

29 March 2006

## **MANNINGHAM RECEIVES \$235,000 GRANT FOR DONCASTER HILL**

Manningham City Council was awarded one of the largest grants from the State Government's *Creating Better Places* program to fund stage one work on the Doncaster Hill Boulevard and Urban Space project.

Manningham will receive \$235,000 of the available \$3 million offered this year by the program, which provides funding for projects that enhance public space and preserve valuable community facilities.

The money will contribute to the extension of the Doncaster Hill Boulevard streetscape treatment on the north side of Doncaster Road, from Doncaster Playhouse to the old Shire Hall. This work will create a distinctive identity and provide a vibrant pedestrian environment, thereby reaffirming the character of this area as an Arts/Heritage precinct.

Stage one of the Doncaster Hill Boulevard project involves the creation of:

- An attractive, widened promenade;
- Contemporary street furniture;
- Lighting;
- Themed planting and public art; and
- Urban space that better links the community with Council Offices, Doncaster Primary School, Doncaster Playhouse, Doncaster and Templestowe Arts Society and Westfield Shoppingtown.

Planning Minister, Rob Hulls, said the grants would "support local councils and communities in creating more liveable, sustainable, secure and culturally rich environments in metropolitan activity centres, regional cities and towns."

"The one thing all these projects have in common," he said, "is their community's desire to live in places with better facilities and better amenity."