

# Media Release

**The Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP**  
Minister for Regional Development  
Minister for Agriculture  
Acting Minister for Local Government  
Acting Minister for Suburban Development



Wednesday, 22 September 2021

## HEART OF THE MATTER: EXERCISE EQUIPMENT ACTIVATES TALBOT

Regional Victorians are being encouraged to be more active more often with new outdoor exercise equipment installed at a popular park in the small township of Talbot, backed by a grant from the Victorian Government.

Minister for Regional Development Mary-Anne Thomas today opened the *Activating Talbot* project, which has received a \$150,000 investment from the *Healthy Heart of Victoria* initiative.

The initiative is a Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership priority project and supports communities to be more active by investing in small infrastructure and activation programs.

The project is part of the Victorian Government's \$5 million investment in *Healthy Heart of Victoria*.

Talbot now has six new pieces of outdoor gym equipment at Pioneer Park, providing the community with free, and accessible options to exercise and keep fit.

The new equipment includes a cardio bike, stretch station, body pulls and push ups equipment, chest press, leg press and elliptical trainer. The park is a popular summer picnic destination that will encourage more visitors with these latest improvements.

The local community provided input on the selection, design and location of the equipment.

The Victorian Government's funding support for *Activating Talbot* is part of its almost \$30 billion investment in regional and rural Victoria since 2015.

### Quote attributable to Minister for Regional Development Mary-Anne Thomas

*"This is a fantastic initiative which is going to have a very positive impact on the physical and mental health and wellbeing of residents in Talbot and surrounds."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Jaala Pulford

*"Accessible exercise equipment at Pioneer Park makes a terrific town an even better place to live – the benefits for the people of Talbot will be enjoyed for years to come."*

### Quote attributable to Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership Chair Dave Richardson

*"Activating Talbot and the Healthy Heart of Victoria Initiative are playing an important part in helping the people of Loddon Campaspe to lead healthy, active lives while making new connections within their community."*