

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 19 January 2023

WESTERN SYDNEY TO BENEFIT FROM A HUGE RANGE OF LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Communities in north western Sydney will reap the rewards from local infrastructure projects including new pools, parks, sports fields, cycling and walking tracks funded through the NSW Government's \$5 billion WestInvest program.

Premier Dominic Perrottet and Treasurer Matt Kean today announced funding for local councils and community groups in Hawkesbury, The Hills and Blacktown to deliver 21 transformational WestInvest projects that will change the face of Western Sydney and help secure a brighter future for local communities.

The projects are the first to be announced through the \$1.6 billion WestInvest Community Project Grants – Competitive Round, with further successful projects to be announced in the coming weeks.

Hawkesbury City Council were successful in securing \$75.4 million for five major projects which are:

- upgrades to two swimming centres:
 - \$30.3 million redevelopment of Richmond Swimming Centre to include indoor and outdoor aquatic space, splash feature park, increased shade areas and picnic facilities
 - \$6.7 million Oasis Aquatic and Leisure Centre Improvements, including children's splash park, shallow depth pool, solar heating plant, climbing wall facility, covered deck connecting change rooms to the café outdoor area, extended child-minding area including soft fall, additional carparking, outdoor gym and water harvesting tanks onsite
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- \$4.7 million for Hawkesbury City Council to deliver a new Cycleway Bridge over Rickabys Creek in Windsor to complete a continuous path of travel for cyclists and pedestrians between Richmond and Windsor town centres
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Other big winners include:

- \$5 million Autism Spectrum Australia new autism specific primary school in Box Hill
- \$1.6 million Scout Association of Australia NSW new scout hall at Kurrajong, camping amenities, carpark upgrade, landscaping, tree lighting and tree planting

"Never before have community projects of this value and volume been provided to Hawkesbury and it's all because of the NSW Liberal/National Government's strong financial management. Hawkesbury's project dreams will now become a reality which," Ms Preston said.

Mr Perrottet said the projects funded will change the face of the Western Sydney community.

"This is all thanks to the \$5 billion WestInvest program is made possible by the Government's successful WestConnex asset recycling strategy," Mr Perrotett said.

"Our strong economic record has enabled long term commitments to Western Sydney.

"WestInvest is delivering three projects in Mount Druitt that form part of broader revamp of the area including a new aquatic centre, a first nations centre and a community youth centre to the value of more than \$85 million."

Mr Kean said while Western Sydney is already an incredible place to live, the WestInvest projects announced today will deliver new and improved facilities, more open spaces and help connect communities for generations to come.

"These WestInvest projects vary in size and scale, offer something for everyone and provide the opportunity to learn, gather, exercise, support each other and connect communities," Mr Kean said.

"These community facilities will improve liveability across our suburbs and I'm looking forward to seeing shovels in the ground as these projects come to life."

More than 680 applicants submitted a WestInvest application to the value of more than \$7.9 billion. The successful projects were announced after a comprehensive assessment process outlined in the WestInvest Community Project Grant Guidelines. All unsuccessful applicants will be offered a 1:1 feedback session.

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