

MAKING A BIG PLAY FOR THE COMMUNITY

DEVELOPER : City of Darebin
MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : ADCO Constructions
ARCHITECT : Brand Architects

Narrandjeri Stadium includes a range of facilities including four indoor multi-purpose sports courts, a show court with fixed seating, player and public change and toilet amenities, a multi-purpose function area, café and administration areas, external landscaping and 320 additional car parking spaces plus reconfigurations to the existing Darebin Road intersection to improve site access.

Darebin City Council's new Narrandjeri Stadium is aimed to boost the health and wellbeing of Darebin's diverse community by creating a welcoming and culturally inclusive space for everyone to get involved in sport and other community activities.

The facility meets the needs of several community groups including netball, basketball, volleyball and other sporting associations, with multi-purpose community spaces also available. The need for the new stadium was identified in consultation with the community as one of the Council's '16 big actions' and is a key part of the Council's commitment to making Darebin a vibrant place to live.

Darebin Council is committed to promoting gender equity by developing inclusive, safe and accessible places supporting women's ability to participate in all aspects of civic and community life. Narrandjeri is the Wurundjeri Woi wurrung word for 'Women Leader', recognising and reflecting 'Traditional Owners' history

in the area and promoting women and girls' participation in sport. The court configuration was considered in terms of inclusivity, with the show court designed as a standalone component to ensure privacy for culturally sensitive groups. The function room spaces allow for programming opportunities addressing Active Victoria's strategy of inclusivity for culturally diverse communities.

Council has invested over \$31 million into this new \$34 million precinct and is grateful to have received \$2 million towards the stadium and surrounding precinct through the Victorian Government's Local Sports Infrastructure Fund, in addition to \$1 million from the Inner City Netball Program for the outdoor netball courts

Accessibility is also considered in line with Active Victoria's strategy to increase participation of people of all abilities, with gender neutral and fully accessible player change and toilet facilities incorporated, as well as a Changing Places facility for people with disability.

Sustainability was key to the development which is targeting a 6-Star Green Star Design and As-Built rating. Key features include a thermal labyrinth system, roof-mounted solar panels, electric vehicle charging stations and 15 StrataVault tree cells in the carpark to allow tree cover to spread without damaging the pavement.

The main structure of the show court consists of engineered glulam timber portal frames which are visually impressive while significantly reducing the amount of steel on the project. The design had to be carefully managed to ensure Netball Victoria height clearances were achieved within a set building envelope.

A unique element of the project is the integration of public art into the building design with a permanent integrated artwork incorporated on the glass windows at the entrance and café, and a large-scale artwork on the wall of the foyer.

The relationship between Brand Architects, the City of Darebin and main contractor ADCO Construction was very positive. The building was originally modelled in 3D allowing the Council to fully understand the design intent and communicate feedback to progress the design. During construction the whole team worked



closely together to navigate various challenges during the building's construction. For example, several existing services were required to be diverted and consolidated to enable construction to commence. ADCO Construction planned the works to minimise downtime to users of the site's existing facilities and Council managed the liaison and communications with users.

Another major challenge was the COVID pandemic which limited the team's ability to regularly meet onsite. Virtual platforms facilitated the communication required to coordinate the design and successfully deliver the project.

"Seeing the project come to fruition is extremely exciting for council," said Darebin Mayor, Councillor Lina Messina. "We are pleased with the project outcomes and thoroughly enjoyed working with Brand Architects and ACDO Construction. To finally see the benefits the stadium brings to the Darebin community is the most important part of the project."

For more information contact Darebin City Council, PO Box 91, Preston VIC 3072, phone 03 8470 8888, email mailbox@darebin.vic.gov.au, website www.darebin.vic.gov.au

Below Tesla Lifts worked with the finest European manufacturers of disabled access lifts for Narrandjeri Stadium

Tesla Lifts Australia is a specialist supplier of innovative, high-quality elevators for projects in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors.

Based in Melbourne, they are 100% Australian owned and operated, with decades of expertise and a nationwide reputation for excellence.

Tesla Lifts' leading technology is customers' ultimate safeguard. With innovative products that offer complete peace of mind through non-reliance on the grid, Tesla Lifts offers a range of services including the supply of battery-powered residential and commercial lifts, and lift maintenance and repairs. Tesla Lifts partners with the finest European manufacturers, chosen through a rigorous process of research and testing to ensure safety and reliability for its customers.

Tesla Lifts is celebrating its 100th installation of its flagship product: a state-of-the-art machine roomless traction lift called Evoluta.

Engaged to supply and install the disabled access lift for Narrandjeri Stadium, a new multi-sports stadium by Darebin City Council in Melbourne, Tesla Lifts continues a mission towards a more sustainable and mobile future for their customers. Italian designed and developed in conjunction with Tesla Lifts, Evoluta's patented design is manufactured in Italy to suit applications where safety and reliability are critical.

"Evoluta runs full-time on batteries, with mains power only as a charging supply," explains Brendon Mulkearns, Sales Manager at Tesla Lifts. "This ensures the lift remains fully operational in a power failure."

"The latest version is capable of up to 100 starts in a power failure, making it an extremely safe and reliable option. Most importantly, the Evoluta lift provides complete freedom and peace of mind to our clients. Being stuck in a power failure becomes a worry of the past."

The new brushless motor in the Evoluta lift is an exciting advancement in lift technology. Using a fraction of the power required by a standard MRL or archaic hydraulic lifts, its operation is smoother and quieter than ever before. The latest lift controller is also capable of data logging and remote access, enabling Tesla Lifts to conduct remote fault

finding. Also with Bluetooth technology, enabling user control via a smart device, positioning the Evoluta lift as a premium product, exclusive to Tesla Lifts.

While the Narrandjeri Stadium project was a complex build which required careful management and planning, Tesla Lifts was able to meet the complex and multi-dimensional needs of the project team. "Every job comes with its own unique challenges, but we love satisfying the needs of our clients while remaining focused on end user experience," says Brendon.

Tesla Lifts worked closely with the project engineers and design consultants to understand the functional requirements of the lift. These included its size and specification, and the subsequent proposal of suitable products to deliver the required performance at a competitive price.

"We enjoy working closely with the client and project team to customise for each project," Brendon says. "At the end of the day, our aim is to deliver a compliant, safe, reliable and competitive product that compliments overall design."

In this project, Tesla Lifts drew on significant prior experience to deliver a successful and inspiring outcome at Narrandjeri Stadium. Still, the team is also experienced across a full range of other project sectors. "We pride ourselves on keeping agile," Brendon says.

"Whether the project is a sports centre, office building, medical practice, RSL Club or high-end home, we tailor our service and product to achieve the best result."

From Tesla Lifts' home base in Melbourne, the company services a wide range of projects, nationwide. They are thoroughly committed to delivering the best quality products with the most up-to-date technology possible.

"We're always striving to make our products better and deliver maximum value for our clients," says Brendon. "From here, we're now exploring ways to use solar power to improve reliability and sustainability even further. We love keeping our clients happy."

For more information contact Tesla Lifts, 6/210 Boundary Road, Braeside VIC 3195 phone 1300 083 752, email info@teslalifts.com.au, website www.teslalifts.com.au

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Brendon Mulkearns,
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