

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP
Minister for Environment
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



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HUGE BOOST FOR BENDIGO STADIUM AND SHOWGROUNDS

The Allan Labor Government is upgrading two of Bendigo's most popular sporting and events facilities, and the search is now on to appoint the right builder for major redevelopments at Bendigo Stadium and Bendigo Showgrounds.

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos today announced the opening of the tender process for the two venues, creating employment and economic opportunities across the region.

Bendigo Stadium is set for a major transformation, with a new two-court annex, upgrades to two existing courts, utility works including a solar installation, new lighting for the outdoor netball courts, and carpark and accessibility works.

The Sky Lounge, inside Bendigo Stadium, will also receive a minor upgrade – making it an even better venue to host events and functions.

Upgrades to the Bendigo Showgrounds include the construction of a new multipurpose pavilion, alongside a redeveloped arena and upgrades to entrances and fencing, enhancing the showgrounds' reputation as a prime venue for community, cultural, and agricultural events.

These upgrades in Bendigo are part of the Labor Government's Regional Sports Infrastructure Program, which is supporting 16 projects across the state. Among them is the redevelopment of the iconic Bendigo Bowls Club and Bendigo Croquet Club, including upgrades to their fields of play and lawn bowls pavilion.

The *Regional Sports Infrastructure Program* is part of the Labor Government's record \$45 billion investment since 2014 to help communities build the projects that matter to them, attract more visitors, and support local businesses to grow.

Quote attributable to Premier and Member for Bendigo East Jacinta Allan

"Local sporting clubs are the heart and soul of regional communities like Bendigo. These upgrades will not only attract more sporting stars to Bendigo but support busy families and their kids to play and enjoy world class facilities."

Quote attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos

"We're making sure Bendigo has world class facilities that everyone can be proud of – now and in the future."

"These exciting projects will bring friends, families and the Bendigo community together for sport, entertainment and recreation – and will help to attract even more events to the area, with those benefits flowing into the community."

Quote attributable to Member for Bendigo West Maree Edwards

"These upgrades are a game-changer for Bendigo, creating local jobs and boosting our region's economy while delivering first-class facilities for our sporting and events communities and making a top destination for major events and community activities."

Media contact: Lloyd Skinner 0457 138 806 | lloyd.skinner@minstaff.vic.gov.au