

Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
Minister for Suburban Development



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

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NEW PICNIC UPGRADES AND MASTERPLAN FOR PLENTY GORGE

The Andrews Labor Government has released the final Plenty Gorge Park Master Plan, along with an \$800,000 investment to upgrade the Hawkstowe Picnic Area.

Minister for Environment and Member for Mill Park Lily D'Ambrosio today launched the plan, which will strengthen access and connections throughout the park.

The Hawkstowe Picnic Area is a key visitor site in the park's west. The upgrade will provide easy access to a family-friendly setting suitable for community events and leisure activities.

Key initiatives in the plan include:

- A new park entrance at Hawkstowe
- Completion of the 21-kilometre Plenty River Trail
- Development of a mountain bike trail plan
- Improvement of Nioka Bush Camp
- Establishment of a habitat management strategy

Located 20 kilometres north of Melbourne, Plenty Gorge Park extends 11 kilometres along Plenty River from Mernda to Bundoora.

Developed in consultation with Traditional Owners, visitors and residents, the plan will improve recreational opportunities for the area's rapidly growing population.

The final master plan will also ensure Plenty Gorge Park protects the environmental and cultural values for future generations to enjoy.

The final master plan also recognises the enduring connection of the Wurundjeri people to the area and focuses on the recognition of cultural sites.

To view the final plan, visit engage.vic.gov.au/plenty-gorge-park-draft-master-plan.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio

"Melbourne's north is one of Victoria's fastest growing areas – it's important that we have green open spaces like Plenty Gorge to escape and unwind."

"These upgrades and the masterplan will ensure residents and visitors can continue to enjoy Plenty Gorge in the years to come."