

ESSENDON COMMUNITY NEWS – Around the Electorate

AUTUMN UPDATE - ISSUE 1 - MAY 2015

FROM DANNY:

Welcome to my first community update. I am very proud of the Government’s achievements in these first five months in office. The Essendon electorate has benefited from some significant announcements during this period, namely the end of the East-West Link, the reinstatement of the Strathmore Secondary College zone and we have prevented the overdevelopment of the Moonee Valley Racecourse.



During these first five months, I have had the privilege of meeting with many individual constituents, school leaders, community groups and local businesses. This electorate is very diverse in its needs. However, the one thing that unifies us is our commitment to building a better community, and I look forward to playing my part in achieving this goal over the next four years.

I am always interested in hearing from constituents and take my role in representing and supporting you very seriously. Please contact my office to discuss your concerns or ideas so that I can be an effective and strong voice for you in Spring Street.



East-West Link



Union Road Community Hub



**Minister for Education
Horn of Africa**



Moonee Valley Racecourse development



Strathmore Secondary College zoning

Melbourne Metro

Wingate Community Centre

Flemington Housing Estate

Ambulance Crisis

Rebuilding Strathmore Primary School

Caroline Chisholm Society

Safer cycling

ESSENDON

- The Government has finalised negotiations to stop the East-West Link. This is a great result for our community and means that more money will now be available to proceed with Melbourne Metro.
- The Andrew's Government has secured the future of the Caroline Chisholm Society. The State Government has given \$950,000 to help fund the building of a community services hub to support pregnant women and parents with young children. The Society will now be able to build this important resource in partnership with the City of Moonee Valley. Congratulations to Ms Helen Cooney, CEO of the Caroline Chisholm Society for leading a grassroots community campaign to obtain this funding.



No East-West Link



No East-West Link

ASCOT VALE

- Attended the opening of the Union Road Community Hub. The Hub is a fantastic facility run by the Wingate Community Centre, which provides education classes for residents of Ascot Vale as well as employment pathways for students.
- The Wingate Community Centre has generously hosted me on several occasions including my visit to the Foodbank as well as at the Moonee Valley Legal Service. It's great to be able to support these organisations and their valuable contribution to our electorate.



Union Rd community hub



Wingate Avenue Volunteers

FLEMINGTON TRAVANCORE

- I've had the great privilege of hosting the Minister for Education, James Merlino in our Electorate. The Minister and I have visited Mt Alexander College and Debney Meadows Primary School. I want to work closely with all schools in our electorate to assist them in achieving the very best for their students.
- Flemington Community leaders from the Horn of Africa and I have met with Minister Wade Noonan and Superintendent Mick Hermans to discuss how the community can work together with Victoria Police. It is fantastic to have everyone working together to achieve harmony in our community.
- I have spent time at the Flemington Housing Estate inspecting the walk-up flats. Public Housing provides vital social and physical infrastructure to disadvantaged members of our community. I will work hard to improve the quality of these dwellings to make a difference to the lives of the residents on the estate.
- VicRoads accepted my invitation to inspect the bike lanes at the intersection of Flemington Street and Mt Alexander Road. Safety is vital, and I am concerned about the interaction between cars and bikes at this intersection. Recently, VicRoads, Flemington Primary School, City of Moonee Valley, Royal Children's Hospital, and Bicycle Network came together to discuss options for making Mt. Alexander Road safer for cyclist. It was a great discussion that produced some tangible follow up actions.



James Merlino



Horn of Africa with Wade Noonan



Cyclist Safety

MOONEE PONDS

- The State Government has introduced planning controls that restrict the development of the Moonee Valley Racecourse. Mandatory heights have been imposed, and the development will be guided by the integrated transport plan that the Racecourse will be required to produce in conjunction with the City of Moonee Valley, Public Transport Victoria and VicRoads. In addition, the development will need to provide community facilities including at least 5000sq meters of open space, child care, kindergarten and maternal and child health rooms.
- There was a public forum on 23 April to discuss the ambulance crisis. The Department of Health and Human Services provided a presentation on the ambulance services in Moonee Valley. The ambulance response time in Moonee Valley averaged 9.58 minutes in 2008-2009. By 2013-2014 the average was 12.26 minutes. In 2008-2009, Code 1 ambulances arrived within 15 minutes in 92.78% of cases. However by 2013-2014 this response time had plummeted to 80.39% of cases. Minutes save lives, and we must do better for the sake of our community and our hard-working paramedics.



