



FEBRUARY 2022

# Board Communiqué

## Welcome to the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority Board's February Communiqué.

On behalf of the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (the Authority) Board, I'm delighted to share our February 2022 Board Communiqué.

The Board are committed to best practice governance and value open and accountable communication with the Authority's stakeholders. Following each Board meeting, Board Communiqués are issued to provide an overview of the current opportunities and challenges we consider during each meeting.

On Tuesday 1 February 2022, our Board met to discuss a range of important strategic items regarding the protection and management of the iconic coast and parks of Victoria's Great Ocean Road. These included:

### COASTAL CLIFF HAZARDS

Following the tragic rockfall at Jarosite Headland near Bells Beach on 31 December 2021, we received an update on the causes, risk assessments and safety procedures in place to mitigate the hazards caused by cliffs along the Great Ocean Road. The Authority is taking a strong leadership role in this work for the region, and delivering on all necessary requirements to manage safety and risks to the best extent possible.

It was noted the cliffs along foreshore areas managed by the Authority are composed of erosive sandstone and limestone

formations. We were advised of the ongoing geotechnical risk assessments conducted for these areas and the safety mitigation procedures in place.

We were also updated on the ongoing partnerships the Authority engage in, as part of a collaborative effort to manage and mitigate the risk of cliff falls in our region and across the State. These partners include Parks Victoria, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Surf Coast Shire and Deakin University.

### TWELVE APOSTLES PRECINCT REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Twelve Apostles Precinct has been identified as a key project of the Victorian Government Shipwreck Coast Masterplan and is a high priority for the Authority.

During our February meeting, we were advised of the Authority's engagement in the project, including representation on all levels of project governance.

Key Authority team members have met with and been briefed by Development Victoria and Regional Development Victoria. Discussions have commenced on how the land will be reserved to ensure there is a clear and unambiguous land management structure in place.

We are excited to be working on this important project to enhance the Twelve Apostles Precinct as a world-class destination, ensuring it respects its environmental and cultural significance and is protected for future generations.



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## EXTERNAL MEMBER APPOINTMENT TO AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

With the announcement of Board member Wayne Kayler-Thomson's retirement, we undertook an expression of interest to add an external member to our Audit and Risk Management Committee.

We are now pleased to confirm that Tony Ficca has been successfully appointed to the role and will join the next Authority Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting.

Mr Ficca has an established and extensive career working with Boards and brings deep knowledge and experience in audit and risk management procedures. We warmly welcome Tony Ficca to the Authority Audit and Risk Management Committee.

## THE YEAR AHEAD

As our Board enters its second year, we look forward to delivering on our legislative mandate to make management of the region publicly accountable as 'one integrated and living entity'.

We are excited to build on meaningful engagement with communities and stakeholders along the Great Ocean Road and continue deepening our connections with Traditional Owners partners through further engagements such as On Country sessions.

Sincerely,



**Libby Mears**

Board Chair, Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority