

# Sporting and Leisure Facilities Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Priorities

## ***Fact Sheet: Thomastown Recreation & Aquatic Centre***

### **Our Municipality**

The City of Whittlesea is located 20km north of Melbourne. It is a large municipality covering an area of 490 square km of both urban and rural land and has a current population of over 134,000. The City includes the suburbs of Bundoora, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Epping, Humevale, Kinglake West, Lalor, Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang, Thomastown and Whittlesea. The City of Whittlesea is a designated growth area and is experiencing a sustained period of rapid urban growth, particularly on the urban fringe. Since 2001 around 16,000 people have moved in to the municipality and over 9,500 extra dwellings have come on line. This growth is predicted to remain strong for the next 25 years or more with a projected increase in our population to 240,000 by 2031.

The municipality faces the distinctive challenges of balancing the dynamics of urban areas, rural areas, rapid growth, social disadvantage and high demand for services. The City has one of the most culturally diverse populations, with over 48% of residents coming from non-English speaking backgrounds. Whittlesea has also the fourth highest population of Indigenous people in metropolitan Melbourne. The City of Whittlesea is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage, ranking the sixth most disadvantaged on the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage and the fourth most disadvantaged on the Index of Education and Occupation.

To accommodate this growth, diversity and high service demand, the City requires practical responses that balance community development, economic growth and environmental wellbeing.

Insufficient resources, because of inappropriate funding formulae, have failed to keep up with population growth resulting in a backlog of community infrastructure renewal and creation within both established and emerging communities. The City provides a range of recreation participation opportunities for residents through the provision of facilities, public infrastructure, programs and services. However, the provision of facilities and infrastructure is not keeping pace with population growth and demand. Increased State Government

investment in social infrastructure is essential to achieve a basic level of service provision.

### **The Need**

The Thomastown Recreation and Aquatic Centre (TRAC) is a well established, community leisure centre in an area of the municipality where many of the residents are economically disadvantaged and/or from non-English speaking backgrounds. Thomastown is amongst the most disadvantaged suburbs in Victoria, ranking in the lowest decile on the SEIFA indices of relative socio-economic Disadvantage and the index of Education and Occupation.

The Centre is part of a precinct, which also includes the Thomastown Library and Community Centre and Main Street Reserve sports oval. A preschool, primary school and secondary school are near by, enhancing the precinct.

TRAC has operated for more than 30 years and Council has identified the need to reconsider the appropriateness of the Centre and its facilities for the community. To this end, consultation with users, members and community groups was conducted through workshops and focus groups.

The centre is undergoing a significant redevelopment to create a modern, new aquatic and community recreation centre with a mix of facilities for people to recreate, learn, improve their health and fitness, and socialise. A key element of the redevelopment is the creation of a physical link between the existing Centre and the Thomastown Library and Community Centre to enhance the site as a community hub.

### **The Proposal**

The space has been designed with the needs of the community in mind as well as to complement and enhance the ongoing precinct planning and partnership opportunities.

The TRAC Outdoor Activities Area will be a versatile, multi-generational activities area that will cater for a broad range of community users.

A beach experience is the overriding theme of the outdoor space which provides spaces for all ages and abilities to interact and experience sporting, water play, socialising, relaxing, and community event opportunities.

A key focus of the outdoor space is a large open beach which can provide outdoor sport and fitness training, play and social opportunities as well as soft fall for a mix of play equipment.

A deck will be a colourful all abilities path attracting patrons into the outdoor space and creating a boundary for the sand area and an clear journey to the various social areas throughout the outdoor space.

Water terraces will provide a unique water experience that complements (rather than replicates) what is being provided indoors.

The play spaces include: a toddlers' area with a mix of climbing, interactive and wet sand opportunities; a larger more challenging climbing rope for older children and sensory garden areas for further play and interaction.

A media screen offers an exciting element that is evolutionary and can be adapted to meet the interest and needs of today's youth as well as future generations.

The screen structure also incorporates a bouldering wall which can be used by everyone for both play and fitness.

Open space and hard court areas allow for informal active and passive recreational and sporting opportunities.

Elements such as seating, BBQs, and shade have been strategically placed throughout the space to create a number of social hubs and to provide sun protection options.

## **Cost**

The development of the outdoor activities area is expected to cost approximately \$1.06M.

The City of Whittlesea has received a \$2.5M grant from the State Government's Community Facility Funding Program 2008/2009 (Aquatic Access/Better Pools) for the full redevelopment of the centre incorporating the outdoor space.

Council will also be seeking financial assistance for the project from the Department of Planning and Community Development's Community Support Fund.

## **State Government Policy Alignment**

### ***A Fairer Victoria:***

#### ***Strategy 5: Providing fairer access to services***

"The Victorian Government will invest \$6.1m to promote fairer access to services and reduce barriers to accessing services"

Strategy 12: Building stronger communities

Action 12.8 Support new community projects

"Continue to provide support for community projects through the Community Support Fund."

"The Community Facility Funding Program contributes to the provision of high quality and accessible community sport and recreation facilities across Victoria."

### ***A Fairer Victoria: Strong People, Strong Communities***

#### ***Priority Area Three: Improving Health and Wellbeing – Reducing health inequalities and promoting wellbeing***

'Much more can be achieved through targeted investments to reduce the unfair burden of disease on disadvantaged Victorians. Tackling the causes of preventable disease by encouraging physical activity ....and the wellbeing and life options of people with a disability are among the important challenges.'

# **Sporting and Leisure Facilities Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Priorities**

## ***Fact Sheet: City of Whittlesea Access for All Abilities (AAA) Playground Development***

### **Our Municipality**

The City of Whittlesea is located 20km north of Melbourne. It is a large municipality covering an area of 490 square km of both urban and rural land and has a current population of over 134,000. The City includes the suburbs of Bundoora, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Epping, Humevale, Kinglake West, Lalor, Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang, Thomastown and Whittlesea. The City of Whittlesea is a designated growth area and is experiencing a sustained period of rapid urban growth, particularly on the urban fringe. Since 2001 around 16,000 people have moved in to the municipality and over 9,500 extra dwellings have come on line. This growth is predicted to remain strong for the next 25 years or more with a projected increase in our population to 240,000 by 2031.

The municipality faces the distinctive challenges of balancing the dynamics of urban areas, rural areas, rapid growth, social disadvantage and high demand for services. The City has one of the most culturally diverse populations, with over 48% of residents coming from non-English speaking backgrounds. Whittlesea has also the fourth highest population of Indigenous people in metropolitan Melbourne. The City of Whittlesea is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage, ranking the sixth most disadvantaged on the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage and the fourth most disadvantaged on the Index of Education and Occupation.

To accommodate this growth, diversity and high service demand, the City requires practical responses that balance community development, economic growth and environmental wellbeing.

Insufficient resources, because of inappropriate funding formulae, have failed to keep up with population growth resulting in a backlog of community infrastructure renewal and creation within both established and emerging communities. The City provides a range of recreation participation opportunities for residents through the provision of facilities, public infrastructure, programs and services. However, the provision of facilities and

infrastructure is not keeping pace with population growth and demand.

Increased State Government investment in social infrastructure is essential to achieve a basic level of service provision.

### **The Need**

A key recommendation of Council All Abilities Play Space Strategy is to provide one municipal AAA play space in the Mill Park/South Morang/Bundoora area.

The City of Whittlesea does not currently have any play equipment specifically designed to be accessible for people with disabilities. Action 1.8.1 of the Disability Action Plan adopted by Council in December 2003 strongly supports the provision of accessible and inclusive playgrounds within the municipality.

The proposal will include an extensive and relevant community consultation process that will influence the design and development of the playground, taking into consideration different levels of play space and design approaches.

