

Media Release

Jaclyn Symes MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Treasurer

Minister for Industrial Relations

Minister for Regional Development



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BIG NEWS FOR VICTORIA'S TINY TOWNS

The Allan Labor Government is making Victoria's tiniest towns better places to live, work, stay and play with new investments in community houses, walking tracks, galleries, silo art, memorial halls and more.

Minister for Regional Development Jaclyn Symes visited Waaia today to announce 159 successful projects worth over \$5.1 million in round 2 of the *Tiny Towns Fund*, selected in rural and regional towns of fewer than 5,000 people.

From walking track upgrades to community centre renovations, grants of between \$5,000 and \$50,000 will help regional communities flourish, boost tourism and support local workers during project development.

Waaia, in the State's north, will soon become part of Australia's largest outdoor gallery thanks to funding for a mural on the local grain silo, which is one of the tallest in Victoria.

An artist will be commissioned to complete the work, helping put the small town on the map as another destination on the renowned silo art trail.

Other projects supported include a public environmental art space at Willaura in western Victoria, which will showcase indigenous plants, telling the story of the six Djab Wurrung seasons. It will be an educational, cultural and artistic space for the community and visitors to enjoy.

The Daisy Hill Community Centre in the Central Goldfields region is one of more than 25 community spaces across the state receiving funding for upgrades. The Daisy Hill centre will upgrade their kitchen to a modern functional kitchen.

Almost 350 projects are being supported through both rounds of the *Tiny Towns Fund* across more than 300 towns.

The *Tiny Towns Fund* is a part of the Government's record \$45 billion investment over the past decade in projects and programs that support regional and rural Victoria. For more information, visit rdv.vic.gov.au/tiny-towns-fund

Quotes attributable to Minister for Regional Development Jaclyn Symes

"Victoria's tiny towns already have so much to offer, and these investments are all about giving locals what they need to create strong vibrant communities and to encourage more visitors."

"The Tiny Towns Fund is all about investing in projects that locals are passionate about - from community halls and sporting facilities to new walking tracks and strengthening the regional art scene, we're supporting our smallest towns to become even better places to live, work, stay and play."

Quote attributable to Minister for Precincts Harriet Shing

"These development projects play such an important role in bringing together communities, while providing key services and infrastructure for towns across Victoria."

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