

## Media release

Embargoed until 1.00pm Thursday, 19th of December

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### Coastal Pathway Launch

Federal Member for Braddon, Gavin Pearce and Minister for State Growth, the Hon. Michael Ferguson, today joined the Mayors of Latrobe, Devonport and Central Coast to “turn the sod” on the \$14.4M Coastal Pathway extension being managed by the Cradle Coast Authority.

Jointly funded by all three Councils, state and federal government, the project will see additional pathway being built across the Latrobe, Devonport and Central Coast municipalities between now and March 2021.

Construction will commence on the 3.6-kilometre Latrobe to Ambleside section, with 17 additional kilometres to be constructed, 21 kilometres to be constructed in total.

“Our Council and community very much look forward to the construction of the Coastal Pathway and in particular, that section between Latrobe and Devonport which will provide a wonderful linkage into not only the Latrobe township but also the Wild Mersey Mountain Bike Trails, which will ultimately link Latrobe through to Sheffield via Railton. Not only do we expect an economic benefit but also improved opportunities for recreation and an associated improvement in general health and wellbeing outcomes. We are pleased and proud to engage with our neighbouring Councils and acknowledge that this project of regional significance is only possible due to the collaborative framework provided by the Cradle Coast Authority” said Latrobe Mayor Peter Freshney.

“Today is such an important milestone for our region as the Coastal Pathway becomes a reality. Our Councils recognise this project as regionally significant, not only because of the health and wellbeing benefits for our communities but also the huge opportunities for further tourism and economic development” said Central Coast Mayor Bonde

“This is an exciting next step in the project, which promises to be a real boon for tourism in the region. It is also a classic example of councils working together for the betterment of the entire region rather than being blinkered by local government boundaries,” Devonport Mayor Annette Rockliff said.

“Devonport looks forward to progress on this stage and also the remainder of the 21 km project which will eventually extend region wide. Council has already set aside \$1.6 million in funding for this stage and also the Don-Leith section.” Said Mayor Annette Rockliff.

“As one of the most appealing parts of the Coastal Pathway, construction of this section will offer a safe pathway for both bike users and pedestrians.” said Keith Price, Chairman, Safer Roads for Cyclists.

Cradle Coast Authority CEO, Daryl Connelly, said that the project was a really great example of what can be achieved when Councils work together.

“The Cradle Coast Authority works with and for our Member Councils to make our corner of the island an even greater place to live, work, visit and invest. This project ticks every single one of these boxes.



Our Member Councils have a vision for a pathway that extends right across the region. This project sees more of that vision realised, and we look forward to partnering with state and federal government on future extensions and improvements" said Mr Connelly.

The Australian Government and Tasmanian Government have each committed \$4.8M to the project, and the three Councils will jointly cover the remaining third.

**The roadside location does not lend itself to a public event. Media representatives are invited to attend the event. To reduce vehicle numbers at the location, we will rendezvous at the Axeman's Hall of Fame at 12:50pm.**

**Media contact:**

Daryl Connelly

Chief Executive Officer

Cradle Coast Authority

0488 333 893

[dconnelly@cradlecoast.com](mailto:dconnelly@cradlecoast.com)

Cradle Coast Authority

1-3 Spring Street, Burnie

Tasmania 7320

[www.cradlecoast.com](http://www.cradlecoast.com)

[www.facebook.com/cradlecoastauthority](https://www.facebook.com/cradlecoastauthority)

