

Media Release

The Hon Harriet Shing MP
Minister for Housing
Minister for Water
Minister for Equality



Wednesday, 17 April 2024

FAST-TRACKING MORE HOMES FOR MORE VICTORIANS

The Allan Labor Government is getting on and delivering homes where they are needed - with planning now approved for hundreds of new social, affordable and market homes near the heart of Melbourne.

Minister for Housing Harriet Shing today announced the Government has fast-tracked the approval of more than 500 new homes at Simmons Street in South Yarra.

The 522 new homes are the first new homes to get underway as part of the Ground Lease Model 2 and will be delivered across multiple apartment buildings.

The new one-, two-, three-, and four-bedroom homes will be modern and energy efficient - meaning residents will be warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer, while also saving on power bills.

The redevelopment will deliver a 34 per cent increase in social housing on the site and will also feature communal gardens, recreational rooms, playgrounds, cafes, and gym facilities. There will also be 18 Specialist Disability Accommodation dwellings for people with high physical support needs.

The Government's nation-leading Housing Statement reforms are creating the conditions for 800,000 new homes to be built over the next decade, where people want to live - close to transport, schools and jobs.

This project delivers on this, being well connected to public transport and giving residents easy access to services, schools and jobs close by and across Melbourne.

The project is being delivered as part of the Allan Labor Government's landmark \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build which has delivered 436 new homes with a further 677 homes under construction across the City of Stonnington.

Across the state, the Albanese Government is working to ensure more Victorians have a safe and affordable place to call home. In January, applications opened for the first round of funding for social and affordable homes under the \$10 billion Housing Australia Future Fund and the National Housing Accord.

The Federal Government has already delivered almost \$500 million to Victoria through the Social Housing Accelerator, which will help to build up to 769 new social homes across the state.

Quote attributable to Minister for Housing Harriet Shing

"As our population grows, we're fast-tracking the delivery of thousands of new homes in communities across Victoria as part of our multi-billion dollar housing investment. These are modern, accessible, and energy-efficient homes that residents can be proud to call their own."

Quote attributable to Minister for Planning Sonya Kilkenny

"We're delivering hundreds of new homes in the heart of South Yarra because we know we need more homes for Victorians where they want to live – close to jobs, transport, essential services, and shops."

Quote attributable to Member for Southern Metropolitan John Berger

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“It’s exciting to see the old, outdated social housing dwellings be turned into brand new, modern homes for people right across the community.”

Quote attributable to Federal Minister for Housing Julie Collins

“These new homes are a great example of what we can achieve when all levels of government work together. We want to ensure more Australians have a safe and affordable place to call home with more help for homebuyers, more help for renters and more help for those needing a safe place for the night.”

Quote attributable to Member for Higgins Dr Michelle Ananda-Rajah

“The Allan and Albanese Governments are in lockstep in making modern, bright, affordable homes a reality for Victorians and residents in Higgins. Fast tracking this project is welcome news for our local community, delivering not only more housing, but also better quality housing for those who need it.”