

MEDIA RELEASE

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VILLAWOOD PHILANTHROPY SEES BENDIGO BLOOM

Award winning Bendigo developer, Villawood Properties, is continuing to build a strong local community both through the delivery of new residential estates and by lending a helping hand to local sports and community organisations.

Actively supporting a range of Bendigo's sport and community clubs, the innovative development firm is dedicated to ensuring the communities they build have the infrastructure and facilities to support it.

Group's such as the Lions Club, basketball, primary schools, disability charity organisations, football, cricket, fire authorities and animal help organisations are just a few of the types of groups aided by Villawood last financial year.

The Maiden Gully Primary School, positioned close to a number of Villawood Projects including 'The Meadows', 'Parkland Estate', and 'Edmarna Meadows', has been a beneficiary of Villawood for more than seven years and has used funds for its RACV Environment Challenge to help purchase new race vehicles, as well as new sporting uniforms and equipment for the kids.

Villawood has aided local sporting groups to upgrade uniforms and equipment including the Maiden Gully Cricket and Football Clubs, the Bendigo Triathlon Club (now in its third year of sponsorship) and the Villawood Vipers Basketball Team (also in its third year of sponsorship).

The Bendigo Bank Academy of Sport thrived with the aid of Villawood community funding for the past five years with funds used to support athletes make it to the elite levels of their sport.

One of Villawood's longest standing partnerships has been with the Lions Club of Bendigo who, for the past decade, has received funds towards a Christmas party for disadvantaged children.

The Maiden Gully Fire Brigade will this year benefit from Villawood community support aiding the brigade in the purchase of a new fire hoses and other vital equipment to help fight against the increasingly devastating fires in drought-stricken rural Victoria.

The Bendigo Region Fire Brigade have used Villawood funds combined with other local businesses to repair their forward fire vehicle that was seriously damaged in the black Saturday fires at Redesdale.

Villawood Properties executive director, Rory Costelloe, said the firm was about much more than subdividing land, and is proud of its contributions that have helped grow and sustain Greater Bendigo over the past decade.

" We make it our responsibility to establish great communities, not only by building them but by giving back through sponsorship, charitable donations and more, which ultimately benefits our residents and the wider community.

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“ Much of our funding programs are geared towards children, health, and sport and aim to improve the facilities of established clubs, facilities or research foundations that rely on public funding to survive.

“ It’s important to us to support those that support us. We will always recognise and be proud of our Bendigo roots and feel it is imperative to ensure this community continues to thrive,” Mr Costelloe said.

In the past year alone, Villawood have supported are range of Bendigo groups including:

- Bendigo Bank Academy of Sport
- Bendigo Group Fire Brigades (Bushfire Appeal)
- Bendigo Triathlon Club
- Coliban Water Golf Day Silver sponsorship
- Lions Club Bendigo
- Maiden Gully Cricket Club
- Maiden Gully Fire Brigade
- Maiden Gully Junior Football Club
- Maiden Gully Primary School
- Peter Harcourt Disability Services
- Strathfieldsaye Community Enterprise
- Villawood Vipers B/Ball Tournament Albury
- k9 animal shelter (Bushfire Appeal)

“ Our widespread philanthropy is designed to ensure our success filters to as many corners of this community as possible.”

“ This year, following an horrific summer of fires, we decided to help the very deserving fire brigade who have been able to purchase some much needed new equipment, that with a lot of luck they won’t need to use this summer,” Mr Costelloe said.