### **Cost**

The estimated cost of this project is \$700K.

## State Government Policy Alignment

### ***A Fairer Victoria:***

#### ***Strategy 12: Building stronger communities Action 12.8 Support new community projects***

“Continue to provide support for community projects through the Community Support Fund.”

### ***Growing Victoria Together:***

High quality, accessible health and community services.

“The health of Victorians will improve.”

#### ***Department for Vic. Communities – SRV – Community Facility Funding Program***

“The Community Facility Funding Program contributes to the provision of high quality and accessible community sport and recreation facilities across Victoria.”

# Sporting and Leisure Facilities Neighbourhood Community Priorities

## **Fact Sheet: Laurimar Primary School Synthetic Junior Soccer Pitch**

### **Our Municipality**

The City of Whittlesea is located 20km north of Melbourne. It is a large municipality covering an area of 490 square km of both urban and rural land and has a current population of over 134,000. The City includes the suburbs of Bundoora, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Epping, Humevale, Kinglake West, Lalor, Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang, Thomastown and Whittlesea. The City of Whittlesea is a designated growth area and is experiencing a sustained period of rapid urban growth, particularly on the urban fringe. Since 2001 around 16,000 people have moved in to the municipality and over 9,500 extra dwellings have come on line. This growth is predicted to remain strong for the next 25 years or more with a projected increase in our population to 240,000 by 2031.

The municipality faces the distinctive challenges of balancing the dynamics of urban areas, rural areas, rapid growth, social disadvantage and high demand for services. The City has one of the most culturally diverse populations, with over 48% of residents coming from non-English speaking backgrounds. Whittlesea has also the fourth highest population of Indigenous people in metropolitan Melbourne. The City of Whittlesea is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage, ranking the sixth most disadvantaged on the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage and the fourth most disadvantaged on the Index of Education and Occupation.

To accommodate this growth, diversity and high service demand, the City requires practical responses that balance community development, economic growth and environmental wellbeing.

Insufficient resources, because of inappropriate funding formulae, have failed to keep up with population growth resulting in a backlog of community infrastructure renewal and creation within both established and emerging communities. The City provides a range of recreation participation opportunities for residents through the provision of facilities, public infrastructure, programs and services. However, the provision of facilities and

infrastructure is not keeping pace with population growth and demand.

Increased State Government investment in social infrastructure is essential to achieve a basic level of service provision.

### **The Need**

Laurimar is located in the rapidly developing growth area of Mernda. The Laurimar Estate is currently in second stage development which includes a community and commercial precinct.

The Laurimar Primary School (currently under construction) is situated centrally within the community and commercial precinct and is directly next to the Laurimar Town Park which will consist of 2 Australian Rules Football and Cricket ovals and associated infrastructure.

The School's Master Plan includes a future proposed synthetic soccer pitch which will be used for school sports activities and potential community sport participation during after school hours and weekend periods.

Council will negotiate a shared use agreement and management plan with the Laurimar Primary School to ensure clear roles and responsibilities of all parties are developed and relevant community use is sustained.

### **Cost**

The estimated cost of this project is \$800K.

## State Government Policy Alignment

### ***A Fairer Victoria:***

#### ***Strategy 12: Building stronger communities Action 12.8 Support new community projects***

“Continue to provide support for community projects through the Community Support Fund.”

### ***Growing Victoria Together:***

High quality, accessible health and community services.

“The health of Victorians will improve.”

#### ***Department for Vic. Communities – SRV – Community Facility Funding Program***

“The Community Facility Funding Program contributes to the provision of high quality and accessible community sport and recreation facilities across Victoria.”

