Jordan Crugnale MP
STATE MEMBER FOR BASS

Media Release

SILVERLEAVES PLAN RELEASED WITH IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING

The Allan Labor Government is taking action to strengthen Philip Island coastlines from the impacts of coastal erosion to ensure families and tourists can continue to enjoy the best beaches in the world.

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos has released the East Cowes and Silverleaves Adaptation Plan that sets out the mitigation and adaptation pathways for this vulnerable section of coastline over the coming decades..

The plan was created by combining community input, scientific and geotechnical assessments to determine what was expected by the local community and to guide long term management strategies.

In recent years, Silverleaves has been affected by coastal erosion, significant storm tide and inundation resulting in increased shoreline setback and loss of parts of the coastal reserve.

The community has been central to the decision-making process and formation of the final adaptation plan, ensuring the features and values most in need of protection are documented, according to the people who live or frequent there.

Community insights indicate a distinct preference for nature-based intervention methods and strong support for the proposed pathways detailed in the plan including dune reconstruction, rock walls, groyne fields.

Another strategy is the installation of plant zones in key locations, by planting native shoreline plants that are suited to living in waves, this will help relieve the pressure of the beaches and prevent erosion.

The Labor Government has delivered over $700,000 in funding for coastal projects at Silverleaves, including short-term sand nourishment works and a rock-bag revetment.

Additional funding of $1.4 million has been provided to Bass Coast Shire Council to start implementing the recommended adaptation pathway designs and phase one of construction works to protect the coastline.

The East Cowes and Silverleaves Adaptation Plan is live at engage.vic.gov.au/silverleaves-coastal-adaptation-pathways

Quote attributable to Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale

"This adaptation plan is a welcomed step in addressing coastal erosion and management. I want to thank community members and local residents for being active, involved and advocates outlining what they value most about this stretch of Westernport.

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Quote attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos

"Victoria's coastlines are facing significant challenges, we are tackling these challenges head-on with strategies to mitigate risks, and ensuring our communities and businesses are prepared for the future."

IMAGE

Jordan Crugnale MP with Bass Coast Councillors, Community Reference Group Members and local residents.

L-R
Cr Tim O'Brien, Natalie Gray (CRG), Ken Hailey (East Cowes Foreshore Preventative Action Group), Cr Tracey Bell, Martin Walker (CRG) and Stephen Lapin (CRG)

END