

Joint Media Release



Australian Government

The Hon Richard Males MP
Deputy Prime Minister

The Hon Kristy McBain MP
Minister for Regional Development,
Local Government and Territories

Cr Trent Sullivan
Mayor of Geelong

The Hon Harriet Shing MP
Minister for Water
Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Commonwealth Games Legacy
Minister for Equality
Christine Couzens MP
Parliamentary Secretary for First Peoples
State Member for Geelong

Thursday, 27 July 2023

GEELONG'S GREEN SPINE IS GROWING

Geelong's inner city is coming to life with work underway on the next section of the Green Spine project, thanks to support from the Australian and Victorian governments under the Geelong City Deal.

Construction has started on the south side of Malop Street between Yarra and Bellerine streets, with Victorian builders Bild Infrastructure completing the works that began earlier this month.

The Green Spine initiative is a part of the Revitalising Central Geelong Action Plan, which is being delivered with the support of the \$500 million Geelong City Deal – a collaborative plan to transform Geelong and the Great Ocean Road by the Australian Government, Victorian Government and the City of Greater Geelong.

This landmark linear park will feature native plants, seats, outdoor dining spaces and public art, and connect the Geelong Station precinct to Johnstone Park and Eastern Park through six blocks along Malop Street.

Block 1 northside and Block 2 are now complete with the next stage of this landmark project now underway on the southside of Block 3.

Once complete, the botanic walk and bike lane will be extended and complemented by native planting, better lighting and rehabilitation works of the road.

The Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation is an integral part of the team delivering the project, ensuring this new public space incorporates cultural heritage features.

During construction the westbound traffic, bicycle and parking lanes, and the median parking bays, will be closed along Malop Street between Yarra and Bellerine Streets.

The construction schedule aims to support local businesses which will remain open with signage installed to alert locals and visitors.

The project is scheduled for completion early 2024 with westbound traffic lanes expected to be reopened in December 2023.

For more information visit www.rdv.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/geelong-city-deal.

Quote attributable to Deputy Prime Minister and Federal Member for Corio Richard Marles

"This is another exciting project which will add so much more to the heart of Geelong for locals and tourists alike."

Quote attributable to Federal Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories Hon Kristy McBain MP

"The Australian Government is working closely with state and local government partners to deliver meaningful projects like this one, which will enhance the centre of Geelong for years to come."

Quote attributable to Victorian Minister for Regional Development Harriet Shing

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“This project will see locals and visitors enjoy a more vibrant and liveable city centre – delivering big benefits for residents, businesses and the environment.”

Quote attributable to State Member for Geelong Christine Couzens

“These transformed spaces will see more locals and visitors come together to enjoy the heart of Geelong.”

Quote attributable to Greater Geelong Mayor Trent Sullivan

“Malop Street is a key social and economic strip and is central to the continued development of the CBD. Making it more functional and attractive for a range of uses and activities will have a number of benefits.”