

## Over the past few years we've been delivering a \$18.5M project at Olympic Park in Heidelberg West.

The project is transforming the precinct, upgrading sporting, recreational and leisure facilities for local residents, clubs and the wider community.

Originally we planned for this project to be finished beyond 2030, but it's getting done faster than we expected thanks to some great advocacy work between Council and the Heidelberg United Football Club.

### So far we've completed:

- A state-of-the-art soccer ground (National Premier League standard) and upgraded utilities
- A new synthetic mini-roofs soccer pitch
- Expanded and redeveloped 211 space carpark
- New playground and community spaces
- 1956 Memorial Olympic Garden
- Acrylic futsal/basketball area
- Refurbishment of Barrbunin Beek (a gathering space for local Aboriginal people)
- More landscaping and paths
- Reconstruction of the northern cricket pitch and practice nets
- New public art that re-imagines the Olympic Rings.

### In April we'll also open:

- South Oval – which includes 1 sports field, of 2 soccer pitches (NPL) and a cricket pitch
- North Oval – which includes 1 sports field including 1 community soccer pitch and cricket pitch
- The slip lane entrance from Southern Road.

In early 2025, we'll start construction on a new community pavilion. The construction of the pavilion will commence in early 2025 and will be completed in early 2026. The ovals will remain open for use during construction.



## FAQs

Answers to your questions...

### Will community be able to access the ovals?

Yes. Like all sports grounds in Banyule, the community will be able to use the ovals when they're not being used by the sporting clubs.

The times the sports clubs have access to the ovals will be available once we've finished our winter sports ground allocations. This schedule will be available at the Community Information Session on 23 April (see other side for details).

The main pitch has been built to a National Premier League standard and is used more regularly by the Heidelberg United Football Club – therefore community use will be more limited.

### How is this project being funded?

This \$18.5M project has been made possible by an \$8M contribution from the Victorian Government.

To date, Council has spent \$6M on the project. A further \$4.5M is allocated to the project over the next two years in our draft Capital Works Budget to complete the pavilion development.

### Why is the project being completed early?

The original masterplan indicated a 10 – 15 year construction plan.

We've been able to get these works done faster as Council and the Heidelberg United Football Club's advocacy work secured \$8M in funding support from the Victorian Government. This was a great win for our community and all the users of the park.

### Why were the temporary construction fences taken down? Why are the gates locked now?

Recently the temporary fencing was removed around the ovals in preparation for a handover from the contractor to Council.

Unfortunately, we found defects with the turf that need to be fixed first. Once it's fixed, the ovals will open for everyone.

Until then, the gates are closed so the contractor can get it to the standard our community and sporting clubs deserve. We believe the contractor will have the issues rectified and the ovals opened by the start of April.

## Are dogs allowed on the North and South ovals?

Yes. Dogs will be allowed on the North and South Ovals.

Owners must take responsibility for their dog by cleaning up their waste and making sure they don't dig up the grounds.

Council is currently consulting on its Public Order, which relates to cats and dogs in public spaces. A discussion paper will be available from Friday 21 March for comment on Shaping Banyule. Have your say at: [shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/pets](https://shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/pets)

## Are there going to be dog waste bins on site? How many, and how often will they be emptied?

There are general waste bins around Olympic Park, which include dog waste bag dispensers. These bins are scheduled to be emptied on Mondays and Fridays.

In general, dog waste bins are under review across the municipality. Pet owners must carry their own dog waste bags and dispose of the waste in a public waste bin or their rubbish bin.

## Will the main pitch lighting be turned off? Are there automatic timers?

Council has a policy that requires the lights to be off by 9pm on weekdays when they're being used for training. Clubs need permission from Council to operate the lights beyond 9pm on weekdays and on weekends for competitions. Council will investigate the status of the automatic timers on the main pitch.

## Will there be more news about the Olympic park in the Banyule Banner?

Yes, there will be more news about the park across Council's communications channels after the ovals have opened and the concept designs for the pavilion have been announced.

## Can AFL goal posts be installed?

At this stage there are no plans to install Australian Football League style posts.

## When will the cricket club be back?

The cricket club are currently playing from Shelly Reserve. They'll be back when the pavilion is finished, which is expected in early 2026.

## What's happening with the new pavilion?

A new pavilion for Olympic Park will sit between the two ovals. Construction will start in early 2025, take approximately 12 months to complete. The ovals will remain open for use during construction.

The concept designs for the pavilion will be shared at an upcoming Community Information Session on 23 April.

## What is the arrangement between Council and Heidelberg United Football Club (HUFC)?

Council works with all sporting clubs across Banyule to give them spaces to play. We grant the use of playing space through our seasonal allocation process.

The same process applies with HUFC. We will allocate space for them to play based on number of teams, training schedules and competition. The allocation will detail how the space is used and shared between the community and cricket club. The agreement will be presented at the Community Information Session.

## There are traffic issues in the carpark, including speeding. What's being done about this?

Council expects these issues to reduce when Olympic Park is fully completed and operational. Traffic will have an easier flow out of the park when the slip lane and entry from Southern Road is opened in April 2024, which will cause less people to drive around in a loop. Council can monitor for issues and look at options for management interventions if traffic issues persist.

## What are the security cameras for?

The temporary security cameras have been installed to assist with project management. They will be removed from site once the oval works are completed.

## Is any sound proofing being considered for residents?

There are no plans to soundproof resident's homes. However, Council works with sports clubs to ensure they keep noise to reasonable levels and will respond to noise complaints.

## What is being doing about the vandalism and motorbikes?

Unfortunately, motorbikes are an issue at many of our sports facilities – if you see them (or any vandalism occurring), please call 000 or Council on 9490 4222.

## Community Info Session

See the community pavilion designs and ask questions.

**When:** Tuesday 23 April

**Where:** Barrbunin Beek (located inside Olympic Park)

**Time:** 7.30pm – 8.30pm

Bookings not required.

## Learn more

Stay up to date on this project at [shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/olympicpark](https://shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/olympicpark)



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## Thanks Victorian Government!

We'd like to thank and acknowledge the Victorian Government for their generous \$8M contribution to this \$18.5M project.

Thanks to their support, this project will be finished several years earlier than planned.

