



MEDIA RELEASE

25 August 2025

Lights on: Navan Park transformed into inviting community space

Recent upgrades to Navan Park in Harkness have transformed the much-loved open space into an inviting, accessible, and sustainable place for the community to gather and enjoy the outdoors.

City of Melton Mayor, Cr Steve Abboushi was joined by Federal Member for Hawke, The Hon. Sam Rae MP, State Member for Melton, Steve McGhie MP, and fellow Councillors last week to officially open the upgraded park.

Improvements include new play equipment for young visitors to explore, shared path connections to enhance access for visitors, and upgraded lighting to help extend the use of the park beyond daylight hours.

Fresh landscaping includes rejuvenated grassed areas, new plants, and inviting natural play elements. Built shade structures and new native trees will ensure plenty of cool, comfortable spaces for visitors to relax, gather, and enjoy the surroundings in the warmer months.

Council contributed \$277,887 towards the project, along with \$875,543 in developer contributions and \$560,297 through the Victorian Government's Growing Suburbs Fund. The Australian Government contributed \$517,613 through its Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program to fund the lighting.

Quotes attributable to City of Melton Mayor Cr Steve Abboushi:

"Navan Park has long been a favourite among locals and visitors, and with this upgrade, we're proud to deliver a district-level park that not only meets the needs of our growing community, but encourages connection, health, and wellbeing in the outdoors."

"The vision behind this project was clear: to strengthen our community's connection to nature, promote healthy and active lifestyles, and provide a safe, high-quality open space for all to enjoy."

"Through the upgrades, we have introduced a range of improvements that make this park more accessible, more sustainable, and more enjoyable than ever."

"This park now stands as a true community destination – a space that reflects the values of inclusivity, sustainability, and wellbeing."

ENDS

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