

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Friday, 1 December 2023

MORE WAYS TO WALK, RIDE AND PLAY AT PLENTY GORGE PARK

Works are underway to build the new Plenty River Trail – connecting pedestrians and cyclists traveling between Dorreen and Bundoora, thanks to the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos announced a \$20.9 million Labor Government investment will allow more ways for locals in Melbourne’s north to enjoy nature at Plenty Gorge Park.

The first stage of the project will deliver a new trail through the Hawkstowe Picnic Area – with the space also set to receive a new accessible toilet and play spaces.

Once complete, the trail will provide new connections to Hawkstowe Station and Mernda Station, providing more ways for locals to access public transport options in the area.

Five new lookouts that offer spectacular views will also be built, while two new bridges will provide additional river crossings for visitors to explore more of the scenic bushland. The existing Maroondah Aqueduct Pipe Bridge will also be refurbished.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Traditional Owners, the local community and surrounding councils were consulted to help design the project.

Only 20 kilometres from Melbourne’s CBD, Plenty Gorge Park offers stunning views, historical cultural sites and opportunities for bird and wildlife watching.

The project has been partly funded by the Labor Government’s \$315 million Suburban Parks Program, which is creating 6,500 hectares of new and upgraded accessible green open space, to support growing communities across Melbourne.

To learn more about the project, visit parks.vic.gov.au/projects.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos

“Plenty Gorge Park is only a short distance from the heart of Melbourne – and this new trail will provide even more ways for people to experience this beautiful bushland.”

“We are thrilled to be providing more opportunities for people to get active, spend time with friends and family, and connect to our parklands.”

Quote attributable to Member for Mill Park Lily D’Ambrosio

“The Plenty River Trail project will give locals in the north of Melbourne greater access to nature and public transport.”

Quote attributable to Member for Yan Yean Lauren Kathage

“This project will mean that more families can get into the great outdoors. I can’t wait to fully explore this incredible park with my children.”

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