Media Release

The Hon Melissa Horne мр Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation Minister for Ports and Freight Minister for Fishing and Boating



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UPGRADES TO WARNEET BOATING FACILITIES A STEP CLOSER

Locals and tourists are a step closer to enjoying upgraded boating and local port facilities in Warneet, thanks to the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Fishing and Boating Melissa Horne said the *Warneet Boating Precinct Plan* – which was developed alongside Better Boating Victoria (BBV) to create a clear vision for the precinct – has now progressed, with designs underway to improve the boat ramp, car parking and jetties.

The plan was released in December last year and outlines how to best manage the facilities in the area. It includes building a new boat ramp with extended pontoons, formalising the car and trailer parking areas at the south precinct and the full replacement of both the north and south jetties.

The boating facilities at Warneet provide access to Western Port via Rutherford Inlet and serves as a popular holiday destination.

Improving the boat ramp, car parking and jetties has been identified as a main priority for the area and follows several rounds of community consultation.

Funding required for works associated with both the north and south jetties will be considered under the *Sustainable Local Ports Framework* which provides a planning and decision-making pathway to prioritise future investment in local port assets. BBV will progress the designs for the upgrades with key agencies.

The Labor Government is continuing to make boating facilities safer and more accessible for all Victorians as part of the \$33 million *Better Boating Fund*.

More information about the Warneet Boating Precinct Plan can be found online at: <u>www.betterboating.vic.gov.au/ramp-upgrades/warneet</u>

Quotes attributable to Minister for Fishing and Boating Melissa Horne

"We know Warneet is a popular destination for locals and tourists – which is why the Warneet Precinct plan was developed to outline how to best manage the facilities in the area and create a clear vision for the site."

"It's great to see the plan has now progressed – with designs being constructed to improve the boat ramp, car park and jetty upgrades for the community to enjoy."

Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Jane Garrett

"This is good news for the Warneet community – with all rounds of community feedback taken into account to identify what needs doing in the area – and designs now being drawn up to deliver the much-needed upgrades."

Quote attributable to Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale

"We're improving the Warneet boating precinct – to make it more accessible for locals and visitors and ensure it can continue to be enjoyed for years to come."