

Media Release

The Hon Jaala Pulford MLC

Minister for Employment

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy

Minister for Small Business



Friday, 14 May 2021

MAJOR WATERFRONT BOOST A WIN FOR GIPPSLAND ECONOMY

Paynesville boaters will have an easier time getting out on the water, with new jetties and a boat ramp to be key features of a major redevelopment of the waterfront.

The Andrews Labor Government is investing \$4 million to improve facilities in Paynesville and unlock the economic potential of the site.

Stage two of the Paynesville Maritime Precinct project is being funded as part of the Government's *Regional Infrastructure Fund – Stimulus Round*.

The waterfront revamp will deliver one fixed commercial jetty, two floating jetties and a new boat ramp, improving access to the water for visitors and locals.

The major infrastructure upgrade will unlock the economic potential of the region by boosting recreational boating and increasing tourist numbers, and is among a suite of successful initiatives as part of this year's *Regional Infrastructure Fund – Stimulus Round*.

The Fund is part of the Government's flagship \$156 million *Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund*, which helps businesses create more jobs in regional Victoria, support community projects and assist councils in building the infrastructure locals and visitors need.

The Fund is key to the Government's \$8 billion investment across regional and rural Victoria unveiled in the *Victorian Budget 2020/21* to help communities come back stronger than ever.

The second round of the Fund's 2020/21 program will open for applications from 16 June, when local councils will be invited to apply for grants. Information and guidelines for the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund can be found at rdv.vic.gov.au.

Quote attributable to Minister for Small Business Jaala Pulford

"Drawing more boaters to the region will be a major boost for Gippsland's economy and will help the community move beyond last year's challenges."

Quote attributable to Minister for Fishing and Boating Melissa Horne

"We're upgrading boating facilities across the state and this \$4 million upgrade to the waterfront includes some fantastic improvements to ramps and jetties for boaters to take advantage of."

Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Jane Garrett

"These new facilities will make it easier than ever to get out on the water and explore this beautiful part of the world."

Quote attributable East Gippsland Shire Council CEO Anthony Basford

"This waterfront upgrade is going to be a huge drawcard to Paynesville and have a really positive impact on the local economy."

Media contact: Kieran Jones 0421 031 900 | kieran.jones@minstaff.vic.gov.au