# **Sporting and Leisure Facilities Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Priorities**

## ***Fact Sheet: Laurimar Town Park Sports Pavilion Development***

### **Our Municipality**

The City of Whittlesea is located 20km north of Melbourne. It is a large municipality covering an area of 490 square km of both urban and rural land and has a current population of over 134,000. The City includes the suburbs of Bundoora, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Epping, Humevale, Kinglake West, Lalor, Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang, Thomastown and Whittlesea. The City of Whittlesea is a designated growth area and is experiencing a sustained period of rapid urban growth, particularly on the urban fringe. Since 2001 around 16,000 people have moved in to the municipality and over 9,500 extra dwellings have come on line. This growth is predicted to remain strong for the next 25 years or more with a projected increase in our population to 240,000 by 2031.

The municipality faces the distinctive challenges of balancing the dynamics of urban areas, rural areas, rapid growth, social disadvantage and high demand for services. The City has one of the most culturally diverse populations, with over 48% of residents coming from non-English speaking backgrounds. Whittlesea has also the fourth highest population of Indigenous people in metropolitan Melbourne. The City of Whittlesea is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage, ranking the sixth most disadvantaged on the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage and the fourth most disadvantaged on the Index of Education and Occupation.

To accommodate this growth, diversity and high service demand, the City requires practical responses that balance community development, economic growth and environmental wellbeing.

Insufficient resources, because of inappropriate funding formulae, have failed to keep up with population growth resulting in a backlog of community infrastructure renewal and creation within both established and emerging communities.

The City provides a range of recreation participation opportunities for residents through the provision of

facilities, public infrastructure, programs and services.

However, the provision of facilities and infrastructure is not keeping pace with population growth and demand. Increased State Government investment in social infrastructure is essential to achieve a basic level of service provision.

### **The Need**

Laurimar is located in the rapidly developing growth area of Mernda. The Laurimar Estate is currently in second stage development which includes a community and commercial precinct.

The Laurimar Town Park is situated centrally within the community and commercial precinct and is directly next to the Laurimar Primary School (currently under construction).

The Park currently consists of 2 sports ovals with the capacity to cater for Australian Rules Football and Cricket at both senior and junior levels. The ovals were constructed & funded through developer contributions.

To allow the reserve to be utilised to its full potential for organised community sport, a pavilion is necessary for club operations and fundraising purposes.

It is anticipated that an established sports club will be relocated to the facility to further develop and enhance community sports participation, strengthen junior development programs through links with the new primary school, promote a healthy and active lifestyle and ensure success through the sustainability and longevity of existing resources.

Built according to Council's adopted guidelines for the design of sporting pavilions, the scope of the facility will be as follows:

<b>Core Component</b>	<b>Recommended Area Allocation</b>
Change rooms (2)	120m <sup>2</sup>
Change room shower and toilets	60m <sup>2</sup>
Umpires rooms (including shower & toilets)	22m <sup>2</sup>
Public toilets (male, female, accessible – Internal & external)	45m <sup>2</sup>
Social area	50m <sup>2</sup>
Kitchen	30m <sup>2</sup>
Storage (total club storage)	30m <sup>2</sup>
External covered viewing area	200m <sup>2</sup>
Timekeepers/Scorers	10m <sup>2</sup>
Meeting/first aid room	20m <sup>2</sup>
Cleaners Store/Hot Water Units	8m <sup>2</sup>
External bin enclosure	10m <sup>2</sup>
Sealed car parking	Up to 120 spaces

### **Cost**

It is estimated that this project will cost \$3.5M to design and construct.

### **State Government Policy Alignment**

***A Fairer Victoria:  
Strategy 12: Building stronger communities  
Action 12.8 Support new community projects***

“Continue to provide support for community projects through the Community Support Fund”.

***Growing Victoria Together:***

High quality, accessible health and community services.

“The health of Victorians will improve”.

***Department for Vic. Communities – SRV –  
Community Facility Funding Program***

“The Community Facility Funding Program contributes to the provision of high quality and accessible community sport and recreation facilities across Victoria.”

