

# Media Release

**The Hon Harriet Shing MP**

Minister for Water

Minister for Regional Development

Minister for Commonwealth Games Legacy

Minister for Equality



Tuesday, 23 May 2023

## TRANSFORMATION OF MOONEE PONDS CREEK TAKING SHAPE

The Andrews Labor Government's Reimagining Moonee Ponds Creek project is taking shape, with the first of 43,000 trees and shrubs being planted along the waterway's banks.

Local Member for Broadmeadows Kathleen Matthews-Ward visited the project site which was the recipient of \$5 million in funding as part of the Labor Government's Building Works package.

The Reimagining Moonee Ponds Creek project is transforming a 360 metre section of the concrete-lined creek into a more natural and enjoyable public space.

Along with additional trees and shrubs to offer more shade, the project will deliver new shared paths and a bridge – further improving transport connections in the area.

Due for completion in early 2024, the project will also improve the overall water quality and waterway health of Moonee Ponds Creek by establishing aquatic vegetation and slowing waterflows.

The project is a collaboration between the Victorian Government, Melbourne Water, Merri-bek City Council, Moonee Valley City Council, the Chain of Ponds Collaboration Group, and the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

It is also part of Melbourne Water's Reimagining Your Creek Program, which transforms stormwater drains and concrete channels into natural waterways and open spaces.

The program has already transformed sections of Tarralla Creek in Croydon, Arnolds Creek in Melton West and Blind Creek in Boronia. Works are currently in progress for the program's biggest project along Blind Creek from Scoresby Road to Lewis Park in Wantirna South.

### Quote attributable to Minister for Water Harriet Shing

*"This is another wonderful example of the ongoing work we are doing to reinvigorate our waterways and the useable space in our communities."*

### Quotes attributable to Member for Broadmeadows Kathleen Matthews-Ward

*"I'm proud to help deliver this important green initiative to the local communities in and around Oak Park and Strathmore. Once the transformation is complete, it will be enjoyed by thousands of people daily, and play an important role in our local environmental ecosystem."*

### Quotes attributable to Member for Pascoe Vale Anthony Cianfone

*"This project will completely revitalise the Moonee Ponds Creek region and ensure the area is enjoyed by future generations."*

### Quote attributable to Melbourne Water Managing Director Nerina Di Lorenzo

*"Melbourne Water is committed to enhancing life and liveability for the greater Melbourne region and maintaining Melbourne's waterways to ensure they remain healthy today, tomorrow and for generations to come."*

**Media Contact:** Siobhan McKenna 0480 147 921 | [Siobhan.mckenna@minstaff.vic.gov.au](mailto:Siobhan.mckenna@minstaff.vic.gov.au)