

# Media Release

**Steve Dimopoulos MP**

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Sunday, 11 May 2025

## ALBERT PARK SHIFTS UP A GEAR FOR FANS AND LOCAL CLUBS

Fans of the Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix and local sports clubs will be in pole position with a massive upgrade to the pit building, thanks to the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos today announced the new pit building and improvements to the surrounding Precinct, which will deliver better facilities for Formula 1 fans and local clubs.

The new building will include seven indoor sport courts, two more than are currently on site, and improved clubrooms for clubs using the outdoor fields. The project includes park upgrades that benefit the local community and everyone who visits Albert Park.

The upgrade will include 14 garages, race control, and a race administration and media centre. The world-renowned Paddock Club will have an expanded capacity of 5,000 patrons a day, offering amazing hospitality experiences and viewing spots along the main straight to see all the action.

The 2025 Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix welcomed more than 465,000 fans through the gates across the four days. Hotel occupancy in central Melbourne was around 94 per cent the night before the race.

With the race locked in until 2037, the pit building upgrade will make sure Melbourne keeps the Australian Grand Prix for years to come – showcasing our state to the world and maintaining our status as the major events capital.

Our major events pump more than \$3.3 billion a year into our economy each year and contribute to the record \$40 billion visitor spend.

Head contractor Icon has been appointed to deliver the project. Initial works on site are underway with demolition works to begin after the 2026 race and be completed in time for the 2028 Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix.

For further information on the project, visit [development.vic.gov.au/projects/albert-park](https://development.vic.gov.au/projects/albert-park).

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos**

*"Fans flock to Victoria from around the world for our Formula 1 Grand Prix – filling local hotels, restaurants, pubs and businesses – and we intend to keep it that way."*

*"This massive upgrade is a win for the local community – more space for community sport, more courts, better changerooms and park upgrades and a sporting venue Albert Park locals can enjoy."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Albert Park Nina Taylor**

*"This project will make the iconic Albert Park precinct even better for locals with upgraded world class sport facilities complementing the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre down the road."*

### **Quote attributable to Australian Grand Prix Corporation CEO Travis Auld**

*"In addition to playing a critical role in delivering a world-class event, this exciting new chapter will ensure this facility becomes an asset for the community to enjoy outside of the race period for years to come."*

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