***A Fairer Victoria: Strong People, Strong  
Communities***

***Priority Area Three: Improving Health and  
Wellbeing – Reducing health inequalities and  
promoting wellbeing***

‘Much more can be achieved through targeted investments to reduce the unfair burden of disease on disadvantaged Victorians. Tackling the causes of preventable disease by encouraging physical activity ...and the wellbeing and life options of people with a disability are among the important challenges.’

# **Sporting and Leisure Facilities Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Priorities**

## ***Fact Sheet: Harvest Home Road Sports Ground Lighting***

### **Our Municipality**

The City of Whittlesea is located 20km north of Melbourne. It is a large municipality covering an area of 490 square km of both urban and rural land and has a current population of over 134,000. The City includes the suburbs of Bundoora, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Epping, Humevale, Kinglake West, Lalor, Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang, Thomastown and Whittlesea. The City of Whittlesea is a designated growth area and is experiencing a sustained period of rapid urban growth, particularly on the urban fringe. Since 2001 around 16,000 people have moved in to the municipality and over 9,500 extra dwellings have come on line. This growth is predicted to remain strong for the next 25 years or more with a projected increase in our population to 240,000 by 2031.

The municipality faces the distinctive challenges of balancing the dynamics of urban areas, rural areas, rapid growth, social disadvantage and high demand for services. The City has one of the most culturally diverse populations, with over 48% of residents coming from non-English speaking backgrounds. Whittlesea has also the fourth highest population of Indigenous people in metropolitan Melbourne. The City of Whittlesea is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage, ranking the sixth most disadvantaged on the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage and the fourth most disadvantaged on the Index of Education and Occupation.

To accommodate this growth, diversity and high service demand, the City requires practical responses that balance community development, economic growth and environmental wellbeing.

Insufficient resources, because of inappropriate funding formulae, have failed to keep up with population growth resulting in a backlog of community infrastructure renewal and creation within both established and emerging communities. The City provides a range of recreation participation opportunities for residents through the provision of facilities, public infrastructure, programs and services. However, the provision of facilities and infrastructure is not keeping pace with population growth and demand. Increased State Government

investment in social infrastructure is essential to achieve a basic level of service provision.

### **The Need**

Two turf soccer pitches at Harvest Home Road Epping have been developed to meet the growing demand for soccer facilities within the municipality. To enable the pitches to be fully utilised as a training and competition venue, the provision of sports ground lighting is essential to the operations and use of the club. The Harvest Home facility is a Council managed regional facility. It is a high quality, flexible and relevant facility that caters for a diverse range of soccer activities throughout the municipality at all levels of competition and training.

### **Proposal and Cost**

This project will be undertaken in 2009/10 with an expected cost of approximately \$300,000. The lighting design will meet the Australian Standards for sports ground lighting and incorporate principles for the sustainable use of natural resources while providing much needed infrastructure for a high demand sport in a growth area of the municipality.

## State Government Policy Alignment

### ***A Fairer Victoria:***

#### ***Strategy 12: Building stronger communities***

#### ***Action 12.8 Support new community projects***

“Continue to provide support for community projects through the Community Support Fund”.

### ***Growing Victoria Together:***

High quality, accessible health and community services.

“The health of Victorians will improve.”

### ***Department for Vic. Communities – SRV – Community Facility Funding Program***

“The Community Facility Funding Program contributes to the provision of high quality and accessible community sport and recreation facilities across Victoria.”

# **Sporting and Leisure Facilities Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Priorities**

## ***Fact Sheet: Harvest Home Road Soccer Pavilion Development***

### **Our Municipality**

The City of Whittlesea is located 20km north of Melbourne. It is a large municipality covering an area of 490 square km of both urban and rural land and has a current population of over 134,000. The City includes the suburbs of Bundoora, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Epping, Humevale, Kinglake West, Lalor, Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang, Thomastown and Whittlesea. The City of Whittlesea is a designated growth area and is experiencing a sustained period of rapid urban growth, particularly on the urban fringe. Since 2001 around 16,000 people have moved in to the municipality and over 9,500 extra dwellings have come on line. This growth is predicted to remain strong for the next 25 years or more with a projected increase in our population to 240,000 by 2031.

