

Dominic Perrottet

Premier

Matt Kean
Treasurer
Minister for Energy



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WESTERN SYDNEY TO BENEFIT FROM A HUGE RANGE OF LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Communities in north western Sydney will reap the rewards from local infrastructure projects including new pools, parks, sports fields, cycling and walking tracks funded through the NSW Government's \$5 billion WestInvest program.

Premier Dominic Perrottet and Treasurer Matt Kean today announced funding for local councils and community groups in Blacktown, Hawkesbury and The Hills to deliver 21 transformational WestInvest projects that will change the face of Western Sydney and help secure a brighter future for local communities.

The projects are the first to be announced through the \$1.6 billion WestInvest Community Project Grants – Competitive Round, with further successful projects to be announced in the coming weeks.

The 21 projects, worth more than \$400 million, include:

- Four new and upgraded swimming centres in Blacktown and Hawkesbury LGAs to provide residents with a heat refuge in the summer months and a place for exercise and relaxation all year round, including:
 - \$40.6 million for the Blacktown City Council for the Mount Druitt Swimming Centre Renewal project
 - \$77.2 million for the for the Blacktown City Council to deliver the Blacktown Aquatic Centre Masterplan project
 - \$30.3 million for the Hawkesbury City Council to deliver the redevelopment of Richmond Swimming Centre project
 - \$6.7 million for the Hawkesbury City Council to deliver the Oasis Aquatic and Leisure Centre Improvements project
- \$25.4 million for Blacktown City Council for the PCYC Mount Druitt Police and Community Youth Centre a first-class sporting and community hub to support at-risk youth through education, training and mentoring
- \$19.5 million for Blacktown City Council for a new First Nation's Cultural Centre in Mount Druitt, the heart of one of Australia's largest communities of First Nations people, to strengthen connections to Country

- Funding for community groups including \$44 million for the YMCA NSW and \$1.6 million for the Scout Association of Australia NSW to build community facilities that provide exciting programs for young people and families
- \$4.7 million for Hawkesbury City Council to deliver a new Cycleway Bridge over Rickabys Creek in Windsor to complete a continuous path of travel for cyclists and pedestrians between Richmond and Windsor town centres
- \$5 million in funding for Autism Spectrum Australia towards a brand-new, two storey autism specific primary school in the Box Hill education precinct to support students who struggle to attend a mainstream or other special needs school due to their disability
- \$23.9 million for Hawkesbury City Council to help deliver the North Richmond Community Precinct with a library, indoor sports stadium and performing arts studios to act as a meeting and cultural space, social and recreational hub, and much-needed fitfor-purpose emergency evacuation centre
- Funding for new playgrounds and open spaces including more than \$600,000 for the Hills Community Aid and Information Services to deliver the Balcombe Heights Estate Centenary Sensory Garden which will provide an inclusive space for relaxation and passive recreation for all ages and abilities, including people with special needs
- \$4.6 million for Hills Shire Council to deliver The Castle Hill Showground Pedestrian Bridge project to construct a new pedestrian and cycling bridge crossing Showground Road from Castle Hill Showground to Fred Caterson Reserve

Mr Perrottet said the projects funded will change the face of the Western Sydney community.

"This is all thanks to the \$5 billion WestInvest program is made possible by the Government's successful WestConnex asset recycling strategy," Mr Perrotett said.

"Our strong economic record has enabled long term commitments to Western Sydney.

"WestInvest is delivering three projects in Mount Druitt that form part of broader revamp of the area including a new aquatic centre, a first nations centre and a community youth centre to the value of more than \$85 million."

Mr Kean said while Western Sydney is already an incredible place to live, the WestInvest projects announced today will deliver new and improved facilities, more open spaces and help connect communities for generations to come.

"These WestInvest projects vary in size and scale, offer something for everyone and provide the opportunity to learn, gather, exercise, support each other and connect communities," Mr Kean said.

"These community facilities will improve liveability across our suburbs and I'm looking forward to seeing shovels in the ground as these projects come to life."

More than 680 applicants submitted a WestInvest application to the value of more than \$7.9 billion. The successful projects were announced after a comprehensive assessment process outlined in the WestInvest Community Project Grant Guidelines. All unsuccessful applicants will be offered a 1:1 feedback session.

The projects announced today are in addition to the 68 projects announced by the NSW Government late last year through the WestInvest Community Project Grants – Local Government Allocation that allocated more than \$400 million to 15 eligible local councils to deliver transformational infrastructure projects.

<u>Click here</u> to view images of some of the successful projects that will be delivered in the Blacktown LGA as part of the WestInvest Community Competitive Round.

To find out more about WestInvest visit www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/westinvest

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