



Media Release

17th March 2014

G21 Board Canberra-bound

A G21 – Geelong Region Alliance board delegation to Canberra this week will push the region’s priority infrastructure and community development projects with federal politicians and their advisers.

G21 CEO Elaine Carbines said the delegation was specifically timed to deliver messages to politicians about the challenges our region faces and about the opportunities to invest in key projects which would stimulate employment in our region.

The G21 board will spend next Wednesday and Thursday (19-20 March) in Canberra and expects to meet with key ministers, shadow ministers and advisers, including:

- The Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott, MP
- The Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP
- Minister for Industry, the Hon Ian Macfarlane MP
- Minister for Social Services, the Hon Kevin Andrews MP
- Minister for Environment, the Hon Greg Hunt MP
- Assistant Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Jamie Briggs
- Parliamentary Secretary for Defence, the Hon Darren Chester MP
- The Leader of the Opposition, the Hon Bill Shorten MP
- Shadow Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon Stephen Conroy
- Shadow Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Shadow Minister for Tourism, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP
- Shadow Minister for Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Industry, Senator the Hon Kim Carr
- Shadow Minister for Families, Payments and Disability Reform, the Hon Jenny Macklin MP
- Shadow Minister for Regional Development and Local Government, Shadow Minister for Employment Services, the Hon Julie Collins

“The delegation is part of a long-term strategy to reinforce the importance of projects to the region with key government and opposition decision makers,” Ms Carbines said.

“The G21 board will be advocating primarily for the 15 priority projects identified as significant to the region.

“These include, among other items, the redevelopment of the Yarra St Pier and the Land 400 project which would see the design and manufacture of the next generation of combat vehicles in Geelong, improved rail and road transport links to Melbourne and infrastructure support for the growth of Avalon,” Ms Carbines said.

A complete list of the 15 G21 priority projects likely to be discussed by the delegation in Canberra is available on the G21 website – www.g21.com.au

“Realistically, we are unlikely to get promises on our various projects while in Canberra. Rather, our aim is to ensure the region’s needs are top-of-mind as future budgeting decisions and commitments are made,” Ms Carbines said.

“It’s a strategy that we are confident will pay dividends over coming months and years.

“A trip of this nature demonstrates that we are united as a region. The G21 delegation will speak with one voice, making it plain to Canberra that we have a clear and agreed vision for our region.”

The delegation will include mayors and CEOs of the five G21 member municipalities (Greater Geelong, Colac Otway, Surf Coast, Queenscliffe and Golden Plains), other G21 directors and the G21 CEO.

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