

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Youth



Thursday, 13 August, 2020

NEW FACILITIES A GAME-CHANGER FOR SPORTING COMMUNITIES

The Victorian Government is continuing its investment in sporting infrastructure projects across the state, helping grassroots sports communities get back in the game when the time is right.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today announced a \$5 million boost to revitalise and transform Debneys Park in Flemington as part of the *Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program*.

The site will be transformed into a new community and sports hub, in one of 27 projects across Victoria to score a share of the \$68 million stimulus fund.

By working with local government authorities and sporting clubs and organisations, investment from the program is expected to create 330 jobs and drive local economic activity worth almost \$140 million.

The new hub at Debneys Park will feature upgrades to the existing sports grounds including new lights, cricket nets and two outdoor basketball courts, along with new supporting infrastructure such as four female friendly change spaces.

The project is expected to create 14 full-time jobs during the planning and design phase, and another 78 jobs when construction commences.

Other funded projects include \$1.18 million to fast-track the development of a female friendly soccer pavilion at the home of the Melton Phoenix Football Club at MacPherson Park and more than \$2 million for new fitness stations, paths and play equipment across eight recreation sites in Moreland.

The \$68 million sports stimulus program is part of the Victorian Government's \$2.7 billion *Building Works* package which is creating jobs through shovel-ready projects across the state.

Combined with investments from the *Local Sports Infrastructure Fund*, this announcement brings the total number of sports projects supported since June to 127, providing a significant boost to community sport and jobs for many Victorians.

For more information about the program go to sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants/community-sports-infrastructure-stimulus-program

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"We know the value of investing in sporting infrastructure across Victoria – on and off the field."

"This program will deliver hundreds of local jobs while delivering top-notch facilities for our passionate sports communities."

Quote attributable to Member for Essendon Danny Pearson

"Sport is the lifeblood of areas like Flemington and residents deserve modern, accessible and safe facilities. And we're getting on with building them."

Media contact: Stephanie Hobbs 0429 275 437 | stephanie.hobbs@minstaff.vic.gov.au