

# 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



Monday, 14 February 2022

## WORKS UNDERWAY TO IMPROVE POPULAR RYE PIER

The Andrews Labor Government is improving safety and accessibility at one of the Mornington Peninsula's most popular landmarks, with upgrade works to Rye Pier now underway.

The \$2.1 million upgrade will deliver a safer, more robust structure with improved access for years to come thanks to the reconstruction and widening of a 270-metre section of the pier, installing a new all-abilities access ramp and safety railings, and upgraded solar lighting.

Originally built in 1860, Rye Pier serves as a long-standing beachside hub for Victorians, providing a popular spot to swim, fish, dive and see the best of the picturesque Mornington Peninsula.

Significant planning has been critical to ensuring the area's sensitive marine habitat is protected, including an independent ecological report to ensure no long-term impacts on the environment.

Piles from the old pier section will be retained in deeper water to help minimise any effects while also assuring the area remains a popular location for divers and snorkellers.

This project has been funded through the Government's \$24 million *Piers and Jetties Economic Stimulus Package*. Parks Victoria – the port manager – will oversee the project, with the pier expected to reopen following the completion of works in mid-2022.

Other projects funded under the package include upgrades to several piers in Port Phillip, including Queenscliff South Pier, Portarlington Pier and Middle Brighton Pier.

The Government previously completed a \$500,000 upgrade to Rye Pier, building an all-abilities access ramp and low landing in 2020 as part of the *Better Recreational Facilities* initiative.

Further information is available at [parks.vic.gov.au/projects](https://parks.vic.gov.au/projects).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Ports and Freight Melissa Horne

*"Rye Pier is an iconic location on the Mornington Peninsula foreshore - these improvements will go a long way to delivering a safer and more accessible pier for locals and visitors now and into the future."*

*"Planning for this project has focused on ensuring the unique marine environment is protected while we undertake works to improve the pier, protecting the natural environment and preserving this popular snorkelling spot for locals and tourists alike."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Nepean Chris Brayne

*"The Rye Pier is synonymous with summer on the Mornington Peninsula, and for many locals and visitors, holds many memories. That is why we are upgrading this popular spot to ensure it can be enjoyed by many for years to come."*