

Media Release

The Hon Shaun Leane MLC
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Suburban Development
Minister for Veterans



Wednesday, 16 June 2021

BUILDING BETTER FACILITIES FOR VICTORIA'S VETERANS

The Victorian Government is ensuring veterans and their families have access to energy efficient, modern and accessible facilities, helping them connect with the community and enjoy civilian life.

Almost 30 projects across Victoria are sharing \$800,000 thanks to the latest round of the Government's *Veterans Capital Works Grant Program*.

The grants enable facility upgrades and accessibility improvements, with funding between \$5,000 and \$50,000 being awarded to 29 organisations across Victoria – including RSL Sub-Branches.

Recipients include Oakleigh Carnegie RSL which has received over \$27,000 to install new solar panels, reducing their energy costs.

Energy is one of the biggest costs faced by the RSL Sub-Branch, the solar panels will enable them to invest more money in supporting the veteran community.

The new solar panels will also allow Oakleigh Carnegie RSL to reduce its carbon footprint, contributing to a sustainable future for its members, their children and grandchildren.

Carry On Victoria is also receiving \$50,000 to upgrade old heating and cooling units at 31 independent living units it provides to veterans and their families across Victoria.

In addition, several RSL Sub-Branches are receiving grants to improve building accessibility by removing steps, building ramps and installing doors and bathrooms to make them easier for the whole community to use.

This includes Leongatha RSL Sub-Branch, which has received \$50,000 to replace steep steps with a ramp at the main entrance of their club.

Grants will also support a range of exterior and interior works, including over \$42,000 to replace the 40-year-old steel roof at the Mrytleford RSL.

For more information, including recipients, visit vic.gov.au/veterans-capital-works-grant-program.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Veterans Shaun Leane

"Victoria's veterans have made enormous sacrifices so all Australians can enjoy safety, freedom and peace, and we are supporting them in return."

"These building projects will help the organisations who provide services to our veteran community continue to operate at their full potential, which has so many benefits for the Victorians they support."

Quote attributable to Member for Oakleigh Steve Dimopoulos

"The Oakleigh Carnegie RSL is an important part of our community providing vital support for veterans and their families."

Media contact: Hannah Porter 0418 377 715 | Hannah.porter@minstaff.vic.gov.au