

## MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### **Council Set to Break Ground on \$12.5M Boat Harbour Beach Master Plan— Tenders to be awarded for Construction**

Waratah-Wynyard Council is set to advance two major community infrastructure projects, worth a combined \$17.5 million, following its upcoming September meeting. These key initiatives, designed to enhance vital public amenities, include the much-anticipated redevelopment of Boat Harbour Beach and the first steps in the creation of a new childcare facility in Wynyard.

The Boat Harbour Beach Master Plan, which was first adopted in 2019 after extensive community consultation, is poised to enter the construction phase, with Council set to award a contract at the September meeting. The project will deliver a modern community facility, featuring new club rooms and operational spaces for the Surf Life Saving Club, a café and upgraded public amenities. The redevelopment will also see improvements to roads, car parking, and the foreshore, creating landscaped areas and play spaces to enrich the experience for visitors.

Mayor Mary Duniam said the redevelopment of Boat Harbour Beach is an important milestone for the region. “This is one of our flagship projects for the year, and it will transform this iconic part of our community. The new Surf Life Saving Club, café, and enhanced public spaces will not only improve amenities for local residents and visitors but will also provide a place where community groups can continue to thrive”.

“Boat Harbour Beach holds a special place in the hearts of many, and these upgrades will ensure it remains a vibrant hub for generations to come.”

Construction is expected to begin this summer and be completed by mid-March 2026. The \$12.5M project is funded through contributions from Council, the State Government, the Federal Government’s Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Priority Community Infrastructure Program.

In addition to the Boat Harbour Beach redevelopment, Council is set to move forward and award a tender for design and permits for a new childcare facility in Wynyard. The new centre is intended to replace the existing Warawyn Childcare Centre and incorporate outside school hours care services at a single, purpose-built location. The facility, to be located on George/Gibbons Street, will initially accommodate 80 children, with room for future expansion to 120 places.

“Access to quality childcare is crucial for working families, and this new facility will help us meet the growing demand in the community. It will also create new job opportunities, with at least six additional full-time positions to be filled. This project will not only benefit local families but will also support the wider economy by enabling parents to return to the workforce when they’re ready” said Mayor Duniam.

#### **Waratah Wynyard Council**

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The project will form part of the Wynyard Education Precinct, located near key educational institutions including the existing Larapi Child and Family Learning Centre, Table Cape Primary School and Wynyard High School. Design and permits are expected to be achieved in the 2024/25 financial year with construction expected to commence in late 2025.

Waratah-Wynyard Council continues to focus on delivering key infrastructure that meets the needs of the community and supports its growth, ensuring that essential services keep pace with demand.

**Authorised for general media distribution by Shane Crawford, General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on Wednesday 11th September, 2024.**