



The Place To Be

Media release

Geoff Howard MLA, Member for Ballarat East

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\$45,000 GRANT FOR CRESWICK INDUSTRIAL PARK STUDY

A study to guide Hepburn Shire Council through the potential development of an industrial park and associated sustainable water initiative in Creswick is being supported with a \$45,000 State Government grant said Geoff Howard MP, State Member for Ballarat East.

“Creswick has the only significant area of appropriately zoned industrial land in the Hepburn Shire but the 20 hectare site is not serviced or ready for development until further planning work is undertaken,” Mr Howard said.

“Hepburn Shire Council has identified an opportunity to capture water from the proposed Industrial Park development site into a new dam on an adjoining parcel of land and to pump the water to the local recreation reserve for watering of current and future playing surfaces.

“However, the feasibility of this as a solution to industrial land demand and water re-use needs is yet to be quantified and a master plan is required to inform any infrastructure development.

“This project will help prepare the way for the development of a new industrial park in Creswick and of a solution to provide water for reuse at recreation facilities.

“The 20 hectare site has the potential to accommodate 50 industrial lots in the longer term and could ultimately provide more than 150 local jobs.

“The sustainable water component will support the planned expansion of the local recreation facilities, which are critical to the community’s liveability.”

Mr Howard said the project would seek to identify a plan leading to opportunities for employment growth in Creswick as well as provide for potential for improved liveability and water security for the town’s recreational and open space areas.

“Without a master plan the Hepburn Shire is not in a position to proceed with any infrastructure projects in relation to either the industrial land or the water-use for recreational land,” Mr Howard said.

Mr Howard said the funding for the \$60,000 Creswick Industrial Park and Sustainable Water Project – Planning and Feasibility study would be delivered to Hepburn Shire Council through Regional Development Victoria’s *Planning for Growth* program.

“The Planning for Growth initiative is part of *Moving Forward*, the Brumby Government’s \$502 action plan that is helping make provincial Victoria an even better place to live, work, invest and raise a family,” Mr Howard said.

Contact: Geoff Howard MLA Member for Ballarat East 5331 7722