

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Friday, 10 May 2024

MORE COMMUNITY SPORTS FACILITIES FOR VICTORIANS TO ENJOY

The Allan Labor Government is delivering new and upgraded community sports facilities across Victoria, including more change rooms, courts, sports fields, pavilions, and skate parks.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence today joined Member for Greenvale Iwan Walters and the Roxburgh Park United Soccer Club to visit Arena Recreation Reserve in Roxburgh Park, one of 40 new projects that will benefit from the *Local Sports Infrastructure Fund* – giving more Victorians access to modern sports facilities.

The project at Arena Recreation Reserve will help the Roxburgh Park United Soccer Club host more training and night competitions so that more players can get their start on the pitch, with an investment of \$112,000 to install new lighting.

The latest round of funding also includes \$220,000 to replace the ageing club rooms at JK Grant Reserve in Altona with a bigger and better pavilion at the home of the Altona Hockey Club while a \$300,000 investment in East Bairnsdale will build a new play space at Hoddinott Reserve featuring new equipment and spaces for families to get active.

The *Victorian Budget 2024/25* is also investing more than \$23 million to provide new and improved community sports infrastructure and initiatives that boost participation and inclusion in local sports clubs.

This investment includes \$5 million to continue the *2024/25 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund* which is part of more than \$1.9 billion invested in community sport and recreation infrastructure since 2014.

These investments are backed by the *Fair Access Policy Roadmap* - a Labor Government initiative ensuring women and girls get equal access to community sport facilities across the state.

Initiatives like these are also about inclusion, fair play, creating jobs, stimulating local economies, and improving the health, wellbeing, and social outcomes for Victorian communities.

For more information visit sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants/local-sports-infrastructure-fund.

Quote attributable to Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence

"We're building new and upgraded sports facilities across the state so that all Victorian's have access to high quality sport and recreation infrastructure in their local communities."

Quotes attributable to Member for Greenvale Iwan Walters

"This important investment in better lighting will allow Roxburgh Park United Soccer Club to provide great sporting opportunities to many more young people, helping to meet the growing demand to play soccer in our community."

"It'll also support other community clubs based out of Arena Recreation Reserve, like Hume Cricket Club, enabling competitions and training into the night."

Quote attributable to Roxburgh Park United Soccer Club President Ayad Botres

"These new lighting upgrades provide a significant boost to our club. With the demand for soccer higher than ever, the improved lighting enables us to extend our hours of play and training, granting more individuals access to enjoy the beautiful game."

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