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# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**29 April 2022**

## **Soccer pavilion kicks goal for community**

MacPherson Park Recreation Reserve could be the training ground for the next Ronaldo, Messi or Sam Kerr with Melton City Council completing a new multipurpose soccer pavilion.

This week, City of Melton Mayor Cr Goran Kesic and Minister for Community Sport the Hon. Ros Spence officially opened the new soccer pavilion which forms part of the MacPherson Park Recreation Reserve redevelopment.

Cr Kesic said projects such as these supported local sporting clubs, connected residents, and improved physical and mental wellbeing, which was especially important as we emerged from the pandemic.

“The importance of these types of community facilities should not be underestimated. They help create social connections and social cohesion, giving people a sense of belonging and purpose,” he said.

“These new facilities replace the existing pavilion, which was no longer fit for purpose, and comprise female friendly change rooms, a kitchen, umpires’ rooms, community social space, first aid and public amenities.

“It was Melton City Council’s objective to achieve a gender equitable, proud, safe and all-inclusive community facility and I am confident that we have accomplished this.

“We will continue to work towards building other inclusive community facilities and creating infrastructure that is well planned, equitable and meets the demands of our growing region.”

The multipurpose soccer pavilion development was a \$3.386 million project funded in partnership with Council (\$2.206 million) and the State Government (\$1.18 million from the Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program).

The MacPherson Park Recreation Reserve redevelopment car park and pedestrian links are currently being constructed.

**ENDS**

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