

Strategic Focus Area: Strong. Healthy. Safe.

There are six eligible projects in this area.

Nagambie Rec Reserve Playground Shade Sail

Cost: \$15,000

Problem and opportunity: The playground at the Recreation Reserve in Nagambie is fully exposed to the sun. The equipment is quite old, but we are hoping to upgrade and add some further pieces. We have been awarded the grant from the Shire to fence this facility, as it lies adjacent to the service road around the oval. Children need to be supervised at all times to get to the playground, but also while they are using the equipment. This fence will alleviate the concerns for parents of the children leaving the area and crossing the road unattended. The shade sail is necessary to ensure further safety for the users.

How does it affect or impact the community? The playground is used by the general community, the houses in the area, and from further afield. The users at the Recreation Reserve also have spectators watch the games, and the families with children access the playground during these times. The swimming pool visitors have access to it as well. Unfortunately, without any shade coverage, the facility is not fully utilized or desirable during hot weather. If we had a shade sail this area would be far more appealing and safer for general use.

What is your idea and what difference would it make? The benefits of shade sail coverage are well known and recognized. With the sail providing temperature control and complete protection from the harmful UV rays and also from the rain. When used with other forms of sun protection, such as clothing, hats, sunglasses and sunscreen, shade becomes an even more powerful method of skin cancer prevention.

Further information: A lot of serious injuries come from touching red hot playground equipment surfaces that are exposed to the sun for too long. Shading your play area will reduce the incidence of children from getting burns. Constant exposure to the sun causes a lot of the powder coated structure on playgrounds to fade and crack. This not only makes the equipment look dated but can create problems for children who might get cuts touching the cracked surface. It is essential that we protect the users and the equipment. New additions are also planned, that will fit within the guidelines and area available.