



press clip

PEDESTRIAN STRATEGY

City to become walker's paradise

By **Danielle Perkins**

MAPS and signs will be installed around Ballarat to promote the city as a paradise for walkers.

A \$50,000 State Government funding grant was announced in the city yesterday to start implementing a Ballarat City Council pedestrian strategy.

The Pedestrian and Wayfinding strategy, currently on public exhibition, was developed to improve Ballarat's pedestrian network and make the city's central business area more "walkable" for residents and visitors.

State Government parliamentary secretary for planning Jenny Mikakos visited Ballarat to make the funding announcement.

"This money will fund the installation of map-based wayfinding signs at pedestrian points and improvements to street signage throughout the central city," she said.

"The project also includes the design of new streets and major upgrades to the public environment with the aim of improving walkability, com-

munity safety and neighbourhood amenity."

She said the funding, from the government's Creating Better Places program, was good news for Ballarat businesses in its potential to attract tourists to the city.

"The program is about assisting councils like Ballarat to create well designed public spaces that are safe and welcoming," she said.

"The projects we are funding will make a significant difference to the Ballarat community."

Member for Ballarat West Karen Overington welcomed the funding.

"These projects will make a fantastic contribution to the liveability of the area," she said.

"They will allow the council to move ahead with these important urban improvement projects which will have enormous benefits to the Ballarat community once completed."

The strategy was developed after Ballarat was named as a transit city in the State Government's metropolitan strategy Melbourne 2030.



STEPPING OUT: Welcoming funding for the pedestrian strategy are, from left, City of Ballarat infrastructure manager Jeff Haydon, parliamentary secretary for planning Jenny Mikakos, Ballarat Mayor David Vandy and Ballarat West MLA Karen Overington.
Picture: **Jeremy Bannister**

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