

Park to Pier

Martin ★
FOLEY MP

**State Member for
Albert Park**

Updates of my work in our local community

Dear Friend,

Representing the best community in Victoria for the past 15 years has been a great honour.

Over that time, we have delivered new schools, better community facilities, given new life to our creative and cultural communities and turned back the worst of the terrible planning decisions of other governments in Fishermans Bend.

Our investments in public transport, in climate action and sustainable energy have led the country. Supporting our diverse communities to be proud as to who they are regardless of gender, sexuality, race or colour has transformed Victoria for the better.

After supporting our public health and hospitals through the almost three years of the Covid-19 global pandemic, we look to rebuild our health system with record investment in health services and health professionals - our nurses, doctors, allied health and other workers.

With all this in mind and a strong vision for the future in place, I have made the decision to not recontest for the seat of Albert Park at the November State Election.

I thank our local community for all your contributions and making our part of Victoria the best, the fairest and the most creative and liveable part of our State.

I will continue to work every day between now and the State Election to make sure the Andrews Labor Government continues to deliver for all Victorians.

Best wishes,



Martin Foley
State Member for Albert Park

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Want more frequent updates? Follow me on social media to keep up with my work in Albert Park and the Victorian Parliament. Scan here!



Park to Pier September 2022

Power Saving Bonus

The \$250 Power Saving Bonus is now **available to every Victorian household**, as part of the Andrews Labor Government's \$250 million investment in driving down the cost of living across the state.

This payment provides immediate financial relief for those struggling to pay their power bills – while also helping Victorians find a better energy deal.

Big power companies rely on people not having the time, information or knowledge to save money. But we know better deals are out there – and we're helping Victorian families find them.

Applying for the Power Saving Bonus is easy. Head to the Victorian Energy Compare Website at www.compare.energy.vic.gov.au (or scan the QR code below) with your electricity bill handy.

If you require any assistance in applying for the payment, please don't hesitate to contact my office, or better yet drop by and my team and I will assist.



Education Update

The Andrews Labor Government is making kinder free for three and four-year-olds, saving families up to \$2,500 per child every year at participating services, and delivering immediate relief to household budgets.

To help every child reach their full potential - we're also introducing a play-based year of learning called 'Pre-Prep', so that no child is left behind.

With this investment we'll make life easier for Albert Park families, and give every Victorian child the best start in life. Find out more at www.vic.gov.au/kinder or scan the QR code.



I join with community, colleagues, families and supporters of quality early learning in welcoming the City of Port Phillip's backflip on its decision to sell off its early childhood services.

I congratulate the community on their hard work and commitment to the fight to retain these services.

In more education news, **11 schools in our community will share in over \$1.32 million in funding this year to make their schools more inclusive for all students.** This new funding support is ongoing and is in addition to support already provided through the current Program for Students with Disabilities.

This is the biggest change in disability support in our schools that Victoria has ever seen. It will make a difference in classrooms and to kids across Albert Park and Victoria, to ensure every student at every ability can thrive at school and in life.



Climate Action

Our call to install solar on available rooftops around the Albert Park Lake has been answered by the Andrews Labor Government. With \$1.6 million allocated to invest in solar we take a big step towards our net zero target whilst actively supporting our local sporting clubs within Albert Park Reserve.

By switching on the sun **we can cut power bills, reduce carbon emissions, and create jobs** in a renewable future for all Victorians.

Meanwhile, our local schools are embracing solar energy as a pathway to achieving carbon neutrality. As recipients of solar by way of the Greener Government School Buildings Program, Albert Park College and Albert Park Primary School are now a big step closer to joining Albert Park Preschool as certified carbon neutral.

Supporting Our Local Creatives

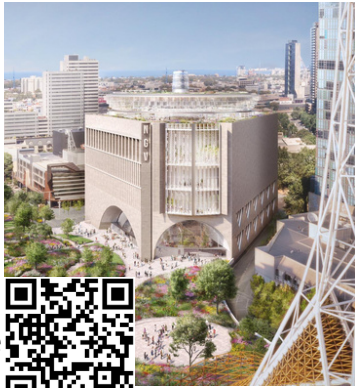
We're backing our arts organisations and giving our performers and creatives great spaces to work and perform in.