The municipality faces the distinctive challenges of balancing the dynamics of urban areas, rural areas, rapid growth, social disadvantage and high demand for services. The City has one of the most culturally diverse populations, with over 48% of residents coming from non-English speaking backgrounds. Whittlesea has also the fourth highest population of Indigenous people in metropolitan Melbourne. The City of Whittlesea is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage, ranking the sixth most disadvantaged on the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage and the fourth most disadvantaged on the Index of Education and Occupation.

To accommodate this growth, diversity and high service demand, the City requires practical responses that balance community development, economic growth and environmental wellbeing.

Insufficient resources, because of inappropriate funding formulae, have failed to keep up with population growth resulting in a backlog of community infrastructure renewal and creation within both established and emerging communities.

The City provides a range of recreation participation opportunities for residents through the provision of facilities, public infrastructure, programs and services.

However, the provision of facilities and infrastructure is not keeping pace with population growth and demand. Increased State Government investment in social infrastructure is essential to achieve a basic level of service provision.

### **The Need and Proposal**

Two turf and one synthetic soccer pitches at Harvest Home Road Epping have been developed to meet the growing demand for soccer facilities within the municipality. To enable the pitches to be fully utilised as a training and competition venue, the provision of a sporting pavilion is essential to the operations and use of the club.

The Harvest Home facility is a Council managed regional facility. It is a high quality, flexible and relevant facility that caters for a diverse range of soccer activities throughout the municipality at all levels of competition and training. The design and consequent management of the facility will enable a number of community clubs to conduct training and matches at the same time whilst also allowing the clubs to undertake the important social and fundraising aspects of organised community sports operations.

### **Cost**

It is anticipated that the cost of designing and constructing the pavilion is \$2.5M.

## State Government Policy Alignment

***A Fairer Victoria:  
Strategy 12: Building stronger communities  
Action 12.8 Support new community projects***

“Continue to provide support for community projects through the Community Support Fund”.

***Growing Victoria Together:***

High quality, accessible health and community services.

“The health of Victorians will improve.”

***Department for Vic. Communities – SRV –  
Community Facility Funding Program***

“The Community Facility Funding Program contributes to the provision of high quality and accessible community sport and recreation facilities across Victoria.”

# Sporting and Leisure Facilities Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Priorities

## **Fact Sheet: Sycamore Reserve Sports Field Reconfiguration**

### **Our Municipality**

The City of Whittlesea is located 20km north of Melbourne. It is a large municipality covering an area of 490 square km of both urban and rural land and has a current population of over 134,000. The City includes the suburbs of Bundoora, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Epping, Humevale, Kinglake West, Lalor, Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang, Thomastown and Whittlesea. The City of Whittlesea is a designated growth area and is experiencing a sustained period of rapid urban growth, particularly on the urban fringe. Since 2001 around 16,000 people have moved in to the municipality and over 9,500 extra dwellings have come on line. This growth is predicted to remain strong for the next 25 years or more with a projected increase in our population to 240,000 by 2031.

The municipality faces the distinctive challenges of balancing the dynamics of urban areas, rural areas, rapid growth, social disadvantage and high demand for services. The City has one of the most culturally diverse populations, with over 48% of residents coming from non-English speaking backgrounds. Whittlesea has also the fourth highest population of Indigenous people in metropolitan Melbourne. The City of Whittlesea is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage, ranking the sixth most disadvantaged on the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage and the fourth most disadvantaged on the Index of Education and Occupation.

To accommodate this growth, diversity and high service demand, the City requires practical responses that balance community development, economic growth and environmental wellbeing.

