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 and peri-urban communities by bringing forward local infrastructure projects that will make a big difference in the day-to-day lives of outer suburban families.

**Whittlesea City Council**

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

**REDLEAP RECREATION RESERVE UPGRADE**

Redleap Reserve Mill Park 3082

The Growing Suburbs Fund will assist Whittlesea City Council to upgrade the Redleap Recreation Reserve creating a Municipal level play space, picnic area and hardcourt area to provide a range of physical challenges for toddlers through to teens and to ensure better accessibility, visibility, safety and connection to community.

The project will include:

- A play space area inclusive of a senior rope play unit, junior unit, flying fox, and swings
- A nature play trail inclusive of an exploration trail, rock and log steppers, nature cubbies and dry creek bed
- Upgraded and secondary picnic shelters inclusive of accessible public furniture and BBQ
- A basketball half court area with interchangeable netball and basketball ring
- Terraced and informal seating areas
- DDA accessible path networks through the reserve
- Passive recreation areas and irrigated landscaping

**Expected date of commencement:** January 2022  
**Expected date of completion:** June 2022

**Total Project Cost:** $1,170,000  
**Growing Suburbs Fund:** $525,000  
**Other contributions:**  
- Whittlesea City Council: $645,000

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)
- Norris Bank Reserve West Precinct ($600,000)
- Mernda Adventure Park Public Amenity ($150,000)
- Quarry Hills Regional Park – Connecting Trails ($322,000)


For more information regarding these projects contact the GSF team at gsf@ecodev.vic.gov.au

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

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