Racecourse development



Ambulance crisis

STRATHMORE STRATHMORE HEIGHTS

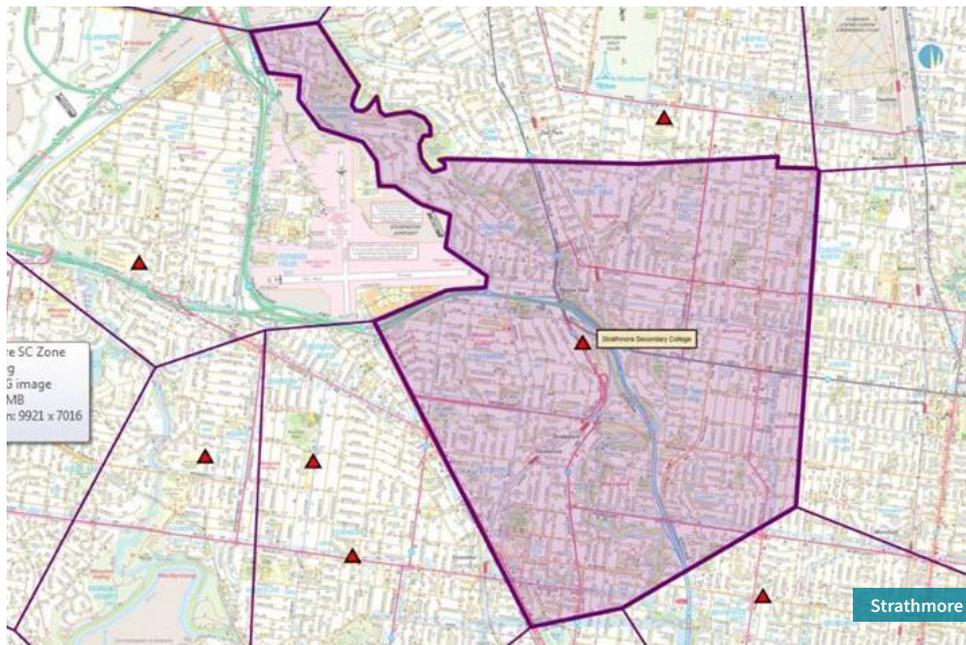
- The local community in Strathmore has had a fantastic win with the reinstatement of the Strathmore Secondary College zone. Year Seven students commencing in 2016 who live in Strathmore Heights or the Bulla Road Strip will now be allowed to attend Strathmore Secondary College.
- The Andrew's Government has delivered on its promise to fund the rebuild of Strathmore Primary School. Strathmore Primary School will receive \$5.7 million to rebuild administration facilities and to refurbish classrooms and staff areas. I am delighted to see Strathmore Primary School receiving funding for vital improvements which will ensure that children in the electorate have access to high-quality schools regardless of their background and where they live.



Strathmore High re-zoning



Strathmore primary re-build

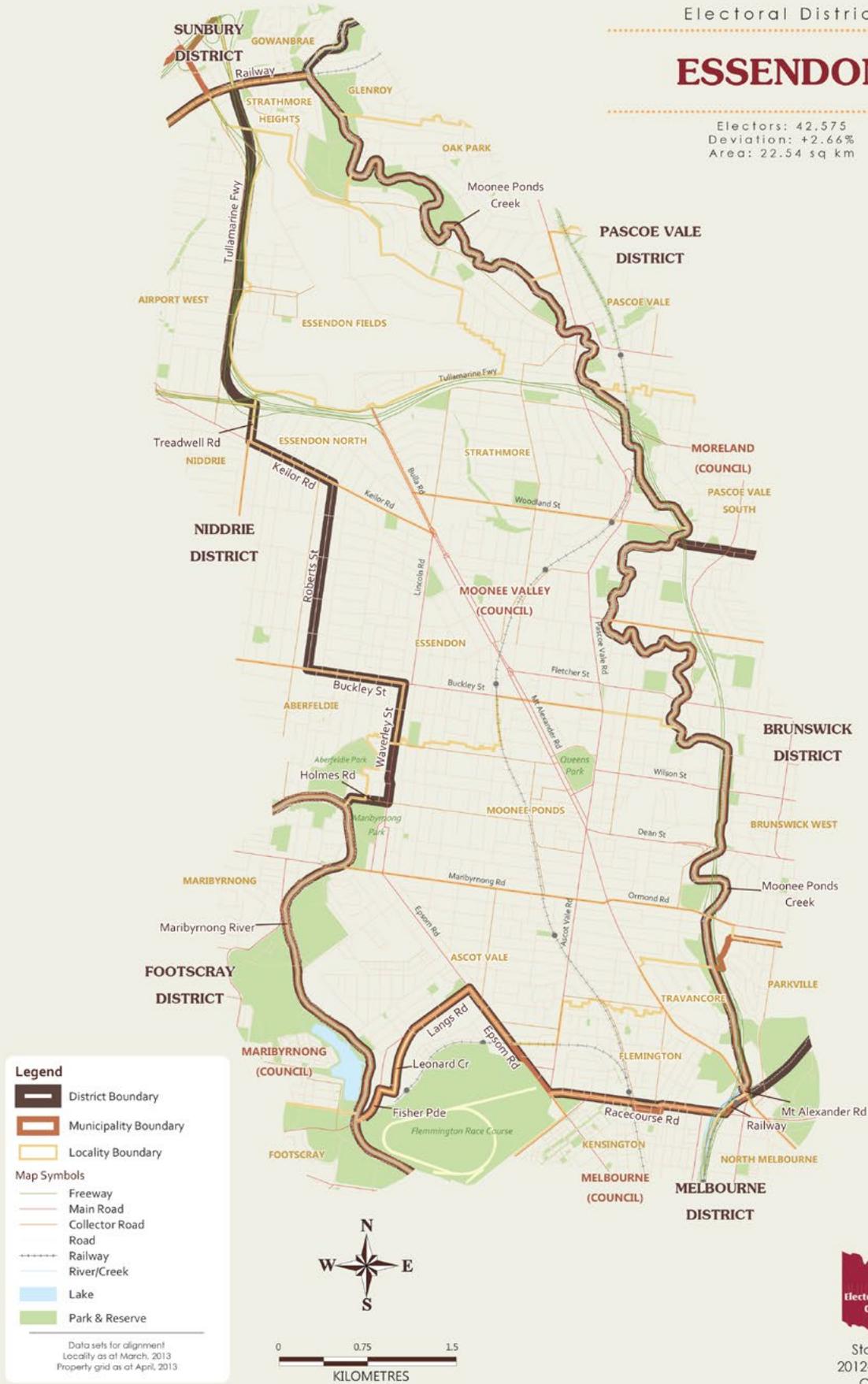


Strathmore Secondary College zoning

Electoral District

ESSENDON

Electors: 42,575
Deviation: +2.66%
Area: 22.54 sq km



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