Whittlesea City Council is located about 20 km north of the Melbourne Central Business District. The southern parts of the city are established urban areas and current residential developments are extending towards the north of the municipality.

Whittlesea City Council is home to an ethnically diverse community, with more than half of the residents from non-English speaking backgrounds. In 2018, the population of Whittlesea City Council grew 3.5 per cent compared with the national average of 1.6 per cent. The population is projected to grow by 63.2 percent from around 223,300 in 2018, to about 364,500 in 2036\(^1\).

The Growing Suburbs Fund will assist Whittlesea City Council to redevelop the Norris Bank Reserve Western Precinct to form a multi-use youth space providing modern social amenities, and social and physical interaction opportunities.

The project will include:
- An upgraded main entrance pathway and a circulation path network to provide broader connection to the reserve
- A seating deck and performance space for small groups and impromptu events
- Bleacher seating inclusive of inset LED programmable lighting
- Multi use furniture and interactive lighting displays
- An irrigated north facing grass embankment
- A central irrigated passive recreation area
- A eucalyptus and banksia garden
- A youth space shelter inclusive of Wifi and speakers
- A central multi-use basketball court

**Expected date of commencement:** December 2021  
**Expected date of completion:** May 2022

**Total Project Cost:** $1,200,000  
**Growing Suburbs Fund:** $600,000  
**Other contributions:**  
- Whittlesea City Council: $600,000

---

\(^1\) Victoria in the Future, 2019
The other projects in Whittlesea City Council to receive funding from the Growing Suburbs Fund 2020-21 Round 2 are:

- Kelynack Recreation Reserve Play Space and Multi Play Area Redevelopment ($675,000)
- Whittlesea Public Gardens Skate Park and Urban Zone ($650,000)
- Mernda Adventure Park Public Amenity ($150,000)
- Redleaf Recreation Reserve Upgrade ($525,000)


For more information regarding these projects contact the GSF team at [gsf@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:gsf@ecodev.vic.gov.au)

Authorised by the Hon Shaun Leane MP, Minister for Local Government and Suburban Development

Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions
1 Spring Street Melbourne Victoria 3000
Telephone (03) 9651 9999
© Copyright State of Victoria, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions 2019

Except for any logos, emblems, trademarks, artwork and photography this document is made available under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia license.

This document is also available in an accessible format at [djpr.vic.gov.au](http://djpr.vic.gov.au)