Media Release

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



Thursday, 1 April 2021

ALTONA TO NET NEW TENNIS COURTS

The biggest tennis club in Melbourne's western suburbs, Altona Tennis Club, is set to be revitalised with upgrades to its eleven courts and lighting, thanks to investment from the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence joined local member for Altona Jill Hennessy, members of the club and Hobsons Bay City Councillors, to officially break ground on the redevelopment of the tennis facility, made possible by a \$1 million investment from the Labor Government's *Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program*.

The club has more than 500 members and the existing facility has been struggling to cope with growing demand.

The project will redevelop the current courts, with five new classic clay courts and six red porous courts complete with new fencing, irrigation, and LED lighting. The funding will also be used to implement an online court booking system.

Once complete the new facilities will allow the club to expand its programming and events, while the public will be able to book a court online – opening up the facility to greater community access.

This project is one of 27 to share in \$68 million from the first round of the Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program with the Labor Government injecting a further \$110 million into the program in the recent budget.

This investment recognises the overwhelming demand for shovel-ready community sports infrastructure across Victoria and is part of the more than \$1.05 billion the Labor Government has invested in community sport and recreation infrastructure since 2014.

Minister Spence acknowledged Hobsons Bay City Council for its financial contribution and management of the project.

For more information about infrastructure grant opportunities visit <u>sport.vic.gov.au</u>.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"Once complete, the new courts will go a long way to support the growing number of people in Altona keen to get involved in tennis."

"We're investing in great projects like this right across Victoria – to create jobs and help more people get fit, active and involved in local sport and recreation."

Quote attributable to Member for Altona Jill Hennessy

"This project is a great example of how the government is giving communities like Altona the facilities they need so more locals can play the sports they love."

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