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Concept plans (above and below) for the proposed Tawarri Hot Springs spa complex won over councillors.

‘Hot pool’ spa backed

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was still possible if negotiations with the hot springs proponents broke down.

He said getting groundwater rights from the state government would be key to the project going ahead.

“It would mean a new water supply that they would have to put down,” Mr Hipkins said.

“They are looking at using the water and then re-injecting it back into the aquifer.

“We’ve offered to take up to 15% of the water [for irrigation] that they would use.

“It would take the pressure off our bores on the foreshore.”

Mr Jones said he and Ms Gunn had decided to join forces after each submitting “basically the same proposal” for the site.

“Rather than us fighting each other we thought we should collaborate,” Mr Jones said.

“We need to do quite a few things before it’s a firm arrangement with the council.

“We’ve spoken at length with the Department of Water [and Environmental Regulation].

“Our consultants have put a couple of different options to them.”

Mr Jones said he had only “a very preliminary guesstimate” as to the overall cost of the project.

“It’s very expensive,” he said.

Mr Jones said Ms Gunn’s business partner Charles Davidson, who runs the Peninsula Hot Springs in Victoria, was no longer part of the joint venture.

At last week’s meeting, councillors gave the THS consortium 90 days to prove that it could get access to the groundwater.

They also gave their support to a 50-year lease for the site, and instructed CEO Greg Trevaskis to prepare a business case to excise the land from the foreshore’s A-Class Reserve.

Mr Hipkins said he did not know whether the lease would be at commercial rates, or a peppercorn rent.

“A lot of it depends on the contribution towards car parking, and it depends on how much the government wants out of the lease,” he said.



Fun and games ... The notorious hot pool in the 1930s.



Inside Outside House by Craig Steere Architects. Photo: Red Images Fine Photography



M+C Residence 6012 by Philippa Mowbray Architects. Photo: Joel Barbita



Methodist Ladies' College Junior Years by COX Architecture. Photo: Peter Bennetts



Roscommon house by Neil Cownie Architect. Photo: Michael Nicholson

Western suburb architecture shines

By BEN DICKINSON

The army of architects who worked on Optus Stadium crowded the stage at last Friday's WA Architecture Awards ceremony at St George's Cathedral, taking out five top-tier awards.

Projects from the western suburbs also shone, picking up awards and commendations in five categories.

Craig Steere Architects took out the top-tier Marshall Clifton Award for Residential Architecture in the new houses category for an "Inside Outside House" at 168 Broome Street in Cottesloe.

Architects from the firm designed the house to "blur the distinction" between internal and external spaces, according to the project description.

They used a series of slender columns to support a cantilevered structure that resembles a floating box, which houses the more private living area and bedrooms.

A perforated brick wall and a two-storey high "extrusion" provide shelter to the outdoor space, and frame the view of Norfolk island pines.

The builder was Brooks Construction.



The Boatshed Market Wine Loft by Matthew Crawford Architects. Photo: Dion Robeson

Also in the new houses category, Philippa Mowbray Architects picked up an award for "M+C Residence 6012" in Mosman Park's exclusive Saunders Street.

The house was designed to emulate the cliff slope that it replaced, according to the architect.

"[It] was a sheer, steep rise from one end to a flattened-off top at the other," the firm wrote in its description.

"The design philosophy was to create a building that felt

grounded and formed part of the cliff."

The house was built by Maek Residences.

Neil Cownie took out two awards for a house in Floreat's Roscommon Road, in the new houses and interiors categories.

"My clients have a love for modernism and concrete," Mr Cownie wrote in a project description.

"They wanted a family home that respected and drew on the modernist history of the area."

A wave-like concrete roof was

inspired by the City Beach and Floreat beach kiosks, designed by architect Tony Brand in the 1970s, as well as the old City Beach Surf Life Saving building.

Simon Pental won the top-tier Iwan Iwanoff Award for Small Project Architecture with his design for a renovation of the public entrance to a 1970s apartment complex at 19 Broome Street in Cottesloe.

A "monolithic" concrete roof is shaped to admit light, while a teal green interior is designed to remind residents and visitors of swimming.

The builder was Kelly Building.

The aerial wine loft addition to Cottesloe's Boatshed Market earned Matthew Crawford Architects a commendation in the small projects category.

The Boatshed's roof had to be removed for the project, while a 220-tonne crane lowered four shipping containers that would make up the wine store on to the building's original boat-building gantry.

RK Brine Master Builders finished the project last year.

In the Commercial Architecture category, architect Paul Burnham received an award for Peppermint Grove's Freshwaters cafe.



Freshwaters by Paul Burnham Architect. Photo: Jody D'Arcy

The-timber clad building makes the most of its riverside site, blending in with its verdant surrounds while offering panoramic views of the river.

Masterbuilt Constructions was the builder.

Cox Architecture earned a commendation in the Educational Architecture category for its junior years redevelopment at Methodist Ladies' College.

PACT Construction brought the plans to life, using fluted metal screens to connect old and new buildings.