

SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE - SIGNIFICANT FUNDING BOOST FOR CAMDEN'S INFRASTRUCTURE

FROM: The Mayor

EDMS #: 24/383442

I am delighted to share with you a recent funding allocation Camden Council has secured, ensuring the ongoing development and enhancement of our community's infrastructure and amenities.

Council has been successful in applying for funding of \$518,650 (excl. GST) from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program (MGP) for the delivery of the Foothills Bike Park as an extension to the Learn-to-Ride Facility at The Crest, Gledswood Hills.

Council made an application to fund the design and implementation of a district-level bicycle facility at The Crest in Gledswood Hills named the Foothills Bike Park. The focus of the application was on the delivery of walking tracks and recreational/bicycle trails, including an entry-level mountain bike facility that will build upon the existing planned learn-to-ride facility in Gledswood Hills. The application was based on The Crest Draft Masterplan – Stage 1 that Council adopted on 12 December 2023.

The unfunded facilities in the remainder of the Stage 1 masterplan formed the basis of the application, which was centred around the idea of creating a bike destination within Camden, including the delivery of an entry-level mountain bike experience and skills trail. It will integrate with the learn-to-ride facility targeting young people who have graduated from the existing site experiences and will provide increasingly challenging and technical trails.

A condition of the grant secured under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program is that Council must provide a matched contribution of \$518,650 (excl. GST). The matched contribution can be sourced through Council's Developer Contributions Reserve.

These funding allocations and projects highlight our commitment to improving Camden's infrastructure, environment and community wellbeing. I extend my congratulations and thanks to everyone involved in securing these funds and I thank the State Government for its support. I look forward to seeing the positive impact these projects will have on our community.

RECOMMENDED**That Council:**

- i. note the information;**
- ii. accept the grant funding of \$518,650 (excl. GST) from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program for the Foothills Bike Park;**
- iii. adopt a project allocation increase of \$1,037,300 (excl. GST) to The Crest, Gledswood Hills, including \$518,650 (excl. GST) which is to be sourced through the Developer Contributions Reserve;**
- iv. write to The Hon. Paul Scully, MP Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, thanking him for the grant; and**
- v. write to Mrs Sally Quinnell MP, Member for Camden, thanking her for her support.**