

# Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

5 August 2011

## GORCC Budget announced

The coast will benefit from capital expenditure in excess of \$4.8M in the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee's 2011-2012 Budget.

GORCC CEO Richard Davies said that key projects such as the Fishermans Beach Redevelopment, Lorne Caravan Park work, the Surf Coast Walk plus several Lorne –based projects headlined the budget, while significant funds had also been allocated to a variety of projects right along the coastline.

“The 2011-2012 Budget balances social, economic and environmental considerations, and demonstrates our commitment to the sustainable management of coastal reserves and caravan parks, and enhancing experiences for both locals and visitors,”

Significant allocations were made in several areas including:

- \$1M for the Fishermans Beach Redevelopment (*The total project cost is \$2.8M. \$1.7M in grant funding is being received from funding partners Regional Development Victoria, the Department of Sustainability and Environment and the Surf Coast Shire*)
- \$825,000 for Lorne Foreshore Caravan Park upgrades, including a new amenities block and refurbished units.
- \$310,000 for the Surf Coast Walk project.
- \$160,000 for the redevelopment of the North Lorne Lions Park toilet block.
- \$90,000 for fishing platforms on the Erskine River
- \$80,000 for a new toilet block at Point Impossible
- \$40,000 to resume the Point Grey master planning process.
- \$25,000 to repair the beach access steps at O'Donohue Road, Anglesea.

The budget also provides \$1.6M for coastal reserves total expenditure, which includes items such as asset and facility maintenance, beach clean-ups, waste disposal and cleaning of amenities.

Mr Davies said initiatives such as environmental education programs and environmental protection projects would also continue to receive funding.

“Every year we expend about \$4M on operating the caravan parks and caring for the coast while the remainder, often supplemented by grants, is used for key projects and environmental work,” he said.

GORCC's current grants include funding for projects such as the Great Ocean Road Renewal Program, a three-year, \$1.35M program which funds the GORCC Conservation Team and Natural Values Project and is funded by the Australian Government.

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***Caring for the coast and community***

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GORCC currently generated about \$5M in direct revenue annually with 80 per cent coming from the Lorne and Torquay Foreshore Caravan Parks.

“Investment into our caravan parks is therefore important, and is necessary to not only guarantee our revenue stream and provide a great experience for campers, but to bring as many visitors into the parks as possible and support local tourism,” said Mr. Davies.

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