The Growing Suburbs Fund is a contribution towards meeting critical local infrastructure needs for communities in Melbourne’s diverse and fast-growing outer suburbs. It is positioned to quickly respond to the pressures being experienced by interface communities by bringing forward local infrastructure projects that will make a big difference in the day-to-day lives of outer suburban families.

The City of Melton is located approximately 40 kilometres west of central Melbourne and is considered one of the fastest growing interface councils. In 2017, the City of Melton had a growth rate of 5 per cent compared with the national average growth of 1.6 per cent. It is anticipated that Melton’s population will more than double between 2017 and 2041. Strong residential growth is expected to continue, with a number of new suburbs such as Aintree, Fraser Rise and Hillside currently under development.

**ARNOLDS CREEK PLAYSPACE**

**Claret Ash Boulevard, Harkness VIC 3337**

**Project Description:** The Growing Suburbs Fund will help the City of Melton deliver an exciting all ages, all abilities playspace at Arnolds Creek Recreation Reserve, located at the newly gazetted suburbs of Harkness. This much needed infrastructure will provide a space for local residents to meet, play and connect with nature.

The Arnolds Creek Playspace project will include:
- Neighbourhood scale playspace and natural play elements nestled in a planted forest setting.
- Picnic shelter with BBQ and other picnic nodes
- Multiple seating points with natural and artificial shades
- A network of adjoining paths
- Kick about space.

Expected completion: Late June 2019

Total Project Cost: $600,000

Growing Suburbs Fund: $300,000

Other Contribution:
- City of Melton $300,000

Other project in the City of Melton to receive funding from the 2017-18 Growing Suburbs Fund:
- Aintree Community Hub ($1,000,000)
- Allenby Road Reserve Upgrade ($300,000)
- Bill Cahill Reserve Upgrade ($300,000)
- Fraser Rise Community Hub ($1,600,000)
- Hannah Watts Park Upgrade ($600,000)
- MacPherson Park Redevelopment ($2,000,000)
- Melton Central Community Centre Redevelopment ($2,000,000)

Growing Suburbs Fund contributes to a mix of infrastructure projects that have a direct benefit to communities living in the outer suburbs.

Figure 1: Arnolds Creek Playspace – Concept Design
(Source: City of Melton)

You can find out about other Growing Suburbs Fund Projects at localgovernment.vic.gov.au/gsf

For more information regarding these projects contact Local Infrastructure, DELWP.
Email: gsf@delwp.vic.gov.au or phone: 9948 8536

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