in response to two reserves being floodlit, rather than three.
- The City is responsible for all operating costs associated with the lights. Relevant fees and charges will be collected from user groups to offset electricity charges.

Design/Sustainability Principles

- Technical specifications and energy efficient products were incorporated in the lighting design.
- Project was designed in accordance with Australian Standards (AS2650.1-2202, Sports Lighting - General Principles).
- Floodlighting was designed to allow for future reserve developments.

Project Partners

- City of Rockingham
- Lotterywest
- Department of Sport and Recreation
- South West Metropolitan Region Recreation Advisory Group
- Reserve User Groups

case study

Key Lessons

- Allowance for cost escalation should be included in the project cost as CSRFF funds are not available for projects that have already received a CSRFF grant and are seeking additional funds to meet cost increases.
- Floodlighting reserves improves the performance of these existing assets by maximising their usage.
- The City's Five Year Development Program for Park and Reserves provides a strategic approach to sport and recreation planning and provision, including associated capital resourcing issues and refurbishment needs.

Who to contact for further information

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