

# Media Release

**The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP**

Minister for Energy

Minister for the Environment and Climate Action

Minister for Solar Homes



Tuesday, 16 August 2022

## COMMUNITY TO HAVE THEIR SAY ON GRAMPIANS UPGRADES

The Andrews Labor Government is upgrading the popular MacKenzie Falls visitor precinct and creating new access points and trailheads along the 160-kilometre Grampians Peaks Trail.

Locals and visitors to the Grampians Gariwerd National Park are invited to have their say on the proposed upgrades made possible by a \$12.76 million investment by the Labor Government.

Upgrades improve safety and access in the carpark and trails as well as more opportunities for viewing the falls and understanding the Aboriginal cultural and environmental values for the site and surrounding landscape.

The project is also being shaped by a partnership with Traditional Owners, represented by Barengi Gadjin Land Council, Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, and Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation.

The Grampians Peaks Trail is a unique cultural long-distance hiking experience that runs down through the park from Mount Zero in the north, through Halls Gap, to Dunkeld in the south. Since opening in November 2021, hikers have booked over 9,200 nights to stay at hike-in campgrounds along the length of the trail.

The upgraded trailheads along the Grampians Peaks Trail will, provide hikers with more flexibility on where they access the trail, information and facilities. Improvements will likely include new toilets, improved car parking, larger water tanks, and opportunities to interpret Aboriginal cultural and environmental values of Gariwerd.

Consultation on the projects is open until 8 September 2022 with construction expected to begin next year.

To find out more about the MacKenzie Falls revitalisation and provide your feedback visit: [engage.vic.gov.au/mackenzie-falls](https://engage.vic.gov.au/mackenzie-falls).

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Environment and Climate Action Lily D'Ambrosio**

*"This investment will make sure more people can access the stunning Mackenzie Falls and Grampians Peak Trail safely and learn more about its rich cultural and environmental values."*

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Sport, Tourism and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos**

*"Improving access options for the Grampians Peaks Trail will allow more people to experience this exceptional outdoor attraction, which will drive visitation, generate jobs and support regional communities."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Jaala Pulford**

*"The MacKenzie Falls precinct offers visitors a range of walks and stunning views and these upgrades will encourage more people to come and enjoy what the beautiful Grampians has to offer."*