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COASTAL PROJECTS OPEN DAY

MARCH 2024



Energy,
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1300 736 533

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FUTURE LAND MANAGEMENT TRANSFERS IN APOLLO BAY

The management of the Crown land in the Apollo Bay Harbour precinct is scheduled to transfer later this year from Colac Otway Shire to the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (the Authority) as directed by the Great Ocean Road and Environs Protection Act 2020.

The local port management functions under the Port Management Act 1995, and waterway management functions under the Marine Safety Act 2010 and the Port of Apollo Bay operations is also scheduled to transfer to the Authority.

The community should not notice any changes to the level of service in the maintenance of the land transitioning over to the Authority, as we work closely with the different land managers to ensure a smooth transition.

We're also working with Traditional Owners to respect the Cultural values and assertions of the land and waters.

In support of our land management transfers in Apollo Bay, we're seeking to understand the key social, environmental, and economic values and uses, as well as capturing the community interests and local significance attached to each parcel and asset.

To find out more about the land transfers and have your say please scan the QR code or head to:

www.haveyoursay.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au/land-transfers/apollo-bay-and-marengo





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POINT BUNBURY PATH

In late 2022, the Authority closed a section of the informal walking track on the golf course between Point Bunbury and Barham River.

The closure was enacted to;

- ensure community safety was maintained in the area
- protect the ecology and cultural heritage of the landscape.

Throughout 2023 we worked with the Golf Club and an independent consultant to identify alternative trail options, to realign this short section of track and allow community to enjoy the spectacular headland at Apollo Bay.

Based on the consultant's report and discussions with the Golf Club, a recommended trail option was identified that provides connectivity for walkers from the new boardwalk through to Point Bunbury and the Apollo Bay Harbour Precinct.

This recommended trail option has been endorsed by the Apollo Bay Golf Club Committee and Rights Holders, with an application for relevant statutory approvals submitted and a tender for works scheduled as soon as this application is approved. Works are anticipated to commence from mid-2024.

To find out more about the Point Bunbury Walking Track scan the QR code or head to:

www.haveyoursay.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au/ptbunbury





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APOLLO BAY HARBOUR REDEVELOPMENT

We are excited to begin the design process for the Apollo Bay Harbour Redevelopment, following key learnings taken from the recent Independent Review of the project.

The review found that design amendments are needed to ensure current planning and environmental controls are met.

The review provides clarity on what refinements may be required to further progress designs while ensuring the upgrades deliver for local businesses and community and meet overall project outcomes, including increasing the capacity of commercial operations and recreational offerings, and supporting the growth in the visitor economy.

New Head Consultant to bring best practice coastal planning

A design tender has been released inviting submissions for a new Head Consultant for the design of the Apollo Bay Harbour precinct with the tender closing in March 2024.

The Head Consultant will lead the next phase of planning and design, with the ideal appointee an industry expert that will bring experience in urban design, landscape architecture, and architectural services.

The Head Consultant will consider the review findings and determine any necessary changes to the project designs working closely with Council, key stakeholders including the Fishermen's Co-operative, Traditional Owners and a new Community Reference Group (CRG) as the project enters its next phase of delivery.

Throughout the design process we will also utilise the services of an independent quantity surveyor to ensure designs meet budgetary requirements.

A Technical Working Group will also be re-established to further refine project elements in line with these updated requirements.

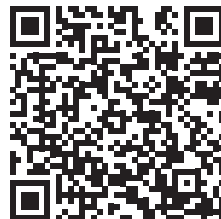
Calling community representatives

Expressions of Interest for the new CRG are now open via our Have Your Say website www.haveyoursay.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au/AB-harbour

This is an exciting opportunity for interested community members to assist the project team in delivering an outstanding result for the Apollo Bay community.

Following a review of interested applicants, the CRG will be appointed in time to meet with the Head Consultant and start working through the design process, expected to commence in April 2024.

Please scan the QR code to find out more and complete an expression of interest.



