

# Media Release

The Hon Sonya Kilkeny MP  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for the Suburbs



Wednesday, 7 August 2024

## NEW TRAIL TO CONNECT INVERLOCH AND WONTHAGGI

Works are underway on a 14-kilometre shared path that will make it easier for pedestrians and cyclists to travel around the Bass Coast, thanks to funding from the Allan Labor Government and Bass Coast Shire Council.

Minister for Suburbs Sonya Kilkeny, Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale and Mayor of Bass Coast Shire Council Clare Le Serve were in Inverloch to celebrate the beginning of works on the jointly funded \$7.7 million trail upgrade between Inverloch and Wonthaggi.

The shared path between Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club and the Bass Coast Rail Trail in Wonthaggi will provide pedestrians and cyclists with a scenic route along wetlands as well as glimpses of the Bass Coast. The pathway will connect to a much greater off-road shared pathway link extending from Inverloch to Cowes.

The project is being delivered by Bass Coast Shire Council, with construction on the shared pathway expected to be complete by mid-year 2026.

The Labor Government contributed \$3 million to the trail upgrade through the Growing Suburbs Fund. The fund represents a \$440 million investment in local critical infrastructure in growing communities over 10 years.

Since its establishment in 2015, the Growing Suburbs Fund has supported 360 projects, representing a total infrastructure investment of \$1.3 billion, and has created more than 11,300 jobs.

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Suburbs Sonya Kilkeny**

*By supporting local councils to build better paths for walking and cycling, we're making our communities more liveable and accessible, helping people get around more easily and admire our beautiful landscapes."*

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Public and Active Transport Gabrielle Williams**

*"This investment builds on the 320 kilometres of new and upgraded paths and lanes we've delivered across the state, because we recognise the importance of improving active transport connections for Victorian communities."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale**

*"Thrilled to see that we are on the way to connecting our towns and opening up an off-road shared path for our kids, visitors, families, everyone!"*

### **Quote attributable to Mayor of Bass Coast Shire Council**

*"This new off-road path will connect Inverloch and Wonthaggi, providing a scenic and practical active recreation and commuter links as well as enhancing community health and wellbeing and adding a new nature-based tourism attraction."*

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