Long Jetty Rehabilitation Project

Summary

The rehabilitation of the Port Welshpool Long Jetty is a South Gippsland Shire Council key priority project.

Once complete, the Long Jetty will significantly enhance regional economic growth through increased tourism and employment opportunities.

For this reason, it is the largest tourism infrastructure project to ever be undertaken in South Gippsland.

The project involves the rehabilitation the iconic and historically significant Long Jetty for pedestrians, fishers, tourists and for other recreational users. It will also reduce the safety risk for navigation channel users.

The project will result in increased spending by additional visitors attracted to Port Welshpool and the broader South Gippsland region.

Benefits

The outcomes for this project include:

- Retention and redevelopment of a historic regional icon.
- Rehabilitation of the jetty to the section burnt in the 2010 fire to a standard that allows promenading and recreational fishing.
- Conservation of the jetty in alignment with the Conservation Management Plan.
- Habitat retention around existing underwater pylons and structures.
- Improvement of jetty safety from fire and provide all abilities access by replacing the current existing wooden surface with a concrete alternative.

During the last 12 months, the level of urgency for securing the remaining funds to deliver the Long Jetty Rehabilitation Project has escalated due to further degradation of the structure.
Our Next Steps

In Progress

The Long Jetty Rehabilitation project is currently underway.

Funding for the Long Jetty Revitalisation Project has been secured at all levels of government.

The project is funded as follows:

• $1 million Council contribution
• $5 million Victorian Government’s Putting Locals First Program
• $4.85 million Federal Government contribution

Impact

Economic impact assessments estimate that the project will generate:

• Over $6 million in increased expenditure in the region during the first ten years of operation
• $26 million increase in economic output associated with construction, spread across a three-year period
• $32 million in total economic impact over the first 10 years of operation
• Ninety-six additional jobs during the construction phase and five ongoing jobs.

An economic benefit of $600,000 will benefit the accommodation, food and beverage and retail sectors from increased overnight visitor numbers and improved occupancy rates for local accommodation providers.

The restoration of the Long Jetty will provide the opportunity to create a natural tourism product to complement Wilsons Promontory and Agnes Falls.