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MOUNTS BAY ADAPTATION PLAN

The shoreline of Mounts Bay, where Marengo meets Apollo Bay, is a vital area not only for local communities, but for travellers along the Great Ocean Road.

The central area of Mounts Bay has experienced increased erosion from around 1990 to present. Repeated beach nourishment and dune stabilisation works have been used to slow dune erosion and prevent damage to the Great Ocean Road. However, it will become less effective under current sea level rise projections.

Assets at risk include the Great Ocean Road, the Great Ocean Road Trail, water & sewer lines, NBN, buried power lines, beach access points, as well as natural and cultural values.

Creating an Adaptation Plan under the direction of the Victoria's Resilient Coast – Adapting for 2100+ Guidelines will provide various solutions to reduce the impact of coastal hazards on the Mounts Bay foreshore. These solutions will consider cultural, environmental, and social factors.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) recently conducted community engagement activities from November 2023 to January 2024. All feedback has been reviewed and shared with stakeholders and consultants to shape the final Mounts Bay Adaptation Plan.

To read the what we heard report please click the link below:
www.engage.vic.gov.au/mountsbayadaptationplan

This project is being delivered by DEECA, in partnership with the Authority.





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APOLLO BAY RECREATION RESERVE CAMPING UPLIFT PRE-STAGING WORKS

We are thrilled to announce the start of pre-staging works at the Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve, marking a significant milestone under the Camping Uplift initiative. As a means of cleaning up the site and to pave the way for construction of Stage 1 Northern Accommodation Precinct, the Reserve campground will undergo temporary closure from Wednesday, April 17, for approximately five months.

This closure is necessary to facilitate pre-staging works, laying the foundation for future improvements.

Despite the temporary closure of the campground area, recreational and sporting club activities will continue to operate as usual. Alternative camping is available at Marengo Family Caravan Park and Skenes Creek Foreshore Caravan Park.

Looking ahead, the next step involves the detailed design for the Northern Accommodation Precinct, and we're excited to announce Brand Architects will lead this endeavour.

Brand Architects bring a wealth of community recreation and sports precinct design experience, with notable projects including the award-winning MacPherson Park Recreation Reserve in Melton, the Reid Oval Redevelopment in Warrnambool, and the West Oval regional sporting and community facility in North Geelong. Pre-staging works are slated to commence following the off-peak camping closure in April 2024.

Meanwhile, the Authority is actively seeking funding through the Federal Government Regional Precincts & Partnerships Fund to further improve the reserve's amenities. Proposed works include upgrades to netball and tennis courts, an all-abilities community playground, designs to address seasonal worker accommodation needs, design of the pavilion and tourism accommodation facilities.

For further information and updates please visit:

www.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au/Projects/Apollo-Bay-Recreation-Reserve-Masterplan



COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL INTERACTIVE EDUCATION DISPLAY

Educating current and future generations about the environmental and cultural significance of our iconic Great Ocean Road coast and parks is one of the most fundamental investments in the future prosperity of our region.

Our Environmental Education program is built on the belief that education is fundamental to the ongoing protection of our iconic coastline.

As part of the Open Day, our Environmental Education team helps kids (young and old) get in touch with nature through our interactive artefact displays.

With a focus on the core themes of biodiversity, conservation and cultural heritage, we pride ourselves on offering tailorable programs to suit the age, abilities, outcomes and curriculum needs of our students.

The team works with school groups, kinders, local communities, our caravan parks, businesses, and government partners to deliver innovative education programs. During 2023, the education team engaged with over 3800 students as well as educating over 700 members of broader community about environmental protection.

As part of the Open Day, our Education Activities Leaders Mel and Angela will enthral young minds with their fascinating beach treasures and remind our local community members, big and small, to help look after our precious coastal home.

Pop over to our interactive display and learn more about our local natural treasures from the beach to the bush such as our molluscs, sponges, sea jellies and cephalopods. We will also share life cycle and ancient survival secrets from our birds and local mammals including Echidnas, Little Penguins, Gang Gang, Tawny Frogmouth sharks, rays and dozens of native coastal and marine animals.



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