Media Release

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



Friday, 23 June 2023

TRACK TRANSFORMATION SET FOR SUNBURY LITTLE ATHLETICS

Little Athletics in Sunbury is set for more year-round fun with a significant upgrade of Sunbury's Eric Boardman Memorial Reserve track now officially underway.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today joined Member for Sunbury Josh Bull and Hume City Mayor, Cr Joseph Haweil to officially launch the works, made possible by \$2 million from the Andrews Labor Government.

The project will replace the existing grass track with a new all-weather 400 metre synthetic track, complete with a drainage and irrigation system for the turf infield. New 200 lux LED lighting will see the club host training and competitions in the evening and year-round.

The upgrades will also include two new long and triple jump pits, a dual discus and hammer throw cage, and multiple athlete and spectator shelters.

Together the new facilities will provide local Little Athletics and nearby schools with the opportunity to ramp up junior competition, school carnivals, and athlete training and development programs across a wider range of disciplines.

The *Victorian Budget 2023/24* is providing \$213 million to deliver and improve community sports infrastructure and support initiatives that boost participation and inclusion in local sports clubs and organisations.

It's part of more than \$1.9 billion the Government has invested in community sport and recreation infrastructure since 2014.

Minister Spence acknowledged Hume City Council for its financial contribution to the project.

From new sports pavilions to athletics track upgrades, investments like these are about stimulating local economies, creating jobs, and improving the health, wellbeing, and social outcomes for Victorian communities.

For more information about infrastructure grant opportunities available through the Victorian Government visit <u>www.sport.vic.gov.au</u>

Quotes attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"Little athletics is an integral part of community sport and we're proud to invest in projects that get even more kids on track enjoying the sports they love."

"We're proud to help communities like Sunbury rejuvenate much loved facilities and provide even more opportunities for locals to come together and get active."

Quote attributable to Member for Sunbury Josh Bull

"This new track is what local clubs like Sunbury Little Athletics have been waiting for, and we're proud to help make that happen."

Media contact: Bodil Droga 0413 701 929 I bodil.droga@minstaff.vic.gov.au