

YARRA BEND WARD UPDATE

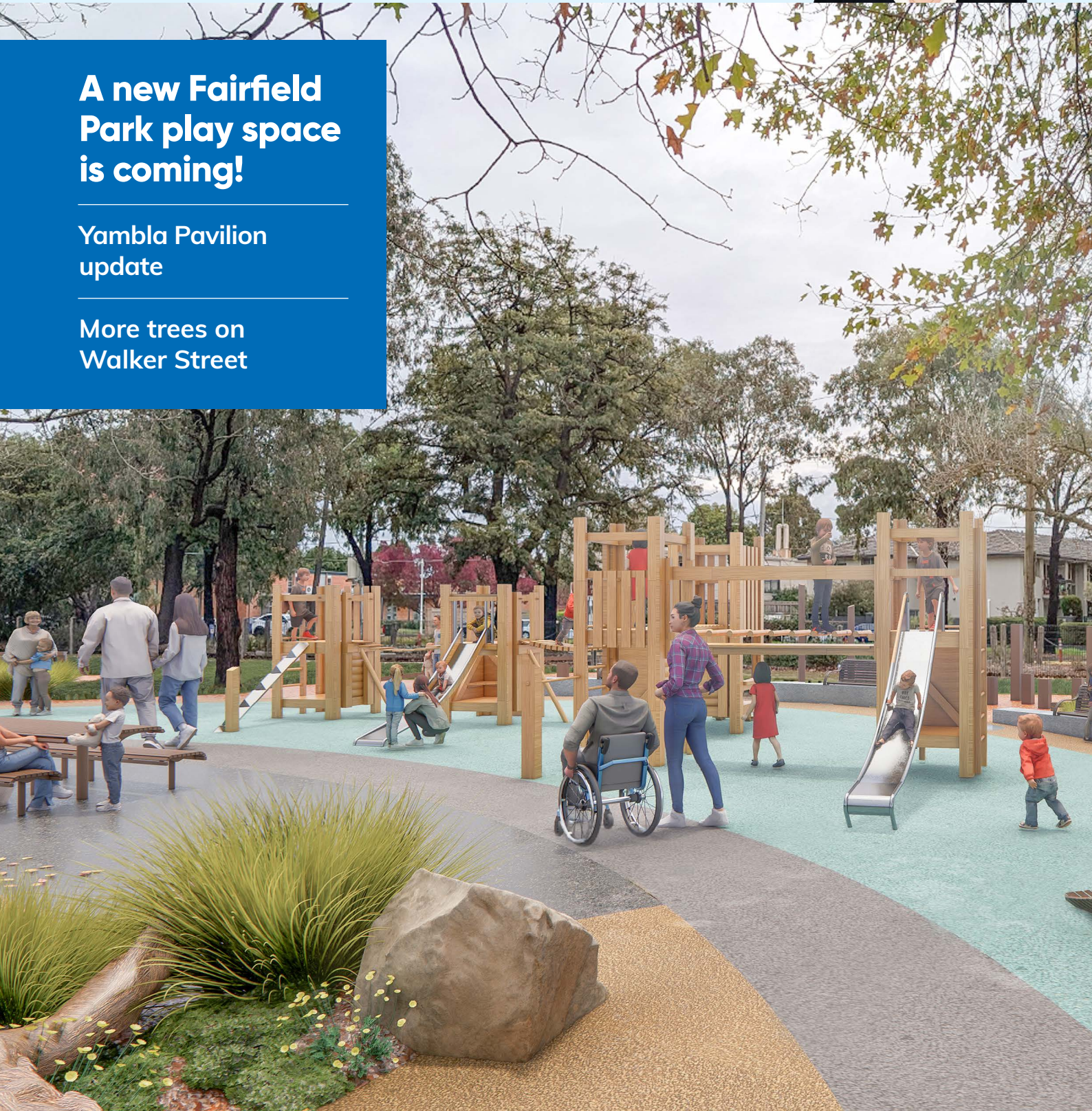
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A new Fairfield Park play space is coming!

Yambla Pavilion update

More trees on Walker Street



YARRA BEND WARD UPDATE |

Clifton Hill and parts of
Fairfield and Alphington

It's shaping up to be a big year in Yarra Bend Ward, with several long-awaited projects moving from plans to reality. Major upgrades to Collingwood Leisure Centre are at the top of the list as we take the centre off gas to cut emissions and improve comfort and amenities for everyone who uses it. Late last year, the pool hall received snazzy new double-glazed windows to reduce energy loss and improve user comfort. I'm also looking forward to the installation of the new Yambla Pavilion, the start of works on the new play space at Fairfield Park, and smaller but important upgrades at Alphington Park and George Knott Reserve.

