



## DEVELOPMENT APPROVED AT FORMER RAAF STORES DEPOT

Mayor of the Dubbo Region Ben Shields said a positive working relationship between Dubbo Regional Council and Andorra Developments was the key to satisfactorily resolving planning issues for a development application the former RAAF Stores Depot site which has now been approved.

The proposal for a mixed residential, tourism and industrial precinct by Andorra Developments managing director Mark Stanford and business partners Brett Harvey and Robert Stevenson is now seeking approval from the Heritage Council of NSW, the final step required, before operational development consent is granted.

Councillor Shields said the progress made between Council and Andorra Developments was significant.

“There has been more than 15 years of stagnation at this iconic facility so I see it as a real breakthrough that we have been able to resolve this,” Councillor Shields said.

“I know how hard our staff have been working to make this happen and I also know how much effort the developers have made to create a concept that would be a benefit to the whole community.

“Through regular meetings and open dialogue between the parties, there has been real progress made.”

Councillor Shields said it was important that the hangars and buildings that have such historical significance would be retained but there would be exciting new features including a 10-hectare central park that would incorporate an endangered ecological community.

“In its current state, the former RAAF base is a blight on the entrance to the city, and people have become accustomed to seeing it sit there unused but I hope it won’t be too long before they can see work start on an exciting project,” he said.

“This is further proof that Dubbo is open for business and the current council is willing to work with developers to ensure projects that benefit the region are able to proceed.”

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