

Media Release

The Hon Martin Pakula MP

Minister for Industry Support and Recovery

Minister for Trade

Minister for Business Precincts

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Racing



Monday, 28 June 2021

“J CURVE” CHARTS RISE OF NEW TRARALGON GREYHOUND TRACK

The first single-turn greyhound race track in Australia is on course for completion in Traralgon by the end of the year – with majority funding contributed by the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Racing Martin Pakula confirmed a \$3 million investment from the *Victorian Racing Industry Fund* towards construction of the “J” track, with Greyhound Racing Victoria contributing \$2 million.

The “J” track design was developed following research by the University of Technology Sydney into risk management and extensive modelling on how to reduce physical stress on greyhounds during racing. It features one turn and a 300-metre straight.

The \$5 million Traralgon project also includes a pedestrian underpass and central access path for trainers, stewards and other participants, along with new lighting, irrigation and broadcast facilities. The works are creating around 200 jobs.

Prior to the closure of the old track, the Traralgon Greyhound Racing Club held 106 race meetings and 192 trials annually. Since 2014 the Labor Government has approved more than \$3.36 million to support infrastructure projects and race meetings at Traralgon Greyhound Racing Club.

The greyhound racing industry in Gippsland generates almost \$50 million for the economy and supports more than 420 full-time-equivalent jobs.

Quote attributable to Minister for Racing Martin Pakula

“It will be fantastic to see greyhound racing return to Traralgon on a track that breaks new ground in Australia. Animal welfare is paramount and this is an innovation built on research and science.”

Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing

“Traralgon is a major greyhound racing centre, and across Gippsland the code supports hundreds of jobs. The new track will be a boon for trainers, owners and fans and a step forward for animal welfare.”

Quote attributable to Greyhound Racing Victoria chair Peita Duncan

“The welfare of our dogs is paramount and we’re grateful for the Government’s support to re-establish racing in Traralgon. We look forward to seeing the completion of the new ‘J’ track.”

Quote attributable to Traralgon Greyhound Racing Club president Don Haley

“This project is a tremendous development for our greyhound community – it will improve the operating environment, enhance animal welfare and reduce operating costs. It’s a winner all round.”