Media Release

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



Wednesday, 30 June 2021

PORT CAMPBELL TOWN CENTRE TO BE REVITALISED

Port Campbell is set to be transformed as part of the Andrews Labor Government's investment in regional communities to create jobs, increase tourism and improve liveability.

Minister for Regional Development Mary-Anne Thomas today announced \$6 million for Stage One of the Port Campbell Town Centre Revitalisation Project as part of the Regional Infrastructure Fund – Stimulus Round.

The project will provide a new amphitheatre along the foreshore, viewing platforms, picnic areas, major streetscape and road improvements, upgraded town entry from the Great Ocean Road and integrated artwork by Gunditjmara artist Dr Vicki Couzens.

The funding will also enable the Corangamite Shire Council to upgrade connections between the foreshore and the town centre and improve linkages between the 12 Apostles and Port Campbell National Park.

The revitalisation project will position Port Campbell at the heart of the world-renowned Shipwreck Coast and will improve the quality and quantity of visitor experiences along the Great Ocean Road.

Some 2.6 million visitors make their way to the 12 Apostles each year and these improvements will encourage more people to stay in the region longer, boosting the local economy.

The *Regional Infrastructure Fund* is part of the Labor Government's flagship \$156 million *Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund*, helping businesses create more jobs in regional Victoria, supporting community projects and backing councils to build the infrastructure that locals and visitors need.

The stimulus round will boost local economies as they recover from the effects of the pandemic and create jobs while improving tourism and community infrastructure.

The fund is part of the Labor Government's almost \$30 billion investment in regional and rural Victoria.

The second round of the Fund's 2020/21 program opened for applications on 16 June. Under this competitive round, local regional and rural 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/rjif.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Regional Development Mary-Anne Thomas

"Whether you live on the land, in our smallest country town or a bustling regional city, we are making all our communities even better places to live, work, visit and invest."

"This project will boost visitation along the Great Ocean Road while creating more jobs, ensuring Victoria continues to have our nation's most vibrant and successful regional economies."

Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney

"The first stage of the Port Campbell Town Centre Revitalisation project will support the town's economic development and liveability – we are delighted to invest in this important project."

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