

# Media Release

The Hon Colin Brooks MP  
Minister for Development Victoria  
Minister for Precincts  
Minister for Creative Industries



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## REDEVELOPMENT BEGINS AT FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS

The Allan Labor Government is ushering in a new era for the creative communities of Melbourne's west with work kicking off the transformation of Footscray Community Arts.

Parliamentary Secretary for Creative Industries and Member for Footscray Katie Hall recently kicked off the \$8.7 million redevelopment of the outdoor space of the iconic creative and cultural hub.

Celebrating 50 years in 2024, the redevelopment of the Footscray Community Arts includes a new multi-use, outdoor performance space with year-round weather protection and improved disability and mobility access.

Landscaping works and new planting will also take place, as well as the integration of artwork by Yorta Yorta, Wurundjeri and Wiradjuri visual artist, Moorina Bonini.

Once complete, Footscray Community Arts will be able to host outdoor music events, cultural ceremonies, performances, talks and workshops – with a focus on community-led programming for the diverse communities who call Footscray home.

The redevelopment has been designed by MGS Architects and Simone Bliss Landscape Architects, with leadership from Footscray Community Arts' Indigenous Advisory Group who have worked closely with the teams to embed First Peoples culture into the design and landscape.

The redevelopment is being delivered by Footscray Community Arts with an \$8.7 million contribution from the Labor Government, funded through the *Victorian Budget 2022/23* as part of the \$17.5 million *Creative Infrastructure Program*, which also includes funding the Castlemaine Art Museum, Theatre Works, the National Theatre, the City of Dandenong and City of Wyndham.

The Footscray Community Arts redevelopment is yet another Labor Government backed project currently underway in Melbourne's west – including one of the state's largest ever health infrastructure projects, the \$1.5 billion Footscray Hospital, and the Westgate Tunnel Project which will transform travel to and from the west.

The redevelopment is expected to be completed and open to the public in late 2025.

For more information about Footscray Community Arts visit [footscrayarts.com/](https://footscrayarts.com/)

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Creative Industries Colin Brooks

*"Footscray Community Arts has a 50-year history of putting on inclusive and inspirational creative and cultural experiences for people of all ages, backgrounds and walks of life – right in the heart of Melbourne's West."*

*"This redevelopment will mean Footscray Community Arts can host outdoor shows all year round, with increased accessibility for artists and audiences – and with First Peoples' culture embedded into the design."*

### Quotes attributable to Parliamentary Secretary for Creative Industries and Member for Footscray Katie Hall

*"This exciting redevelopment will cement Footscray Community Arts as a vital hub for creativity and culture in Melbourne's west, offering more space for our diverse community to come together, share stories, and showcase talent."*

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*“With improved accessibility and beautiful new spaces, we’re ensuring this iconic centre remains welcoming and inspiring for all who visit.”*

**Quotes attributable to Artistic Director and CEO, Footscray Community Arts, Daniel Santangeli**

*“As Melbourne’s west grows so is Footscray Community Arts. This architecturally designed outdoor performance space will allow us continue our 50 year legacy of supporting communities to connect through creativity.”*