

## SHIRE OF MERREDIN SUCCESSFUL FOR RAC GRANT FUNDING

The Shire of Merredin and RAC are partnering to deliver a Public Piazza Pilot Project as part of RAC's Reconnect WA initiative.

The project will see a four-month closure of part of Barrack Street in Merredin to create a 'public piazza' with features including:

- Parklets which include dining and public seating areas;
- Vibrant street art;
- Catenary/Festoon lighting;
- Greenery including sensory gardens;
- Play and event spaces; and
- Umbrella's and other shading.

The purpose of this pilot piazza is to act as a catalyst for the imminent future improvements to our CBD and test ideas and options for the final CBD redevelopment design.

The first major event to be held in the piazza will be Gala Night, which will be held on Thursday, 17 December 2020.

"The Shire Team have been working incredibly hard on the new Strategic Community Plan, including pursuing projects that the community indicated were a priority during the RESET. RECOVER. REGENERATE. engagement workshops," Shire President Flockart said.

"The [piazza] project aims to inspire collaboration within the community and support our local business community by increasing flow of pedestrians down our main street."

RAC's Reconnect WA initiative was created to help revitalise streets and public spaces to better connect people and places.

Temporary CEO Mark Dacombe said, "Our team is really excited to bring a taste of the CBD improvements to come."

"We are keen to monitor any changes in activity and interaction that this vibrant transformation will bring to our CBD."

Merredin is one of eight successful Local Government's chosen for the first round of funding.

"We're very excited to be partnering with local governments across WA to breathe new life into our communities and create vibrant places for Western Australians to interact and reconnect with one another and their local areas," said RAC Executive General Manager Advocacy and Members Patrick Walker.

**For further information please contact the Shire on 9041 1611.**