



## All-Abilities Playground

### Glenroy

#### **Our ask:**

Invest \$2 million to provide an All-Abilities Playground at Sewell Reserve, Glenroy.

An All-Abilities Playground at Sewell Reserve in Glenroy will expand Council's recent renewal of the existing play space into a regionally significant all abilities destination, supporting inclusive play, improving access for children and carers with disability, and strengthening Glenroy's role as a community hub.

Inclusive playgrounds deliver community, health and social benefits. Accessible design supports participation by children with diverse physical, intellectual, neurological and sensory needs, while also improving usability for parents, carers and grandparents. All-Abilities Playgrounds also provide a welcoming space for integrated play between disabled and non-disabled children, helping reduce barriers to participation and supporting stronger community cohesion.

An All-Abilities Playground aligns with the Victorian Government's *State Disability Plan 2022–2026* aim to create inclusive communities, including creating more inclusive parks.<sup>20</sup> They remove physical and social barriers, ensuring children of all abilities can play, socialise, and develop alongside their peers.

All-Abilities playgrounds can include a range of different features that make the playground accessible to children with different disabilities. These can include:

- Wider spaces and ramps to give access to wheelchairs and other mobility devices.
- Sensory play equipment such as the Little Tikes Braille Panel or Beat Blocks.
- Swings designed to accommodate larger children.
- Wheelchair-accessible trampolines, sandpits and swings.
- Modified slides with ramps for additional support and modified climbing frames for blind/partially sighted children.

- Soft surfaces, appropriate luminance and colour contrasts, textured surfaces to explore with touch, auditory features to make sounds and noises
- Cosy nooks and quieter zones

### **Sewell Reserve**

Sewell Reserve is an established community destination in Glenroy and is home to a range of community facilities including a play space, sporting oval and pavilion, netball courts, a skate park, outdoor gym equipment, a shelter, circuit paths and open space. As a multi-use reserve, it is well suited to expanded inclusive play infrastructure.

Sewell Reserve can accommodate access and parking facilities for families from Merri-bek and surrounding areas.

Merri-bek City Council has recently invested \$837,000 in the renewal of the existing play space. Victorian Government funding will enable delivery of an expanded play space to include a dedicated 'all abilities' area and fully accessible amenities.