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MEDIA RELEASE

Community vision for the iconic Goolwa Wharf Precinct Master Plan

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A future vision for Alexandrina's iconic Goolwa Wharf Precinct has been revealed and the draft Master Plan will deliver on Council's vision to be *"A place to experience a vibrant riverfront township enriched with culture and history."*

The draft Master Plan will deliver a Precinct that showcases its many unique features, cementing this iconic destination as a great place to visit and spend time, for locals and tourists alike. New landscaping, shared use paths, signage and lighting will provide a new level of amenity for the area. Creating places and spaces that are accessible, connected, inviting and attractive, and encourage the use and exploration of the waterfront area and wharf through to the Goolwa main street and township.

Mayor Parkes is excited to see the draft Master Plan revealed for the project.

'This Master Plan will create a fabulous public space and really celebrates the cultural heritage of the Precinct, both of Traditional Owners as a special 'meeting of the waters' place for the Ngarrindjeri people, and European steam powered rail and river activity. The overall Master Plan is impressive and creates a sense of arrival to this magnificent waterfront Precinct,' he said.

Other elements of the draft Plan will include; consolidation of parking to improve safety, legibility and accessibility; upgrades to the Historic Wharf Shed to provide enhanced tenancy space and business opportunities (such as a wine bar, restaurant or café, providore or local gallery); and relocation of the PS Oscar W boat to the south end of the wharf and the creation of a new dedicated building for its volunteers and boat operations.

The Signal Point building will be renewed as part of the project with internal and external improvements undertaken to create a flexible, multi-use space to maximise the use of the building. Additional to this, a new canopy will be installed over the entrance decking to improve all weather use combined with landscaping to improve the visible connection and integration with the whole Precinct.

Accessibility improvements to the building will ensure inclusivity and works will be undertaken to replace the roof and air-conditioning. In May 2021 Council secured funds from the Murray Darling Basin Economic Development Grant Program to develop an immersive story telling initiative in the Signal Point building. This initiative will bring to life the rich history of the area by telling old stories in new ways.

Mr Rappensberg is excited to reach the stage of the draft Master Plan being revealed for community feedback.

“We have developed a Master Plan to guide the future of the Goolwa Wharf Precinct. The Plan will help shape the ‘look and feel’ of this iconic waterfront space, so we can create a space for residents, workers and visitors to Goolwa to enjoy.

This investment in the Goolwa Wharf Precinct reflects Council’s strategic direction “To Thrive” and will establish the ‘canvas’ for innovative and diverse activities ranging from new business opportunities, outdoor dining, pop ups, festivals and community events,” he said.

Community engagement activities have been extensive to reach this point and Council will now commence consultation following its September Council Meeting, to gauge community feedback from 22 September until 22 October. Feedback from the draft Master Plan will be summarised for Council decision in November.

Federal and State Government funding combined with Council’s funding commitment will provide \$8.5 million investment towards the Master Plan and see work commence this year. Significant stages of the greater Master Plan will be completed in December 2022 to meet the current grant funding requirements.

For further information on the project and to view the draft Master Plan visit Council’s website. You can provide your feedback when consultation opens this week on Wednesday, 22 September visit **mysay.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/goolwawharf**

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