

Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP

Minister for Energy, the Environment and Climate Change
Minister for Solar Homes



Monday 22 February, 2021

RECYCLED WASTE PAVES THE ROAD

The Andrews Labor Government is giving innovators \$4.4 million to create everyday products from reusable waste while getting those ideas out of the lab and into the market with a new round of recycling infrastructure grants.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio today announced 19 projects will share in \$2.6 million to support innovative use of recycled materials in infrastructure projects delivered by local councils and alpine resort management boards.

Together these 19 projects will support 338 new jobs and use approximately 2,000 tonnes of recycled materials, including glass, plastic and rubber, to create roads, footpaths, outdoor park furniture, drainage and pavements.

Among the successful councils is the City of Darebin, who has secured \$300,000 to upgrade the KP Hardiman Hockey Field using recycled material. Players are expected to be scoring goals at the upgraded facilities by July 2021.

As part of the redevelopment, recycled glass will be used in new concrete pathways, recycled plastic will become asphalt, and outdoor furniture and shockpads installed under artificial turf will be made from rubber tyres.

The Labor Government will further increase the use of recycled materials across the economy by supporting innovation and product development with the launch of the \$1.8 million Research and Development Fund.

Grants of between \$75,000 and \$300,000 are available to support research institutes and industry to develop new products made from recycled materials including plastic, paper, cardboard, glass and tyres.

These grants will see more recycled materials used in local community spaces and the development of exciting products that we are yet to discover, helping to create local jobs in new industries.

The Labor Government has provided \$515 million to deliver the biggest transformation and reform of Victoria's waste and recycling system in our states history.

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

"We're reshaping our waste and recycling industry, driving job creation and putting valuable materials back into the economy."

"Projects like this give old tyres and old materials a new life. This kind of innovation creates endless business opportunities and jobs."

Quote to be attributed to Member for Preston Robin Scott

"We're backing ground-breaking research and development so our waste can be turned into something valuable."

Quote attributed to Member for Bundoora Colin Brooks

"This hockey field will see local athletes score goals. All while there is recycled material underfoot."

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