Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP

Minister for Prevention of Family Violence Minister for Multicultural Affairs Minister for Community Sport Minister for Youth



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CASH TO KICK-START LOCAL SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE

The Andrews Labor Government is helping communities transform sports grounds, build female friendly change rooms, develop exciting play spaces and light up sports fields across the state.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence visited Mordialloc to announce \$300,000 for a new playground at Peter Scullin Reserve, one of 91 projects to share up to \$30 million from the Labor Government's 2022 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund.

The project will provide sensory equipment for children of all abilities at the popular reserve on the Mordialloc foreshore.

In Werribee, \$1 million is being invested in a female friendly pavilion upgrade at Galvin Park – the home of the Point Cook Football and Netball Club and Werribee Centrals Cricket Club.

The Altona City Soccer Club will benefit from a \$300,000 boost to upgrade soccer pitches at HC Kim Reserve.

Other supported projects include \$1 million for the Baw Baw Shire to upgrade the Warragul United Soccer Club pavilion at Baxter Reserve and \$300,000 to Murrundindi Shire to develop a new playground featuring accessible exercise equipment, flying fox and swing zone in the Eildon Reserves Precinct.

The *Victorian Budget 2022/23* provides an additional \$88 million to deliver new and improved community sports infrastructure and programs to boost participation in local sports clubs and organisations. This includes continuing the popular *Country Football and Netball Program*, which is set to open for new applications in early 2023.

The Labor Government has invested more than \$1.6 billion in community sport and recreation infrastructure since 2014. This investment is backed by the recently released *Fair Access Policy Roadmap*, a Labor Government initiative to ensure women and girls get equal access to community sports infrastructure across the state.

Initiatives like these create jobs, stimulate local economies and improve the health, wellbeing and social outcomes for Victorian communities.

A 2020 report by KPMG commissioned by Sport and Recreation Victoria put an annual value of \$7 billion on the economic, social and health benefits of community sport and recreation infrastructure in Victoria.

For more information about the Fund and successful projects visit sport.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"Sport is the lifeblood of many communities and all Victorians deserve access to quality change rooms, grounds and playgrounds regardless of their age, gender, ability or where they live."

"We're proud to be injecting new life into local communities with modern, accessible sporting facilities."

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