

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Suburban Development



Wednesday, 17 May 2023

SUPPORT FOR INCLUSIVE AND CULTURAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Andrews Labor Government is investing in more community building projects across Melbourne, helping local councils and community groups strengthen local culture and wellbeing.

Minister for Suburban Development Ros Spence today announced more than \$1.6 million for 11 new projects, made possible by the Labor Government *Our Suburbs: Living Local Fund*.

Successful grants include a refurbished community hall for the Tamil Educational Cultural & Charitable Association in Deanside, a cool room for the Muslim Women's Council community kitchen in Brunswick, and the creation of a migration trail to celebrate Victoria's multi-cultural history in Port Melbourne.

Other projects funded encourage connection, inclusion and wellbeing including First Nations street art in Oakleigh, a children's playground at Upwey Belgrave RSL, and a new hub and garden at the Elizabeth Morgan House Aboriginal Women's Service in Northcote, Victoria's first refuge for Aboriginal women and children.

To date, more than 320 community building projects have shared in the \$15 million *Our Suburbs: Living Local Fund* investment to promote social connection, liveability, and enhance local shopping strips and activity centres across Melbourne.

Under the fund, local councils and community organisations receive grants of up to \$200,000 for infrastructure projects, while smaller grants of up to \$20,000 support the purchase of equipment, minor upgrades, and maintenance to facilities to continue to service their local communities well into the future.

For more information on the Living Local Fund, visit suburbandevlopment.vic.gov.au/living-local.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Suburban Development Ros Spence

"We are creating more enjoyable and connected suburbs across Melbourne by investing in local projects that help communities thrive."

"More than ever, being part of an inclusive and supported community is something all Victorians deserve."