



NEW SOUTH WALES

NEWS RELEASE

The Hon. Kristina Keneally MP

Member for Heffron

Minister for Planning

Minister for Redfern Waterloo

Friday 12 December 2008

SYDNEY'S PARKS TO RECEIVE \$2.4 MILLION SHOT IN THE ARM

Popular recreational areas across Sydney will receive new picnic facilities, playground equipment and designated walking and bike paths as part of a NSW Government initiative announced today.

Minister for Planning Kristina Keneally said the 2008 Metropolitan Greenspace Program (MGP) will deliver \$2.4 million for 28 local council projects across Sydney aimed at enhancing outdoor areas for Sydney residents to enjoy.

"The MGP is about providing Sydney residents more opportunities to enjoy a healthy, active lifestyle," Ms Keneally said.

"Sydney has a beautiful natural environment that should be supported with facilities for Sydneysiders to get out and use on a regular basis."

Ms Keneally said each grant will be matched dollar-for-dollar by local councils and will hopefully act as a catalyst for further commercial investment into the upgrade of local recreational areas.

"This funding will see more running, picnic and cycling areas available across Sydney," Ms Keneally said

"I hope that residents embrace these improvements by getting out and using the facilities as much as they can."

Ms Keneally said The MGP has delivered over \$25 million in funding for 420 local council projects since 1989 and is one of the NSW Government's key long-term strategies for meeting the community's recreational needs.

Member for Miranda, Barry Collier is pleased Sutherland Shire Council will receive two grants worth up to \$450,000 for the upgrade of facilities near Cronulla Park.

"Cronulla Park is a popular place to picnic, exercise and socialise for local residents particularly as it is so close to Cronulla Beach," Mr Collier said.

"I am pleased that \$400,000 has been allocated for new picnic facilities, playground equipment, signage, vegetation preservation and pathways for walkers and cyclists.

"A further \$56,250 has also been given to Sutherland Shire Council to improve 400m of the very popular Cronulla coastal walkway between Perryman Place and Cronulla Park.



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“Funding has been granted for a disabled access ramp at the northern end of the walkway and the Cronulla rock pool and the construction of a retaining wall to create spaces for planting and new signage.

“These sorts of projects make a big difference to local communities. They help beautify local spaces as well as encourage more local residents to get out, get active and enjoy what Sydney has to offer,” Mr Collier said.

Examples of 2008 Metropolitan Greenspace Program funding projects

- \$400,000 to Sutherland Shire Council for the upgrade of picnic, walking, cycling facilities at Cronulla Park including new playground equipment, signage, vegetation preservation and pathways
- \$320,000 to Warringah Council to enhance 2.6 kilometres of trail along Narrabeen Lake, regenerate bushland and improve safety, amenity and recreational areas
- \$238,000 to Canterbury City Council improvements to the Cooks River foreshore and Gough Whitlam Park
- \$120,000 to Holroyd City Council for an upgrade and modification of an Adventure Playground at Holroyd Gardens Park
- \$100,000 to Gosford City Council to link reserves, parks and open space at Caroline Bay and enable a natural heritage survey of the area’s indigenous and cultural values
- \$85,000 to Penrith City Council to upgrade 1.4 kilometres of the Great River Walk along the Nepean River, improve signage, provide access to a playground and plant new vegetation
- \$41 000 to Burwood City Council for the installation of environmentally friendly solar powered lighting along the Cooks River Trail.

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