

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP

Minister for Early Childhood & Pre-Prep
Minister for Environment



Friday, 28 July 2023

DELIVERING OPEN SPACES AND CONNECTIONS FOR YARRAVILLE

Yarraville locals now have access to better open space and connections, thanks to the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Environment Ingrid Stitt today officially opened the new Birmingham Street pocket park in Yarraville – the latest local park to receive an upgrade as part of the Government’s \$315 million Suburban Parks Program.

Situated between Avoca Street and Pentland Parade, Birmingham Street has been transformed into a welcoming green corridor and open space for locals in an otherwise built-up urban area in the heart of Yarraville.

The new space features improved bicycle and pedestrian paths, new landscaping and timber decking for visitors to sit and relax.

The Suburban Parks Program is transforming 29 underutilised spaces into new, vibrant and green pocket parks across Melbourne, with up to \$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 underway.

To date, 87 new and upgraded open spaces, including parks and dog parks, have been delivered through the Suburban Parks Program, and there’s 11 more new and upgraded parks on the way thanks to a \$7.4 million investment in the *Victorian Budget 2023/24* to deliver Better 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

“As our suburbs continue to grow, we’re making sure Melburnians have easy access to quality open space to exercise, relax or just enjoy the outdoors.”

“Our parks and gardens are what makes Melbourne one of the most liveable cities in the world, and we’re ensuring they are safe and accessible for everyone.”

Quote attributable to Member for Footscray Katie Hall

“We’re supporting local councils to provide their communities with unique and inclusive open spaces. The Birmingham Street pocket park is a fantastic example of what can be achieved through this program.”