

Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP

Minister for Energy, the Environment and Climate Change
Minister for Solar Homes



Wednesday, 9 September 2020

DELIVERING THE DIAMOND CREEK TRAIL EXTENSION

Residents of Melbourne's north eastern suburbs can look forward to enjoying extended cycling and walking trails thanks to \$5 million from the Victorian Government that will create local jobs and boost the economy.

Nillumbik Shire Council will be allocated the funds to construct an additional 5.3 kilometres of trails under stage 2 of the Diamond Creek Trail Extension, bringing the Government's total investment to \$9.1 million.

Stage 2, which will create 100 new jobs over the next 12 months, will extend the existing trail from Wattle Glen to Hurstbridge, creating a continuation of the trail from Diamond Creek all the way to Hurstbridge. It will also include the construction of six new bridges as part of the trail alignment to Hurstbridge.

The addition of the new section to Hurstbridge will result in a continuous 55 kilometre trail all the way to Melbourne's CBD via the Main Yarra Trail.

It will include a concrete shared path for walking, running and cycling, and a natural surface trail for horse riders.

Stage 1 of the \$14.5 million project is already underway with the construction of a 2.1 kilometre shared pathway from Diamond Creek to Wattle Glen. Stage 2 is scheduled to start later this year.

The funding is part of the \$154 million *Suburban Parks Program* with \$10 million set aside for the Northern Metropolitan Trails Program to provide targeted investment for new cycling and walking trails in the northern suburbs of Melbourne.

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

"Now more than ever we realise the value of fresh air, exercise and open space, and these extended trails will provide locals and visitors with even more opportunities to do just that."

"This project is not only a win for those who love the great outdoors – it means local jobs at a time when they are needed most."

Quote attributable to Member for Yan Yean Danielle Green

"Having a continuous trail all the way from the city to Hurstbridge will provide valuable walking and riding trails for our community to enjoy and when it's safe, bring visitors to our fabulous towns and grow local jobs."