



Media Release

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City Deal a game changer

G21-Geelong Region Alliance is proud to have played strong part in advocating the new Federal City Deal, which will bring transformative economic benefits for Geelong region and the Great Ocean Road.

Chief Executive Officer Elaine Carbines said today's formalising of the Deal by Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Acting Premier James Merlino marked an historic day for the city.

It heralds visionary investment of many millions of dollars in major projects across years, driving growth and employment.

"G21 is delighted to congratulate Malcolm Turnbull and Premier Daniel Andrews for having reached this significant landmark agreement, in partnership with the City of Greater Geelong, unlocking a transformative era for the Geelong region," Ms Carbines said.

"G21 has been at the forefront of lobbying for a City Deal, including talks with Mr Turnbull in Canberra last March. We look forward to accelerating discussion on projects to be included, and their far-reaching impacts.

"We would like to think a Geelong City Deal would include investment for projects including Geelong convention and exhibition centre, the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan and Great Ocean Road, Geelong CBD revitalisation, Geelong waterfront safe harbour and the continued growth of advanced manufacturing."

Ms Carbines also applauded the advocacy of Member for Corangamite Sarah Henderson, and the collaborative approach of advocates and organisations in focusing Geelong's bid.

"Successful City Deals focus on leveraging the particular strengths and qualities of cities and depend strongly on unified voice and sharing of vision for realising potential and economic growth," she said.

G21 has maintained that a Geelong City Deal should in part focus on the regional visitor economy, which helps power Geelong-based projects like the convention and exhibition centre.

Ms Carbines also welcomed Mr Turnbull's announcement today of \$20 million funding for 21 projects in Geelong region via the Geelong Regional Jobs and Investment Packages program.

The investment is forecast to generate more than 1200 jobs.

Allocations range from \$5 million for LeMond Composites advanced carbon fibre manufacturing at Deakin University, \$3 million for the proposed Cape Otway Road Australia (CORA) elite sports and wellbeing centre at Modewarre and \$2 million for the Royal Geelong Yacht Club safe harbour project, to \$70,000 for Teamworks Performance for upgrading of garment manufacturing equipment.

Ms Carbines was a member of the Corangamite Jobs and Investment Panel which assessed funding priorities.

"This \$20 million investment will travel a long way. It covers such a great breadth of initiatives and industries, providing them with invaluable momentum, all stimulating growth and jobs," Ms Carbines said.

"We look forward to seeing the significant benefits."

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