

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP

Minister for Early Childhood & Pre-Prep
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DELIVERING NEW OPEN SPACES AND CONNECTIONS FOR IVANHOE

Ivanhoe locals now have access to better connections and open spaces thanks to an Andrews Labor Government investment to build the new Waterdale Road pocket park.

Member for Ivanhoe, Anthony Carbines, officially opened Waterdale Road pocket park in Ivanhoe – the latest local park to receive an upgrade as part of the Government’s \$315 million Suburban Parks Program.

The new pocket park provides a green open space to an otherwise urban area in the heart of Ivanhoe, with new trees for shade and seating areas.

A new shared-use zone on Waterdale Road ensures the pocket park is a safer pedestrian connection between the park on Upper Heidelberg Road and Norman Street.

The Suburban Parks Program is transforming 29 underutilised spaces into new, vibrant and green pocket parks across Melbourne, with more than \$1.3 million in funding provided to local councils for delivery.

There are already 20 new pocket parks being enjoyed by Melburnians, with works on the remaining nine well underway.

To date, 87 new and upgraded open spaces have been delivered through the Suburban Parks Program, and there’s more on the way thanks to a \$20.8 million investment in the *Victorian Budget 2023/24* for new and upgraded parks and playgrounds.

Once complete the Suburban Parks Program will create up to 6,500 hectares of new parkland, walking and cycling trails, pocket parks and dog parks – the equivalent of more than 170 Royal Botanic Gardens.

For more information, visit environment.vic.gov.au/suburban-parks.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Ingrid Stitt

“The Suburban Parks Program will make sure Melburnians have a greater access to open green spaces.”

“It is terrific that in the middle of Ivanhoe we have been able to create a green open space - I’m looking forward to see visitors enjoy Waterdale Road pocket park for years to come.”

Quote attributable to Member for Ivanhoe Anthony Carbines

“The Waterdale Road pocket park is a fantastic addition for Ivanhoe residents and families. It will also ensure the community can utilise safer pedestrian crossings between the hustle and bustle of Upper Heidelberg Road and Norman Street.”