

# Media Release

**The Hon Melissa Horne MP**

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation

Minister for Ports and Freight

Minister for Local Government

Minister for Suburban Development



Thursday, 30 June 2022

## UPGRADING THE LAKES ENTRANCE WESTERN TRAINING WALL

The Lakes Entrance Western Training Wall will soon be upgraded to make it safer for locals, visitors and commercial operators.

Minister for Ports and Freight Melissa Horne today announced the \$1.92 million contract to deliver the project has been awarded to Gippsland based businesses Paul Volk Contractors and CASACIR.

The training walls form the entrance channel to the port of Gippsland Lakes and provide vital access and safe navigation for offshore fishing fleets, commercial operators and recreational boats.

Training walls are also accessed by tourists and local anglers as a spot to fish and observe dolphins and other marine life.

Works will include rock stabilisation to the outer section of the Western Training Wall and secure reliable access for vessels to and from Lakes Entrance.

The project also includes \$276,000 in funding for further stabilisation works to be completed concurrently.

Construction on the project will begin later this year, with planning work already complete.

The project – which will be overseen by local port manager Gippsland Ports – has been funded through the Sustainable Local Ports initiative and the Local Ports Program.

The Local Ports Program complements the Labor Government's commitment to improve planning, maintenance and management of local ports and support commercial fishing and tourism industries.

It also builds on the Government's \$18 million package to rebuild piers and jetties across the state, including the much-loved McLoughlins Beach Jetty in South Gippsland, as part of the *Victorian Budget 2022-2023*.

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

*"We future-proofed the Lakes Entrance Eastern Training Wall back in 2019, and now we're getting on with upgrading the Western Training Wall to make it safer for locals, visitors and commercial operators."*

*"This upgrade will protect the coast and its users, ensuring Gippsland's waterways are safe and providing access for years to come."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Jane Garrett

*"This upgrade will ensure Gippsland's waterways are safe and accessible for locals well into the future."*