Locally, that means we will provide \$1.1 million to upgrade Theatre Works in St Kilda, so this creative hub can keep putting on the shows we love to see, all while supporting jobs for Victorians. We're also investing \$300,000 towards critical repairs to the amazing, 101-year-old, National Theatre in culturally vibrant St Kilda, one of Australia's oldest working theatres, replacing the decaying hand-pressed metal canopy.

We've also launched Victoria's biggest celebration of live music, ALWAYS LIVE. This diverse and extensive program will attract fans to travel right across the state and will deliver a massive boost to tourism and business across Victoria.

Early works on the Melbourne Arts Precinct

Transformation project started in July and are progressing well. Our \$1.7 billion investment in this project will transform Melbourne's creative precinct — delivering more space for art and performances, improving all-abilities access and delivering a brand new public gallery, NGV Contemporary. This is Australia's largest cultural infrastructure project, and it's right here in Southbank. To find out more, visit www.artsprecinct.melbourne or scan the QR code.



Youth Arts Precinct

With a \$27.86 million investment by the Andrews Labor Government, this piece of industrial land at Gasworks Art Park in Albert Park is about to be transformed into a youth arts precinct.

A new state-of-the-art performance and rehearsal space will be built for students from Albert Park College and the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School to be shared with the wider community.

We have great inner-city schools and we're investing in facilities that reflect the hard work and commitment of teachers and staff, and enable students to reach their full potential. Scan the QR code to watch a short video about this exciting project.



Free Nursing & Midwifery Courses

The Andrews Labor Government has announced **a plan to recruit and train 17,000 nurses and midwives.**

This will mean anyone starting study in nursing or midwifery next year will be able to do it for free.

We'll offer full scholarships for any Victorian starting a Bachelor of Nursing or Bachelor of Midwifery, provided they take up work in a public health service once they're qualified. We're also providing scholarships for enrolled nurses to become registered nurses, and scholarships for nurses to re-enter the workforce.

Every health system in the country is under enormous pressure due to the pandemic. The best thing we can do to support our hardworking staff is give them more support on the ground.



Sick Pay Guarantee

No one should be forced to choose between a day's pay or their health, which is why the Andrews Labor Government has introduced the Sick Pay Guarantee.

Victorian casual and contract workers in hospitality, retail, supermarkets, aged and disability care, cleaning and security can now apply for 38 hours a year of sick and carer's pay.

To find out more or sign up for the Sick Pay Guarantee, visit www.vic.gov.au/sick-pay-guarantee or scan the QR code below.

This is an Australian first - and **a win for Victorian workers.**



Sign up here



Our Renewable Future

Our climate is changing so we are targeting a net zero Victoria — which means acting now to pursue a carbon neutral Albert Park electorate.

Solar Victoria is helping us get there with a whole range of programs open for application now. If you haven't visited the Solar Victoria website lately, now is a great time to do it. Scan the QR code or head to: www.solar.vic.gov.au.

From solar for homes, rentals and businesses, to incentives for batteries, EVs, and heating & cooling, there's a range of different programs all designed to help us take better care of our planet and each other.



LGBTIQ+ Equality

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to achieving equality for LGBTIQ+ Victorians, and standing alongside queer, transgender and gender diverse Victorians.

We are providing funding for an **LGBTIQ+ Legal Service** located in the Victorian Pride Centre to provide specialist legal services to LGBTIQ+ Victorians who experience discrimination and disadvantage associated with their sexuality or gender identity.

We're also investing \$3 Million for a new **LGBTIQ+ Homelessness Support Service** to assist LGBTIQ+ people who face challenges accessing housing, including young people.

This will help prevent and address homelessness by supporting services to improve the safety of LGBTIQ+ people and strengthen connections between the specialist homelessness service system and LGBTIQ+ support services.

We are also **hosting a massive summer street party** as part of a statewide celebration of LGBTIQ+ communities. This free celebration will feature live performances from artists and showcase LGBTIQ+ arts and culture.

In Victoria, equality is not negotiable – and we are proud to be supporting LGBTIQ+ people.



Get in touch

If you need any assistance with a state matter, please don't hesitate to get in touch with my office by phone or email. You can also drop by the office between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

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