

Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday 1 July 2010

Lorne's foreshore precinct to feel the heat

Lorne's popular foreshore precinct, including its public swimming pool, will soon provide year-round enjoyment for locals and visitors alike thanks to some State Government funding, a partnership approach and three years of persistence and hard work.

That was the verdict delivered by the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee this week following the recent State Government announcement that it would provide \$758,000 to help fund the Lorne Foreshore Precinct Geoexchange Heating Project.

"We were delighted to learn last week that our funding application for a Regional Infrastructure Development Fund grant had been successful and would like to thank the State Government for providing the means for this vital project to now proceed," said the committee's Chief Executive Officer Richard Davies.

"Importantly, we would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this fantastic outcome, including members of the Lorne Aquatic Project team and the LorneCH committee, Surf Coast Shire, Landcorp Foreshore Precinct Pty Ltd and many others who supported the push to heat the foreshore precinct," he said.

Mr Davies explained that such support had extended to the shire, the Lorne community and Landcorp each contributing some funding towards the overall project costs.

"As a participant on a working party established more than three years ago, the committee has been working in partnership with the Lorne community and other stakeholders towards upgrading the foreshore precinct, including exploring the potential for heating its recreational facilities.

"It just goes to show what can be achieved when groups and individuals work together to make something happen," Mr Davies said.

According to Surf Coast Shire Mayor Libby Coker, the project represents significant economic and community benefits on a local and regional level.

"Estimates suggest more than \$6 million in increased economic activity will be generated during the initial construction phase while the completed project is expected to generate an additional \$1.1 million annually due to people being able to use the precinct's recreation facilities all year round," said Councillor Coker.

"On a community level, the project will provide locals and visitors with important opportunities for recreation, fitness and socialising no matter the season. Consequently, I would like to congratulate and thank everyone who has been involved for their efforts in getting the project this far and for their ongoing work in now making it a reality," she said.

[CONTINUES NEXT PAGE]

Caring for the coast and community

PO Box 53, Torquay, Vic 3228
Phone: 03 5220 5055 Fax: 03 5264 7763

Email: info@gorcc.com.au Web: www.gorcc.com.au

The installation of the Geoexchange heating system will be integrated into the \$1.5 million redevelopment of the precinct currently underway. It will provide environmentally friendly and cost-effective heating for the precinct's facilities, including the swimming pool, hydrotherapy pools, spas and showers.

The Great Ocean Road Coast Committee will be responsible for delivering the Lorne Foreshore Precinct Geoexchange Heating Project and will work in conjunction with Landcorp Foreshore Precinct Pty Ltd. Design development work will commence soon with construction work to follow after next summer's peak season.

[ENDS]

For media enquiries please contact:

Richard Davies
Chief Executive Officer,
Great Ocean Road Coast Committee
Ph: 5220 5055; 0458 988 166
Email: richard.d@gorcc.com.au
Website: www.gorcc.com.au