

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP Minister for Energy, the Environment and Climate Change Minister for Solar Homes



Saturday, 9 April 2022

MORE OPEN SPACE IN THE SUBURBS WITH THREE NEW PARKS

The Andrews Labor Government is getting on with providing new and upgraded open space right across Melbourne, with local communities playing a vital role in shaping the design and feel of the new spaces.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio today released draft plans for three new parks located in Werribee, Kororoit and Clyde – backed by a \$19.5 million investment to begin initial works such as creating walking trails, car parks and fencing once the draft plans were finalised.

The parks are part of the Labor Government's \$315 million investment to unlock 6,500 hectares of new and upgraded accessible green space for Melbourne's growing outer suburbs.

Developed following an initial round of community consultation in 2021, the parks feature nature playscapes, picnic and barbeque areas, revitalised creeks, wetlands and frog habitats.

Community feedback is being sought on the long-term visions for the parks, with locals asked to have their say on the parks' layout, visitor and environmental areas and accessibility.

The three parks together represent more than 720 hectares of invaluable green open space which will improve Victorians' health, wellbeing and connectivity while also creating local jobs.

With new walking and cycling tracks delivering tourism and education opportunities, the parks will be a big boost to Melbourne's liveability. Urban green spaces play an important role in protecting Victoria's precious biodiversity, creating habitats for our native plants and wildlife while also helping reduce emissions.

The Government is working closely with Traditional Owners and local councils to ensure the parks will meet the needs of growing communities and preserve and enhance natural and cultural heritage.

Community members can share feedback on the three draft plans from today through surveys on Engage Victoria, participating in an online session, or by speaking to the Parks Victoria team during community pop-ups in April and May.

For more information and to get involved visit: <u>https://engage.vic.gov.au/parks</u>

Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio

"These new parks will make Melbourne even more liveable, create local jobs and provide open outdoor spaces families and their pets can enjoy for years to come."

"We're excited to hear how Victorians would like to see these three fantastic new parks come to life as part of 6,500 hectares of new and upgraded green space for Melbourne's growing outer suburbs."

Quote attributable to Member for Werribee Tim Pallas

"We welcome everyone to have their say on the plans for this new green space, which will become a great meeting place and recreation hub for the community."