

# Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Old toilet block closes to make way for a new one

Torquay's ageing public toilet block on The Esplanade foreshore between Bell Street and Price Street has been declared off-limits as of yesterday as the Great Ocean Road Coast committee starts work on replacing it with a new one.

According to Chief Executive Officer Richard Davies, the facility will be unavailable until October when the new public toilet block opens.

"We installed signs yesterday advising of the facility's closure and directing people to alternative conveniences at Cosy Corner and near the corner of The Esplanade and Anderson Street. In addition, temporary fencing has been erected around the site in preparation for demolition works commencing today," said Mr Davies.

"The new facility replaces a very old and run-down facility, which many locals would agree should have gone long ago. Its design has been four years in the making and has involved extensive consultation with residents, the Surf Coast Shire and Department of Sustainability and Environment," he said.

Designed by Geelong-based architect Peter Woolard, the final design acknowledges the site as being in a highly visible, sensitive coastal location. It incorporates a range of design features that seek to merge the building with its landscape, thereby reducing its overall visual impact.

In addition, sensitive landscaping around the building will complement the facility and its surrounds.

"When completed, the new block will provide separate facilities for men and women, disabled and baby change facilities, and an outdoor shower. Its footprint and impact on the site will be less than what's currently there while ensuring the facility is readily accessible to everyone," explained Mr Davies.

"We're confident that thousands of local and visiting beach and foreshore users will appreciate the contemporary design and spacious amenities, which will be so much better than the existing outmoded facility," he said.

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