Media release



COMMUNITY INPUT SOUGHT FOR APOLLO BAY RECREATION RESERVE MASTERPLAN

20 May 2022

The Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (the Authority) is seeking community input into a masterplan that will map out a ten-year vision for the Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve.

Community engagement for the masterplan opens today with an online survey and will be supported by online and in-person engagement sessions commencing across Apollo Bay in late May.

In addition to providing views and aspirations for the Reserve, people can give feedback on a revised concept plan for works to upgrade the Apollo Bay Campground within the Reserve.

The concept plan has been in development since January this year and has since undergone a number of revisions, incorporating feedback from campers, stakeholders and the local community.

Building on community engagement completed to date, the Authority is now seeking feedback and participation in the development of a masterplan for the Reserve.

There are several ways to participate in the development of the masterplan. Feedback can be shared by completing a survey, joining online and in-person drop-in sessions held at locations across Apollo Bay.

The \$2.9 million funding for the Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve has been made possible through the Tourism Infrastructure Program – Flagship projects for the region that was announced in the Victorian Government's \$465 million Victorian Tourism Recovery Package. These works are also supported by the Great Ocean Road Visitor Experience Uplift grant from the Victorian Government.

The new Changing Places facility is receiving \$110,000 funding from the Victorian Government's Changing Places program. The Authority is also contributing a further \$427,000 toward the project.

For further project details, including details of engagement opportunities, please visit the website: www.greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au/camping-uplift-for-the-great-ocean-road-region-apollo-bay/

Quotes attributable to Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney

"Improving camping at the Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve will make visiting our beautiful coastline more accessible for everyone."

"These camping upgrades will help bring visitors and tourists back to regional Victorian communities – creating jobs and boosting local economies."

Quotes attributable to Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority CEO, Jodie Sizer

"Tourism has taken a big blow throughout the Covid pandemic and projects like this will not only provide a boost for operators and improved camping experience for visitors, it will shape the future of the Reserve.

"It's important that we work with, listen to and incorporate the views and aspirations of the local community and project stakeholders, and I look forward to working with the community to build the masterplan."

Media contact: Nicolas McGay 0439 790 766 | nic.mcgay@greatoceanroadauthority.vic.gov.au

