

Gold Coast Regional Tennis Centre Feasibility

Project Outline

The loss of five privately operated tennis centres, Australia's second largest Local Government population growth rate (1997-2002), demand generated expansion being explored by a number of existing tennis clubs and the lack of a world class Regional Tennis Centre lead Gold Coast City Council in association with Tennis Gold Coast to commission this independent feasibility study as the first stage in the potential development of a Gold Coast Regional Tennis Centre. In conducting this feasibility study Leisure Futures sourced specific infrastructure development and economic assessment expertise from Leighton Contractors and Urbis JHD.



Findings

The feasibility study findings are summarised as follows:

Tennis is the third most popular organised sport and physical activity undertaken by Australians over the age of 15. Only aerobics / fitness and golf have more organised sport participation. Tennis is the fourth most popular sport for children aged 5-14 years.

The demand for Gold Coast City residential and commercial development land continues to see privately operated tennis centres closing.

Over the next 18 years the population of Gold Coast City is projected to reach 676,000 which is an increase of 237,527 or 54% on the 2002 population estimate.

Today 81,600 residents or approximately 19% of the Gold Coast City population base reside within a 5 kilometre radius of the proposed potential site for a Regional Tennis Centre.

The Tennis Gold Coast Tournament calendar continues to expand and becoming increasingly occupied with quality tournaments for all types of tennis players.

The major tennis clubs located within a 5 kilometre radius of the proposed Regional Tennis Centre have reported court utilisation averaging 60%.

The development of a Gold Coast Regional Tennis Centre will generate \$15.2 million of direct economic expenditure, 243 full time equivalent job years and \$0.752m worth of direct expenditure.

The study generated a number of key recommendations including:

- ➔ The establishment of a regional tennis centre through a Council, State Government and private sector partnership;
- ➔ The investigation of additional locations; and
- ➔ The potential to create a regional centre through the amalgamation of existing clubs