



The Oakleigh pool has received an extra \$850,000 from Monash Council for its 2009 refurbishment.

Picture: MARK STEWART N10WG208

Pool flooded with cash

REDEVELOPMENT work for the Oakleigh pool was given a welcome boost last week after Monash Council agreed to commit an extra \$850,000 to the upgrade.

The surprise move follows *Leader's* campaign to have the historically significant pool restored to its former glory.

The extra money - left over from the Wellington Reserve and Clayton Community Centre budgets - will be used for refurbishment

work to the Oakleigh Aquatic Centre and Oakleigh Recreation Centre.

In total, the council will now spend \$9.21 million for the redevelopment of the aquatic centre, of which \$2 million is from the State Government, and \$780,000 is for the recreation centre.

Refurbishment works to the recreation centre will include structural roofing repairs and replacement, new airconditioning, partial

refurbishment of the access hall, gym floor and existing internal amenities.

The redeveloped Oakleigh pool will feature a dive pool, refurbished 50m heated pool, a new shallow leisure pool, outdoor spa, change rooms, improved kiosk and water treatment, conservation and recovery systems.

Community Life Action Group (CLAG) president Julie Clearwater, who campaigned

heavily to save the pool, said the Oakleigh community was happy with the outcome.

"The main thing is that the council is positive about the development, which is all we wanted," Ms Clearwater said.

Mayor Paul Klisaris, pictured above, said the historically rich pool deserved to be restored to its former glory. The pool and recreation centre are expected to open in December 2009.

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