

Ms Mary-Anne Thomas MP Minister for Regional Development Minister for Agriculture



Thursday, 11 March 2021

NEW WATERFRONT FOR COHUNA LOCALS AND VISITORS

Cohuna locals and visitors will have a more vibrant and accessible CBD and waterfront to enjoy, thanks to support from the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Regional Development Mary-Anne Thomas today joined representatives from the Gannawarra Shire Council to tour the much-anticipated works underway at the Cohuna waterfront.

The Labor Government has invested \$1.7 million towards the \$3.4 million Cohuna waterfront revitalisation from the \$2.7 billion *Building Works* fund, established last year to kickstart jobs and investment across Victoria in response to the economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic.

Works include a new man-made beach which includes 150 metres of sand and two jetties, proving a hit with locals over summer.

In addition to the waterfront upgrades, works to improve Cohuna's central business district include boardwalks, an all-abilities playground and playground equipment.

The next stage of the project will create boardwalk connections between the township and the Gunbower Creek water's edge, followed by further boardwalk connections to the sporting and recreational areas.

The significant infrastructure works will connect to the town's park and creek, driving new business activity.

It is estimated that the project will create 76 full time equivalent roles during the build, 45 in construction and 31 in support services. The works are expected to be finished by mid-2022.

The *Building Works* package is designed to provide immediate benefit to communities across the state, with more than half the projects in rural and regional Victoria.

The shovel-ready projects will create jobs now and provide lasting benefits in response to the economic challenges brought about by coronavirus, drought and bushfires. For more information visit rdv.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Regional Development Mary-Anne Thomas

"Locals told us just how important this project was to them – that's why we're helping make it a reality, bringing visitors and jobs to Cohuna."

"The revitalised waterfront will be a popular place for those wanting to enjoy a day in the sun and makes regional Victoria an even better place to live, work and invest."

Quote attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Mark Gepp

"Everyone who goes through Cohuna will benefit from this – locals and visitors alike. We're really proud to be investing in the projects that locals want to make our country towns even more vibrant."

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