

# Media Release

**Ingrid Stitt MP**

Minister for Early Childhood & Pre-Prep  
Minister for Environment



Friday, 15 September 2023

## DELIVERING BETTER OPEN SPACE FOR MONTMORENCY

The Andrews Labor Government is giving Montmorency residents a new open space to enjoy, thanks to a new pocket park on Were Street at the Monty Village.

Member for Eltham Vicki Ward today visited Were Street pocket park, the latest pocket park to be delivered as part of the Labor Government's \$315 million Suburban Parks Program.

The pocket park includes a new plaza, performance area, landscaping, seating, and artwork as part of the latest green space in the activity centre – giving locals a space to see entertainment and socialise.

There are already 20 new pocket parks being enjoyed by Melburnians, with another six pocket parks already under construction.

The Suburban Parks Program is transforming 29 underutilised spaces into vibrant and green pocket parks across Melbourne, with up to \$1.3 million in funding provided to local councils to deliver the projects.

To date, 94 new and upgraded open spaces have been delivered through the Suburban Parks Program, and there's more on the way thanks to a \$7.4 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 trails, bike trails, pocket parks, and dog parks – the equivalent of more than 170 Royal Botanic Gardens.

For more information about the Suburban Parks Program, visit [environment.vic.gov.au/suburban-parks](https://environment.vic.gov.au/suburban-parks).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Ingrid Stitt

*"It is so important that we make sure Melburnians have access to as much green open space as possible – so that they have a chance to enjoy the great outdoors."*

*"Whether it's coming together with family and friends to see a performance or simply enjoying the space, locals can enjoy the green open space that Were Street pocket park has to offer."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Eltham Vicki Ward

*"We're supporting local councils to provide our communities with better open spaces – Were Street pocket park is a fantastic example of what can be achieved."*