



# JAMES MERLINO MP

## STATE MEMBER FOR MONBULK



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### MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 22 January 2020

## NEW PLAYGROUNDS AND SPORTS PAVILION FOR YARRA RANGES

More opportunities to get active are on the way for Yarra Ranges residents thanks to a major new investment from the Andrews Labor Government.

Local Government Minister Adem Somyurek has today announced that four Yarra Ranges projects are among 32 successful projects which will receive funding from the latest round of the Growing Suburbs Fund.

The Fund is delivering \$50 million towards community facilities, enhanced services and greater opportunities in Melbourne's 10 rapidly growing interface councils.

The four Yarra Ranges Shire Council projects receiving a share of \$3.5 million are:

- Belgrave Lake Park – \$600,000 towards an upgrade of the park, including an expanded playground.
- Elizabeth Bridge Reserve – \$700,000 towards the first stage of a major facilities upgrade.
- Mount Evelyn Community Sport and Recreation Pavilion – \$1.9 million towards a new purpose-built multi-purpose complex and community pavilion for Mount Evelyn, supporting the development and growth of female participation in sport.
- Monbulk Recreation Reserve Skate and Scooter Park Upgrade – \$300,000 towards expanding and enhancing the skate park facilities.

This investment takes the total Growing Suburbs Fund commitment to Yarra Ranges Shire Council to \$20.5 million for 19 projects over the last five years.

Across greater Melbourne, the Fund has now supported 193 projects, invested \$250 million and leveraged a combined investment of \$665 million, creating more than 6750 jobs.

A list of all 32 successful projects for 2019-20 and more information on the Growing Suburbs Fund is available at [localgovernment.vic.gov.au/grants](http://localgovernment.vic.gov.au/grants).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Local Government Adem Somyurek

*"The Andrews Labor Government is responding to the needs of growing communities by delivering high-quality facilities in partnership with interface Councils."*

*"We're supporting local councils to deliver the facilities and services people need as their population increases."*

### Quotes attributable to Member for Monbulk James Merlino

*"These projects will deliver numerous benefits to the health and wellbeing of our community. These upgrades will also contribute to the welcoming and inclusive environment of our region by increasing women's and junior participation in local sport."*

*"Our investment will give local clubs the opportunity to expand and increase their membership numbers. This will bring more visitors and spectators to our townships, injecting spending into our local economy."*



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*“Upgrading our play spaces and skate parks is essential in promoting healthy outdoor activity and better connecting our communities.”*

**Quotes attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing**

*“This funding will improve community connectedness, local services and liveability for more families and young people right across Yarra Ranges, as the population grows.”*

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