Alongside these physical improvements, I've been working closely with the community to protect our local community health services. Last year, cohealth's announcement of service closures and the proposed sale of the Collingwood site prompted a strong community response. People organised, spoke out, and stood together to defend the services our community built and relies on. We've secured some important early wins, but there is still more work to do, and I remain committed to seeing this through.

Lastly, this January marks 150 years since Collingwood was proclaimed a city, making it the fourth in Victoria. Our area has changed a lot since then but its history lives on through the work of the Collingwood Historical Society and the many current and former residents who can trace their families back to this time. You can still spot old City of Collingwood signs tucked away in local laneways. Good old Collingwood forever!

Cr Sarah McKenzie | Yarra Bend Ward

Advocacy priorities for Yarra Bend Ward

Our adopted Advocacy Roadmap is shaping our requests to the State and Federal governments. Read more on pages 4 and 5.

The Roadmap calls on the Victorian Government to provide capital funding to help us upgrade the Alphington Bowls Club, build more kindergartens, and enhance a range of sporting facilities for our growing population. It is also important that the State Government act to protect our unique live music industry.

We are also asking the Federal and Victorian governments to work with cohealth to reverse its decision to axe its Collingwood clinic and reduce GP, pharmacy and counselling services in Fitzroy, which will affect the communities that need them most.

Our new Fairfield Park play space

We are excited that construction is set to begin this month for our new play space at Fairfield Park.

The playspace will be completely rebuilt with new play equipment and play elements for a variety of age groups and abilities. Some of the features of the new playground include:

- A tree top walk with raised platforms, a variety of bridges, slides, firefighters' poles, a rotating disc, and a game of pairs
- Horizontal bars, balance beams, an in-ground trampoline, and a climbing stack
- A swing set including accessible and baby units

We're pleased that all existing trees at the park will be retained and protected, and new garden



beds and planting will be introduced to enhance biodiversity and strengthen connections to the adjacent bushlands.

Aside from the new playground, the play space will have facilities including a drinking fountain, waste bins, bicycle racks and signage, along with benches, picnic tables and a sheltered barbeque area.

Construction of the new playspace is likely to be completed by late May or early June.

Our new bin baskets are here!

We've made it easier for you to recycle on the go and have attached 20 baskets to key outdoor bins in Yarra.

The baskets are designed to keep recyclables out of landfill and support Victoria's container deposit scheme. You can place cans, bottles and cartons in the baskets and give other people the chance to earn 10 cents for each item they return to a collection point.

The baskets have been placed across all nine wards in Yarra — in **Yarra Bend Ward**, you can find them attached to bins at **Fairfield Park**.

For the full list of locations, scan the QR code to find your nearest park or search 'Baskets' at yarracity.vic.gov.au



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Yambla Pavilion update

We're continuing work on delivering the new Yambla Pavilion at Quarries Park, which is expected to be operational in mid-2026.

The new building was constructed off site last year, however soil issues have required additional works to be completed before its installation.

We've recently been undertaking piling works to prepare for the delivery of the building and creating a new footpath with a pram-accessible entry on Yambla Street leading to the new pavilion.



Bathroom upgrades at Walker Street Kindergarten

Students at Walker Street Kindergarten in Clifton Hill have some fantastic new bathrooms, which were upgraded in October.

The works included new toilet doors, a mirror, sinks, tapware, mirror, tiles and flooring. The cost of works was \$30,000.



Alphington Park public toilet and signage upgrades

We've invested \$21,000 to improve the public toilets at Alphington Park, with new partitions installed that are designed to discourage graffiti. We've also updated signage in the park to include 'no dogs' signs at the entrances to Alphington Wetlands, and related information on other signs in the park. This forms part of our work to protect the wetlands, an area of significant biodiversity.



Tree planting on Walker Street, Clifton Hill

We've planted 10 new trees in centre median strip garden beds along Walker Street in Clifton Hill. These plantings help to diversify Yarra's urban forest and increase canopy coverage around the City, reducing urban heat and enhancing biodiversity. The new trees have been placed in garden beds with larger combined soil volumes to support healthy growth and long-term resilience. They also support the existing established trees on the centre median strip.



More bollards at George Knott Reserve

We've installed seven new bollards near the shared path at George Knott Reserve in Clifton Hill. These are designed to prevent dangerous and illegal parking which had been occurring next to the path.



Better windows at the Collingwood Leisure Centre

Our efforts to make Collingwood Leisure Centre a more energy-efficient and comfortable facility have taken a step forward with the installation of tinted double-glazed windows in the pool hall. We replaced eight bays of the long louvre windows at a cost of \$24,000. The new windows have many benefits: they prevent air transfer through leaking louvres, improve customer comfort and help save on energy costs.



Scan the QR code to find out what's happening across Yarra with our online Capital Works Map at yarracity.vic.gov.au/capitalworks