



## Andrew Barr MLA

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE  
MINISTER FOR PLANNING  
MINISTER FOR TOURISM, SPORT AND RECREATION  
MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Canberra's world championship preparations on track

Preparations are on track for the UCI Mountain Bike and Trials World Championships with the completion of the 7 kilometre cross-country track featuring 'The Fang'.

The Fang will test the courage and skill of the world's best riders. It includes a one and a half metre drop-off that then continues downhill, twisting and turning around tree stumps and rocks, leading directly into the pit-stop area.

"I was at Stromlo Forest Park today and I am pleased to say that everything is on track for the World Championships in September," Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation, Andrew Barr said.

"Last month we completed the 2.2 kilometre downhill course and the 470 metre long 4X course, and now the cross-country track is complete.

"The cross-country will undoubtedly be one of the most exciting events during September, promising many thrills and spills. It will see hundreds of riders doing laps of the course, heading up the side of Mount Stromlo before descending at high-speed over jumps and bumps and manoeuvring through obstacles."

The ACT Government has invested over \$10 million into the development of Stromlo Forest Park as a world-class event facility which boasts a purpose-built event pavilion, criterium cycling circuit, grass cross-country running track and mountain bike tracks. There are also trails suitable for use by horse riders, runners and bushwalkers.

"We are also finalising several projects at the facility including a children's bike track, barbeque facilities, spectator and landscape improvements next to the Event Pavilion. We are improving the criterium track and sealing the Bushfire Memorial Access Road and car park, including the extension of the cycle way to Stromlo Forest Park," Mr Barr said.

"These facilities will ensure Stromlo Forest Park not only meets the needs of world-class events, but also the needs of Canberrans who wish to use the facility every day. This is an investment in our tourism industry, and in providing Canberrans with access to top-quality sport and recreational facilities."

Over its six days the World Championships is expected to attract about 40,000 spectators, and more than a hundred journalists. The event is also expected to attract an estimated TV and online audience of up to 35 million.

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**ACT Government**

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