

Media Release

The Hon Harriet Shing MP

Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop

Minister for Housing and Building

Minister for Development Victoria and Precincts



Sunday, 15 February 2026

NEW PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS TO MAKE LIFE EASIER

Labor is making life easier and more affordable for Victorian families through new parks and playgrounds in priority precincts and Train and Tram Activity Centres.

Minister Shing today visited Clarke Reserve Play Space in Elwood to announce \$17 million towards the first round of Pick My Park to build or upgrade 97 parks across Victoria.

The parks and playgrounds are all located in Train and Tram Activity Centres, Priority Precincts including those near the Suburban Rail Loop, and suburbs seeing housing growth in Melbourne, Bendigo, Ballarat and Geelong.

Victorian families told us they want open spaces that connect communities, as well as more free and convenient ways to spend time with their kids – and that’s what we’re delivering.

From new urban pocket parks to improved playgrounds, outdoor fitness equipment and accessibility upgrades Labor is making sure every Victorian has easy access to beautiful green spaces in their community.

Clarke Reserve Play Space will receive a \$250,000 upgrade to play equipment and improving accessibility.

More than 2,000 Victorians submitted ideas and the Labor Government then worked with local councils and land managers to develop the projects.

By 2051, train and tram zones will help deliver more than 300,000 new homes – with final plans for all 50 new centres expected to be completed by the middle of this year.

The Suburban Rail Loop will support the delivery of 70,000 new homes across the six station precincts – helping more young Victorians to find and afford a home within walking distance of transport, jobs, study and open spaces.

Only Labor will deliver the homes and green spaces Victorian families deserve.

The Liberals oppose building more homes young people can afford near trains and jobs.

A full list of recipients is available at planning.vic.gov.au/guides-and-resources.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Development Victoria and Precincts Harriet Shing

“These investments across our growing communities are making life easier, more affordable and more enjoyable, by delivering new parks and playgrounds closer to home.”

“We’ve listened to the community and we’re delivering the parks and playgrounds that families want in some of our fastest growing suburbs.”

“While the Liberals shut millennials out of the housing market and push them to the outer suburbs, we’re making housing more affordable and communities more liveable.”

Quote attributable to Member for Southern Metropolitan Region Ryan Batchelor

“Our growing suburbs deserve great local spaces. These new parks will give families more room to relax, play and spend time together close to home.”

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