

Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

5/2/2016

Darian Road car park plans released

A final plan for the redevelopment of the foreshore car park at the end of Darian Road, Torquay has been released by the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee (GORCC) with works expected to start in mid-2016.

GORCC CEO Richard Davies said the new design would see improvements to safety and usability and would provide the same number of car spaces as the current layout.

“The upgrade will result in increased disabled parking, improved pedestrian and traffic safety, upgraded stormwater treatment systems and enhanced turn capacity for long vehicles,” he said.

The plan also provides for increased community facilities such as BBQ and picnic areas and open space.

Mr Davies said the eight submissions received in 2015 during community consultation on the draft plans had been considered in the development of the final plan.

“As part of this consultation process some residents expressed concerns regarding the revegetation works proposed as they felt this would affect the view from their properties.

“In response to this feedback we have reduced the number of trees proposed and amended the layout to use smaller groups of trees with additional gaps in-between,” he said.

Mr. Davies said revegetation with indigenous species was an important part of the plan, allowing GORCC to provide shade, improve the general amenity of the area and increase habitat available for wildlife.

“We have worked to balance the revegetation program with the desires of property owners and the final plan will minimise impact on views,” he said.

“We have also selected slow-growing, indigenous Moonah Trees, which in an exposed coastal area like this will take many years to establish and will be unlikely to exceed 10 metres in height,” he said.

GORCC has been liaising with the Surf Coast Shire regarding complementary upgrade works scheduled for the Esplanade.

- 1 -

“We are working with the council to ensure the foreshore and esplanade works are undertaken concurrently, minimising construction impacts in the area,” said Mr. Davies.

The final plan and graphics depicting the site now, in 2-5 years, and in 15-20 years (when vegetation reaches maturity) are available for viewing on the GORCC website at www.gorcc.com.au.

- Ends -

For media enquiries please contact:

Jane Lovejoy

Community Liaison Manager

Great Ocean Road Coast Committee

Ph: (03) 5220 5055

Email: jane.l@gorcc.com.au

Web: www.gorcc.com.au

