

# Media Release

**Steve Dimopoulos MP**  
Minister for Environment  
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events  
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Friday, 13 February 2026

## BABY BOOM IN VICTORIAN ZOOS

Families will soon have something extra to look forward to at Werribee Zoo, with three Asian Elephant calves on the way.

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos today announced three members of the herd — Num-Oi, Dokkoon and Mali are confirmed pregnant, with calves expected around April 2027.

The Allan Labor Government delivered the new Elephant Trail last year which has driven a 37 per cent surge in visitation, drawing an unprecedented one million visitors in a single year to Werribee Zoo.

Thanks to the Labor Government more families have been able to visit for less, with children under 16 going free on weekends, public holidays and school holidays through the Kids Go Free program.

This new baby elephant will add to the baby boom in Victorian Zoos, with a new baby giraffe recently born, following the birth of Tambi the giraffe in 2025, the first giraffe born at Melbourne Zoo in almost 20 years.

The \$88 million 21-hectare Elephant Trail is the size of the entire Melbourne Zoo, giving the herd plenty of room to roam, including two mega pools to keep the elephants cool and support their wellbeing.

Designed to support the elephants' needs while creating a close visitor experience, the Elephant Trail features extensive walking trails and shaded habitats that reflect the elephants' natural environment.

The Trail gives the nine-member herd, including three calves the space needed to thrive and allow stronger social bonds and lifelong high quality health.

The project is delivering economic benefits for Werribee and Melbourne by supporting jobs, driving visitation and strengthening Victoria's reputation as a leading destination for environmental tourism.

The expansion was delivered in partnership with Zoos Victoria, Development Victoria, supported by projects including Greater Western Water's recycled water pipeline and the More Trees for a Cooler Greener West.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos

*"We're saving families money and helping create unforgettable memories at the Zoo thanks to our Kids Go Free program."*

*"Only Labor will continue to invest in our zoos so animals thrive and visitors get the best experience anywhere in Australia."*

### Quote attributable to Zoos Victoria CEO Dr Jenny Gray

*"The Elephant Trail has transformed what's possible for elephant welfare in Australia, and to be celebrating new pregnancies just one year on is an extraordinary endorsement of the environment we've created."*