

Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Track work travelling well

Work on the Surf Coast Walk redevelopment project continues to advance with 75 per cent of track work now complete.

The Great Ocean Road Coast Committee (GORCC) is leading the project which will establish a 44km, continuous coastal walk extending from Point Impossible to Fairhaven.

GORCC Coastal Projects Manager Mike Bodsworth said the construction phase of the project had been underway since late 2010, and was anticipated to be completed in the first half of 2012.

“The final phase of the project will be the development of signage, interpretive information and promotional materials which will begin to be rolled out in early 2012,” he said.

Mr Bodsworth said work currently in progress included construction of a new timber boardwalk on the east bank of the Anglesea River to provide access through an area subject to inundation between the Caravan Park and the River.

“The boardwalk and adjoining pathways will be completed early in October and together with the new section of path already built around the edge of the caravan park.

“The new boardwalk will provide a continuous pathway for walkers and cyclists between the Anglesea town centre and the scenic cliff-top heathland east of town,” he said.

Also underway is a two-metre-wide, gravel shared path alongside the Painkalac Creek estuary in Aireys Inlet, between Reserve Road and the Great Ocean Road bridge,

A section of pathway in the Aireys Inlet Skate Park precinct is currently being reviewed by the Surf Coast Shire prior to works in that area proceeding.

“The work in Aireys Inlet has been carefully planned to avoid impacts on recreational open space and an important Aboriginal site, and is consistent with the 2007 Surf Coast Shire Pathways Strategy and 2009 Split Point Lighthouse Precinct Masterplan,” said Mr Bodsworth.

Upcoming works commencing around mid October include the construction of an exposed-aggregate concrete path between Gilbert Street and the existing concrete paths at Bell Street and Point Danger, in Torquay and repairs to rutted and muddy sections of the existing Jan Juc to Bells Beach shared path.

“The new path in Torquay will be 2.5 metres wide and provide access for walkers and cyclists, as well as people with disabilities and will be completed in time for the summer holidays,” said Mr. Bodsworth.

- 1 -

Caring for the coast and community

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The Surf Coast Walk will cater for both walkers and shared use, and include sections suitable for people with varying levels of mobility, physical ability and experience.

The project is a joint effort between Regional Development Victoria, the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee, and the Surf Coast Shire, and is supported by a project working group.

A working group, comprising of local residents and representatives of agencies, businesses and environmental and recreational groups, will continue to help GORCC manage the project.

“The project offers opportunities for community involvement in the track construction and rehabilitation. There are also opportunities for volunteer involvement in the track’s ongoing upkeep and management,” said Mr. Bodsworth.

A comprehensive map outlining the route and indicating areas of completed and soon to be completed, as well as detailed information and updates about the project is available at www.gorcc.com.au or at the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee office.

RECENTLY COMPLETED WORK	
Deep Creek to Fishermans Beach, Torquay.	A new two-metre-wide shared path between Deep Creek and the Fishermans Beach area in Torquay has been partially completed, with a ‘missing link’ through the Fishermans Beach development site to be completed in time for the summer holidays. This new path will provide a link between the Whites Beach area and Torquay town centre.
Torquay Surf Beach to Spring Creek boardwalk, Torquay	Establishment of a pathway from the back of the Torquay Surf Beach to the Spring Creek boardwalk, providing a link between the Torquay and Jan Juc surf beaches for walkers and cyclists.
Anglesea to Point Roadknight and Aireys Inlet.	Repairs to the existing path between Anglesea and Point Roadknight, and to the existing Painkalac Wetland Trail in Aireys Inlet.
Southside Car Park	Construction of a gravel shared path between the Southside car park, west of Bells Beach, and the beautiful Ironbark Basin in Great Otway National Park.
Red Rocks Beach to Eumeralla Eco Camp (East of Anglesea)	Reconstruction of the walking track between Red Rocks Beach and the Eumeralla Eco Camp, east of Anglesea.
Aireys Inlet	Repairs to the Lighthouse Heritage Trail in Aireys Inlet.
WORK IN PROGRESS	
Aireys Inlet	Construction of a new, two-metre-wide, gravel shared path alongside the Painkalac Creek estuary in Aireys Inlet, between Reserve Road and the Great Ocean Road bridge.
Anglesea	Construction of a new timber boardwalk on the east bank of the Anglesea River, providing access through an area subject to inundation between the caravan park and river.
UPCOMING WORK	
Gilbert Street/Bell Street to Point Danger, Torquay	Construction of an exposed-aggregate concrete path between Gilbert Street and the existing concrete paths at Bell Street and Point Danger, in Torquay. The path will be 2.5 metres wide and provide access for walkers and cyclists, as well as people with disabilities. This path will be completed in time for the summer holidays
Jan Juc to Bells Beach	Repairs to rutted and muddy sections of the existing Jan Juc to Bells Beach shared path.

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