Insufficient resources, because of inappropriate funding formulae, have failed to keep up with population growth resulting in a backlog of community infrastructure renewal and creation within both established and emerging communities. The City provides a range of recreation participation opportunities for residents through the provision of facilities, public infrastructure, programs and services. However, the provision of facilities and

infrastructure is not keeping pace with population growth and demand.

Increased State Government investment in social infrastructure is essential to achieve a basic level of service provision.

### **The Need and Proposal**

The Sycamore Reserve is situated in Mill Park. Council proposes to reconfigure the Sycamore Reserve sports field to cater for changing demands of the local area, more adequately meet the needs of local residents and provide opportunities for increased participation in growing sports. The Sycamore Reserve is a very important parcel of active open space because of its size and potential to cater for a number of simultaneous activities both structured and unstructured. It is imperative that this reserve continues to cater for the changing needs of the community.

The facility has been targeted for upgrade as it no longer caters for the growing and changing needs of users. The upgrade will improve access and opportunities to the community in engaging in recreation and leisure activities, including DDA compliance.

The configuration of the ovals is inadequate to meet the needs of the community. The whole site will be redeveloped to create two cricket and football ovals with the soccer club being relocated to another, more suitable facility.

### **Cost**

\$1.1M is being sought towards the total cost of the project. The timeline for completion is 2010/11.

## **State Government Policy Alignment**

***A Fairer Victoria:  
Strategy 12: Building stronger communities  
Action 12.8 Support new community projects***

“Continue to provide support for community projects through the Community Support Fund”.

***Growing Victoria Together:  
High quality, accessible health and community services***

“The health of Victorians will improve.”

***Department for Vic. Communities – SRV –  
Community Facility Funding Program***

“The Community Facility Funding Program contributes to the provision of high quality and accessible community sport and recreation facilities across Victoria.”

# Sporting and Leisure Facilities Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Priorities

## ***Fact Sheet: Sycamore Reserve BMX Club Pavilion and Toilet Upgrade***

### **Our Municipality**

The City of Whittlesea is located 20km north of Melbourne. It is a large municipality covering an area of 490 square km of both urban and rural land and has a current population of over 134,000. The City includes the suburbs of Bundoora, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Epping, Humevale, Kinglake West, Lalor, Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang, Thomastown and Whittlesea. The City of Whittlesea is a designated growth area and is experiencing a sustained period of rapid urban growth, particularly on the urban fringe. Since 2001 around 16,000 people have moved in to the municipality and over 9,500 extra dwellings have come on line. This growth is predicted to remain strong for the next 25 years or more with a projected increase in our population to 240,000 by 2031.

The municipality faces the distinctive challenges of balancing the dynamics of urban areas, rural areas, rapid growth, social disadvantage and high demand for services. The City has one of the most culturally diverse populations, with over 48% of residents coming from non-English speaking backgrounds. Whittlesea has also the fourth highest population of Indigenous people in metropolitan Melbourne. The City of Whittlesea is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage, ranking the sixth most disadvantaged on the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage and the fourth most disadvantaged on the Index of Education and Occupation.

To accommodate this growth, diversity and high service demand, the City requires practical responses that balance community development, economic growth and environmental wellbeing.

Insufficient resources, because of inappropriate funding formulae, have failed to keep up with population growth resulting in a backlog of community infrastructure renewal and creation within both established and emerging communities. The City provides a range of recreation participation opportunities for residents through the provision of facilities, public infrastructure, programs and services. However, the provision of facilities and

infrastructure is not keeping pace with population growth and demand.

Increased State Government investment in social infrastructure is essential to achieve a basic level of service provision.

### **The Need**

The existing pavilion on the site does not meet the needs of its users. The ongoing provision of a pavilion for the BMX club is regarded as a high priority as the club provides both structured and unstructured community opportunities in an emerging sport. The club regularly holds state and national championship events.

