

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



Friday, 10 December 2021

## **NEW COMMUNITY SPORT PRECINCT OPENS IN MILDURA**

The largest community sport precinct in Mildura, backed by the Andrews Labor Government, has been officially opened as the next stage of the project is poised to commence.

The Mildura Sporting Precinct was officially opened today at a celebration including members of local sporting clubs, coinciding with the announcement of Stage 2 works, funded through a \$10 million investment by the Labor Government

Stage 1 features a two-storey stadium with six courts for basketball, netball, volleyball and badminton, function spaces, club rooms, changerooms, café and other amenities. The new premier sporting oval will host AFL and cricket and has competition-standard lighting towers, a standalone pavilion with timekeeper's box and amenities.

The Precinct will be able to accommodate a range of regional sports as well as state and national sporting carnivals and major sports competition including AFL, AFLW, WNBL and NBL preseason and season fixtures.

Stage 2 works include four squash courts, four netball courts, four outdoor beach volleyball courts, a second AFL and cricket oval with lighting, change rooms, umpire facilities and storage and a sports administration hub.

Construction of Stage 1 created 40 full time jobs with the majority of work undertaken by local contractors. Stage 2 will begin in 2022 and is expected to be complete in 2023.

The Government's total investment in the project is \$13.75 million and the project also received funding from the Federal Government, Mildura Rural City Council, Cricket Australia, Cricket Victoria and the local community.

Since 2014, the Labor Government has invested more than \$1.1 billion in community sport and recreation infrastructure including through the *Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program* which has supported 70 significant infrastructure projects to ensure Victorian sports facilities are accessible to more people.

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

## Quote attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"The new Mildura Sporting Precinct will be the heart of sports and recreation in the region – and I'm so proud that the Andrews Labor Government was able to help deliver it."

## Quote attributable to Parliamentary Secretary for Sport Danielle Green

"All Victorians deserve the best sporting facilities no matter where they live, which is why we're investing in major infrastructure projects across the state so more people can get out and get active."

## Quote attributable to Mildura Mayor Cr Liam Wood

"The eagerly awaited start of local competition at the precinct has already increased participation in sport, with reports of major growth in some sports after just their first games, which is great to see."