

Media Release

The Hon Melissa Horne MP
Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Ports and Freight
Minister for Roads and Road Safety



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A STRONGER AND SAFER HARBOUR FOR APOLLO BAY

Remediation works to one of the Great Ocean Road's most scenic locations are entering the next stage, with critical repairs to Apollo Bay harbour structures now underway.

Minister for Ports and Freight Melissa Horne today announced the start of the Labor Government's \$2.8 million works which will deliver long-lasting protection for the harbour and enhanced safety for locals and visitors.

The harbour is home to commercial fishing and recreational boating and is a major drawcard for locals and tourists as a key destination along the scenic Great Ocean Road.

Construction will start this week with more than 70 metres of rock wall to be repaired on the Lee Breakwater, which provides access for vehicles servicing the fishing fleets, boaters and pedestrians.

A new sheet pile wall, protecting the harbour from turbulent sea conditions, will be built on the ocean side of the jetty. A popular spot for visitors, the jetty will also be widened and public lighting installed.

Local port manager, Colac Otway Shire Council, will oversee the projects with final works due to be completed by Spring 2024.

The project, funded through the Sustainable Local Ports initiative, is part of the Labor Government's plan to maintain local port infrastructure. These works build on a previous \$1.3 million Apollo Bay harbour investment which included an upgrade of marine facilities and harbour dredging.

The harbour will continue to remain open during the work. Some minor disruptions and access changes may apply for short periods and will be communicated through onsite signage.

The Labor Government announced \$46 million in the Victorian Budget 2023-24 for rebuilds and critical works at other popular piers and jetties across the state including Dromana, St Leonards and Workshops Pier.

Quote attributable to Minister for Ports and Freight Melissa Horne

"Apollo Bay is one of the most recognisable spots along Victoria's south-west coast and improving its safety will ensure the area remains a vibrant economic and tourist precinct."

Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Region Gayle Tierney

"The delivery of remediation works at Apollo Bay harbour will continue to support commercial operators, fishers and boaters, and the wider community."

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