The facility has been targeted for upgrade as it no longer caters for the growing and changing needs of users. The upgrade will improve access and opportunities to the community in engaging in recreation and leisure activities. Upgrading will bring the facilities in line with current day community standards and expectations, including DDA compliance. All works will incorporate measures for:

- Sustainable use of natural resources.
- All abilities access requirements.
- Community safety and security.
- Providing a much needed infrastructure upgrade for an emerging sport that caters for diverse participation, especially juniors and girls in a socially disadvantaged area of the municipality.

### **Proposal and Cost**

\$500K is being sought towards the total cost of the project. Design for this facility will be undertaken in 2008/09 and construction will take place in 2009/10.

**State Government Policy Alignment:**

***A Fairer Victoria:***  
***Strategy 12: Building stronger communities***  
***Action 12.8 Support new community projects***

“Continue to provide support for community projects through the Community Support Fund”.

***Growing Victoria Together:***

High quality, accessible health and community services.

“The health of Victorians will improve.”

# Sporting and Leisure Facilities Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Priorities

## ***Fact Sheet: WA Smith Reserve Sports Fields Reconstruction***

### **Our Municipality**

The City of Whittlesea is located 20km north of Melbourne. It is a large municipality covering an area of 490 square km of both urban and rural land and has a current population of over 134,000. The City includes the suburbs of Bundoora, Donnybrook, Doreen, Eden Park, Epping, Humevale, Kinglake West, Lalor, Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang, Thomastown and Whittlesea. The City of Whittlesea is a designated growth area and is experiencing a sustained period of rapid urban growth, particularly on the urban fringe. Since 2001 around 16,000 people have moved in to the municipality and over 9,500 extra dwellings have come on line. This growth is predicted to remain strong for the next 25 years or more with a projected increase in our population to 240,000 by 2031.

The municipality faces the distinctive challenges of balancing the dynamics of urban areas, rural areas, rapid growth, social disadvantage and high demand for services. The City has one of the most culturally diverse populations, with over 48% of residents coming from non-English speaking backgrounds. Whittlesea has also the fourth highest population of Indigenous people in metropolitan Melbourne. The City of Whittlesea is characterised by pockets of high socio-economic disadvantage, ranking the sixth most disadvantaged on the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage and the fourth most disadvantaged on the Index of Education and Occupation.

To accommodate this growth, diversity and high service demand, the City requires practical responses that balance community development, economic growth and environmental wellbeing.

Insufficient resources, because of inappropriate funding formulae, have failed to keep up with population growth resulting in a backlog of community infrastructure renewal and creation within both established and emerging communities. The City provides a range of recreation participation opportunities for residents through the provision of facilities, public infrastructure, programs and services. However, the provision of facilities and

infrastructure is not keeping pace with population growth and demand.

Increased State Government investment in social infrastructure is essential to achieve a basic level of service provision.

### **The Need**

The facility has been targeted for upgrade as it no longer caters for the growing and changing needs of users. The upgrade will improve access and opportunities to the community in engaging in recreation and leisure activities, including DDA compliance.

Council proposes to reconstruct the WA Smith Reserve sports fields to resolve the overlapping of the two fields and any associated potential risk management issues. Other changes will include upgrading the pavilion, moving the playground to a more suitable location and extending the carpark. The reconstruction project will encourage further development in sports participation and an opportunity to develop a diverse range of formal and informal sport and recreation opportunities at WA Smith Reserve.

### **Cost**

\$800K is being sought towards the total cost of the project. The timeline for completion is 2008/09.

## State Government Policy Alignment

### ***A Fairer Victoria:***

#### ***Strategy 12: Building stronger communities Action 12.8 Support new community projects***

“Continue to provide support for community projects through the Community Support Fund.”

### ***Growing Victoria Together:***

High quality, accessible health and community services.

“The health of Victorians will improve.”

#### ***Department for Vic. Communities – SRV – Community Facility Funding Program***

“The Community Facility Funding Program contributes to the provision of high quality and accessible community sport and recreation facilities across Victoria.”