

**Thursday 23 December 2010**

## **Watpac Announced as Preferred Tenderer for Melbourne Park Eastern Plaza**

Watpac Construction is the preferred tenderer for the design and construction contract of Melbourne Park's new Eastern Plaza project.

Watpac was one of three companies (along with Bovis Lend Lease and Grocon) invited to tender for the project in July 2010 following expressions of interest from nine contractors.

Watpac's consultant team for the project includes Daryl Jackson Architecture, Winward Structures and WSP Lincolne Scott.

The Eastern Plaza is the second part of the \$363 million Stage One of the Melbourne Park redevelopment.

The Eastern Plaza project includes:

- eight new indoor tennis courts and 13 new outdoor courts;
- warm up and warm down facilities for athletes
- an elevated plaza providing new public space and a new eastern entry to Hisense Arena
- a new landscaped entrance to Melbourne Park on Olympic Boulevard
- multilevel parking for up to 1000 cars and 30 buses
- an upgraded western entry to Hisense Arena
- a pedestrian bridge over Olympic Boulevard completing a direct pedestrian link between the MCG, Melbourne Park and AAMI Park.

Major Projects Victoria (MPV) will work with Sport and Recreation Victoria, the Melbourne and Olympic Parks Trust and Tennis Australia to manage redevelopment.

The Eastern Plaza works are expected to commence in early 2011. Stage one of the Melbourne Park redevelopment is expected to be completed in 2015.