

MEDIA RELEASE

Signed and sealed: Now it's time to deliver Goolwa Wharf Precinct Stage 2

21 September 2023

Alexandrina Council has now signed a contract with McMahon Services to deliver Stage 2 of the Goolwa Wharf Precinct with Council this week approving a revised overall project budget of \$17.4 million, which includes \$1 million in potential contingencies.

McMahon Services is well known by Council having recently successfully delivered the \$1.9 million Beacon 19 Boat Ramp for Council within budget.

Council was originally set to negotiate and sign a contract with the preferred supplier within the overall \$14.5 million project budget following a Council decision in January 2023.

However, because of escalating materials and labour costs, the negotiated amount exceeded the budget. A decision was then made to go back out to tender receiving additional pricing from multiple suppliers.

Alexandrina's Chief Executive Officer, Nigel Morris, said Council realised the new tender would delay the project, but they wanted to get the best value for the community.

"The Goolwa Wharf Precinct is an important South Australian heritage site, an iconic tourism destination and a major driver of economic activity in our region so we are dedicated to getting this project right and committed to achieving value for money," Mr Morris said.

"Inspections of the wharf itself, including assessment by divers, revealed more needed to be done to remediate the structure than was originally anticipated.

"Like the rest of Australia, we are also experiencing the reality of high inflationary pressures on materials and labour costs and when costings for final designs came in from our initial contractor, we knew we had to go back out and test the market.

"This has caused delays, but we have already purchased the specialist timber we need for the wharf remediation and the new contractor is scheduled to start works on site in late October or early November.

"To emphasise the scale of this project, the Goolwa Wharf decking construction will involve enough timber if lined up end-to-end it would reach from Goolwa to Middleton and halfway back again, some 9,030 linear metres of timber.

"We are delighted with the progress of Stage 1, the renewal of the Signal Point building as a multi-purpose experience centre, which is scheduled to be finished by the end of 2023.



“As part of the initial steps in Stage 2, we have launched the ‘Register of Interest’ process for leasing or investing in the 12 commercially available premises in the precinct.

“Interest in the precinct is encouraging with our simple submissions process closing on 29 September 2023.

“Investment in the Goolwa Wharf Precinct once-in-a-generation opportunity and we look forward to working with the wider community to make this iconic site a vibrant destination that showcases the history and future of our region.”

The entire \$17.4 million Goolwa Wharf Precinct project includes \$3.75 million in funding from the Australian Government and \$1.25 million from the Government of South Australia.

With contracts now signed and sealed it is time to deliver.

To find out more about the Goolwa Wharf Precinct Activation, head to www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/live/projects/major-projects/goolwa-wharf-precinct

For enquires regarding the publication of this article contact;

Tash Hunt – Executive Manager Office of the CEO

Phone: 8555 7000 / 0458 869 232

Email: communications@alexandrina.sa.gov.au