## **Media Release**

The Hon Melissa Horne MP

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation Minister for Ports and Freight Minister for Fishing and Boating



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## TENDER AWARDED TO BEGIN HASTINGS BOAT RAMP UPGRADE

The Andrews Labor Government is delivering on its commitment to upgrade six priority boat ramps across the state with a contract awarded for major works on the Hastings boat ramp.

Minister for Fishing and Boating Melissa Horne today announced Simpson Construction has been awarded the contract to upgrade the Hastings boat ramp.

The \$1.6m project will start in July and deliver a modern facility with all-tide access to Western Port in partnership with Better Boating Victoria and Mornington Peninsula Shire Council.

Simpson Construction was selected after a rigorous tender process and the company has significant experience delivering major marine infrastructure projects. The upgrade is anticipated to be complete in mid-October.

The works will take place in two stages. Stage one will include replacing the existing boat ramp with a longer ramp and a connecting walkway between the new boat ramp and the existing floating pontoon. Stage two will involve dredging to accommodate the extended ramp and enable access during all tide levels.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council is managing the delivery of the works and has widely consulted on the project with the local community and boat ramp users.

The Hastings boat ramp is an important asset for recreational and commercial boaters and emergency services and the upgrade is part of the government's \$47.2 million investment in recreational boating improvements.

These improvements also include upgrading boating facilities at five other priority locations, reviewing boating infrastructure management arrangements across Port Phillip and Western Port, and establishing the Better Boating Fund.

For further information, visit <u>www.betterboating.vic.gov.au</u>.

## Quotes attributable to Minister for Fishing and Boating Melissa Horne

"Hastings is a much-loved gateway to rich fishing and boating opportunities in Western Port which is why we're investing in its future by making it safe and accessible in all tides."

"This is an important step in the delivery of our commitment to upgrade six priority boat ramps right across Victoria."

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