

A strong voice for our future

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MEDIA RELEASE

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State Govt provides funding for world-class dinosaur attraction at Cooberrie Park

Construction will soon start on a multi-million-dollar tourism attraction in the Capricorn Coast after the Palaszczuk Government today announced almost \$800,000 in crucial funding for the project.

Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga today announced \$796,398 as part of the government's economic recovery package for the tourism industry.

Ms Lauga said the project at Cooberrie Park Wildlife Sanctuary would create a world-class dinosaur attraction on the Capricorn Coast.

"It's important to invest in new product now so when our economy has recovered we have new attractions that will draw thousands of tourists back to the region and pump millions of dollars into our local economy," she said.

"Tourism is vital to our plan for economic recovery in Keppel. This project won't just boost our local tourism industry, it will also create construction jobs in coming months."

Ms Lauga said the government's partnership with Cooberrie Park would create a new attraction for the Capricorn Coast with 35 life-sized dinosaur replicas to immerse visitors in a Jurassic experience.

"Cooberrie Park has already made its name as a native animal sanctuary," she said.

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“But this new venture will allow visitors to wander the 3km Dinosaur Walk, interact in the Dinosaur Dig, engage in Dinosaur Mini-golf and enjoy picnic and playground areas.”

Ms Lauga said the full project would also provide a carpark extension, new entry and kiosk building and an 11-seater electric shuttle for those with limited mobility.

Tourism Minister Kate Jones said the Cooberrie Park development would pump an extra \$2.3 million per year into the local economy and boost visitor numbers by 20,000.

“When restrictions are lifted, it’s going to be a very competitive market place.

“We’re investing in new tourism infrastructure to give Keppel an advantage when more tourists are able to travel.

“With this project, the government is making a down payment for the future.
“This fund is delivering crucial funding to make shovel-ready projects a reality

“New tourism infrastructure is a vital part of the Palaszczuk Government’s plan for economic recovery because we know how important new attractions will be when it comes to rebuilding our tourism industry.

“Cooberrie Park have dreamt of a Jurassic Park experience for many years. Today’s funding will get this project off the drawing board and will allow construction to start almost immediately.”

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