

Suburb on a Plate

Moonee Valley big build to start

PETER ROLFE
DEVELOPMENT REPORTER

THE new mini-suburb at Moonee Valley, in the shadow of the home of the Cox Plate, is at the starting gate.

Melbourne developer Hamton Property Group will on Saturday announce the start of construction of Feehan Row, the first stage of homes and terraces in Moonee Valley Park alongside the racecourse.

Camillo Builders will construct the first phase of the \$2bn development, one of Victoria's biggest urban regener-

ation projects. The developers have secured a \$73m deal with a bank to build two, three and four-bedroom homes and terraces. Moonee Valley Park will eventually boast about 2000 dwellings and 4000 residents within 15 years.

Moonee Valley Racing Club chief executive Michael Browell said construction of the first 67 homes had been a decade in the making.

"We've invested over 10 years in planning this incred-

ible transformation of our historic racecourse site," he said.

"And to see the activity now under way on the construction of the first release of Feehan Row is extremely gratifying."

Hamton managing director Matt Malseed said Moonee Valley Park was "one of the most significant urban development projects in Victoria's history".

"The project partners are thrilled to reach this point, moving from a vision to con-

cept, into construction and establishing the foundations of a new neighbourhood," he said.

Designs for the first stage of homes in the precinct, which is 6km from Melbourne's CBD, were inspired by existing Victorian terraced houses in Moonee Ponds and surrounding suburbs.

Camillo general manager Daniel Zammit said construction preparations were already under way, with completion due in March 2022.

A new public park, which will be called Tote Park, will be completed on the site this year ready for the residents in the new homes.

This year's 100th Cox Plate will be run on October 24, the same day as the AFL Grand Final is played in Brisbane, with racing fans unlikely at The Valley due to coronavirus restrictions.

peter.rolfe@news.com.au