

Newsletter

December / 2021



Geelong City Deal projects in Colac Otway Shire

The [Geelong City Deal](#) is delivering three major infrastructure projects funded by the Australian Government along the Colac Otway Shire coastline at Apollo Bay, Kennett River and Skenes Creek.

The City Deal is a 10-year plan to revitalise Geelong and unlock the potential of the Great Ocean Road economy. The Australian and Victorian governments, together with local government, will deliver \$382.48 million under the City Deal, supporting the region's continued economic diversification and growth of the visitor economy.

Project details are on the [Colac Otway Shire Council website](#).

Community Engagement, November 2021

The project team for the Geelong City Deal projects engaged with the community in November, online, to provide a project update and present information and designs for two of the three projects currently underway.

The Apollo Bay Harbour and Kennett River project updates were available online from 1 – 15 November. This was an opportunity to present these projects to the community and receive their thoughts. Online Q&A sessions with the design consultants were also held for the community to ask questions of the projects.

The project webpages received over 1000 views, and more than 100 people registered to join the Q&A sessions.

A summary of what was heard is being collated and will be available in December on Council's [website](#) under project update.



Apollo Bay Harbour Redevelopment

A survey for the Apollo Bay Harbour Redevelopment concept designs showed that 71% of respondents preferred the boat hulls concept design for the new promenade.

This result provides the designers with direction for preparing the designs for the promenade and boardwalk. Community feedback is one part of the design input, Harbour user groups and government agencies will also contribute to the design outcomes, as well as the Office of the Victorian Government Architect.

Other responses on the survey for the Apollo Bay Harbour project showed:

- 75% agreed the promenade designs create a great public space
- 68% felt the new Port Operations Depot in its new location improves the functionality and look of the harbour precinct
- 56% thought the Nelson Street upgrades provide an improved linkage to town

Kennett River Tourism Infrastructure Improvements

A project update was made available online in November 2021 and included visual representations of the plans now that the detailed designs are nearing completion.

These designs built on the concept plans which were presented to the community for input earlier in the year, and have been further refined to meet Australian road standards.

An online Q&A session with the design consultants and representatives from Colac Otway Shire Council offered an opportunity to discuss the latest designs and ask questions about the proposed wastewater treatment plant.

There was considerable feedback from participants in the Q&A and some project areas were scrutinised and discussed at length, with key concerns being heard.

These concerns have been raised with the governance groups and funding bodies to provide further clarification for the community. The project team continues to seek further information as part of the approvals and permits process and latest developments will be communicated as the project progresses.

Apollo Bay to Skenes Creek Coastal Trail

As indicated in the previous newsletter, recent estimates of probable construction costs for the Coastal Trail are over budget, and alternative solutions continue to be sought.

Whilst this review of costs is occurring, the design and approvals process continues.

It is anticipated a community update will take place in early 2022 to provide visual representations of the design for the Coastal Trail along with the findings of the studies and reports as part of the approvals process.

The project team looks forward to providing this information to the community.



Apollo Bay Harbour promenade proposal.

If you missed the project update, [click here](#) to view first concept designs released in November 2021.

Project Timeline

It is anticipated these Geelong City Deal projects will be planned, designed and constructed over three years. Due to the range of projects and stakeholders involved, a staged approach will see an approximate delivery timeframe of:

