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Joint media release

Exciting partnership to transform Upper Stony Creek

- **Upper Stony Creek in Sunshine North to be transformed into vibrant community space with walking paths, wetlands and a revegetated creek bed**
- **\$12.97 million investment will rehabilitate a 1.2 kilometre section of Upper Stony Creek, focussed on the creek area between Furlong Road and Gilmour Road**
- **Works will commence in early 2017 and are expected to be complete mid-2018.**

Upper Stony Creek in Sunshine North will be rehabilitated with an urban forestry project set to create a haven for wildlife as well as a valuable public open space.

Minister for Regional Development Fiona Nash said the Coalition Government is investing \$5.47 million toward the project through the *National Stronger Regions Fund*.

"I aim to help build the kinds of communities our children and grandchildren want to either stay in or come back to, and a natural setting along a rehabilitated creek helps do that," Minister Nash said.

"This project will improve the health of the creek, encourage wildlife and create a place for locals to walk, cycle, play or relax."

The transformation is being funded by the Coalition Government (\$5.47 million), Victorian Government (\$2 million), Greenfleet (\$4.1 million), City West Water (\$400,000) and Melbourne Water Corporation (\$1 million).

Brimbank City Council is overseeing the project and will maintain the site once the project is complete.

Places Victoria will tender and manage construction for the project.

Melbourne Water's Integrated Planning General Manager Chris Williams said he was proud to be working with project partners to deliver enhanced liveability for residents around Upper Stony Creek.

"This project will transform the existing concrete drainage channel back to a natural state with walking paths, wetlands and a revegetated creek bed and surrounds, creating a great open space for people to enjoy," Mr Williams said.

Greenfleet Chief Executive Officer Wayne Wescott said urban forestry projects such as the Upper Stony Creek in Sunshine North would help to cool the city, which is a key step in climate action that would have multiple benefits for the rest of the century.

“We are working on a practical approach to engage the community with this project and demonstrate how everyone can take real, tangible climate action,” Mr Wescott said.

The project recently won the Excellence in Strategic or Master Planning Award at the Stormwater Victoria Awards for Excellence in 2016.

Media Enquiries

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