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Better parks, better shopping centres and more community involvement in looking after our city

A re-elected ACT Labor team will invest \$21.6 million in a major program of upgrades to our parks, playgrounds and neighbourhood shopping centres and to Civic's shopping precinct around the Sydney and Melbourne Buildings.

Minister for Territory and Municipal Services John Hargreaves and Minister for Planning Andrew Barr made the announcement today.

"A re-elected ACT Labor team will invest in a major program of upgrades to our amenities, creating greater opportunities for Canberra families to get out and enjoy our fantastic city," Mr Hargreaves said.

"Right across the ACT, dozens of parks, playgrounds and shops will benefit from these upgrades, which will build on the substantial works already undertaken by ACT Labor."

ACT Labor will invest \$8.1 million to improve town and district parks:

- Tuggeranong District Park will get an outdoor performance venue at a cost of \$200,000, new pedestrian and cycle paths and covered play equipment. The carpark, BBQ and picnic areas will be upgraded.
- Black Mountain Peninsula District Park will get new pedestrian and cycle paths and new covered play equipment that caters for children with a disability. The carparks, BBQ area and lookout point will be upgraded and more trees will be planted in Nara Grove.
- Eddison Park will get new pedestrian paths, a play and BBQ area and a bridge connection over the pond.
- Weston Park Yarralumla will get new pedestrian and cycle paths and new covered play equipment. The carpark, BBQ and picnic areas will be upgraded.
- Haig Park will get new outdoor furniture, additional trees and upgrades to the landscaping, BBQs and public toilets.

Mr Barr said ACT Labor is committed to ensuring Canberrans have more choice and benefit from more competition in retail, particularly in the supermarket sector.

"ACT Labor has already committed that if re-elected we will deliver new master plans to ensure the communities of Dickson and Kingston have better access to supermarkets and retail, transport, housing and parking," Mr Barr said. "Today, Labor commits to continuing our program of upgrades to Canberra's neighbourhood shopping centres."

Media release

ACT Labor will invest \$11.5 million over the next term to deliver shopping centre upgrades at:

- Griffith
- Lyons
- Red Hill
- Farrer
- Banks
- Waramanga
- Cook
- Scullin
- Lyneham
- Charnwood (local)
- Theodore
- Chapman
- Torrens

The pavement and street furniture around the Sydney and Melbourne Buildings will also be upgraded as a cost of \$2 million per year.

“These upgrades will add to the work already done by ACT Labor to upgrade shopping centres at Melba, Garran and Ainslie, and the consultation we have undertaken in relation to Deakin Shopping Centre,” Mr Hargreaves said.

“A re-elected ACT Labor team will create a new online community feedback service for Canberrans to report problems such as graffiti, potholes, broken paving and street lighting.

“*Fix My Street* will be a simple, one-stop point for the community to alert the government about municipal problems in their neighbourhood.

“ACT Labor’s responsible economic management has put the ACT’s finances on a sustainable footing allowing Labor to make this commitment to upgrade our parks and shopping centres and to give Canberrans more control over how their city is run. Only Labor has the experience, stability and record of responsible financial management to ensure Canberra remains the best city in Australia in which to live,” Mr Hargreaves said.

Statement Ends

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