

# Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP  
Minister for Energy, the Environment and Climate Change  
Minister for Solar Homes



Wednesday, 28 October 2020

## PLENTY TO LOVE IN MELBOURNE'S PARKLANDS

Locals in Melbourne's north are being invited to have their say on a new 17 kilometre trail that creates the missing link between Doreen and University Hill in Bundoora.

The Plenty River trail is part of a \$20.4 million investment in Plenty Gorge Park creating local jobs and fostering connections with nature. The funding will also be used to upgrade Hawkstowe Picnic area and the Nioka Bush Camp.

Nature-lovers will be able to make the full journey on the new trail by foot or bicycle through the gorgeous parkland located on Wurundjeri Country.

The shared-use trail will run along the western corridor of the park and will connect locals and visitors with the parklands and to Hawkstowe and Mernda railway stations.

The improvements to the Hawkstowe Picnic Area and the Nioka Bush Camp will improve accessibility to the park, for people of all abilities to enjoy.

The Plenty River Trail is funded through the \$154 million *Suburban Parks Program*, providing opportunities for Victorians to connect with nature and enjoy open green space close to home.

Upgrades to Nioka Bush Camp are thanks to *Victoria's Great Outdoors Program*, which helps get Victorians from all walks of life out and enjoying nature.

During the consultation process the community will be asked to share their vision for the trail including what facilities they would like to see incorporated such as seating, bike locks and information signs.

Consultation is now open and will run for 8-weeks. For more information and to have your say on the Plenty River trail visit: [engage.vic.gov.au/plenty-river-trail](https://engage.vic.gov.au/plenty-river-trail).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio

*"Plenty Gorge Park is a wonderful place and this new trail will enable the community to get even more use out of it for recreation, exercise or just enjoying nature."*

*"More residents have recently been discovering the natural beauty, wildlife and bushland of the park at their doorstep, making now the perfect time to hear their fresh ideas."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Yan Yean Danielle Green

*"As a local, I'm excited about the future of Plenty Gorge and the opportunity to connect more communities in Melbourne's north to this beautiful patch of parkland either by walking or getting on their bikes."*