



PRESS RELEASE

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TO: Media Contacts

Trail to connect Collie with Minninup Pool

Collie's ambition of becoming a nationally significant Trails Town is another step closer thanks to a funding announcement by the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities for a Collie River Trail and Trail Corridor.

The Collie River Trail will connect the township of Collie with the beautiful Minninup Pool with a 6.5-kilometre-long, high-quality, dual-use trail through stunning bush next to the Collie River.

The project includes a trail link between the Coombes Street Bridge and the East End Bridge on both sides of the Collie River funding by the Department of Transport.

Once complete, the Collie River Trail will add to an already impressive trail network with Collie at its centre, including the recently completed Wagyl Biddi mountain bike trail network and the dual-use Karak Trail that connects Collie with Allanson.

The new trail will also integrate the town of Collie with the Bibbulmun Track for hikers and the Munda Biddi mountain bike trail.

This project is a significant step towards achieving the Shire of Collie's focus on the development of a network of trails to provide new economic opportunities for the region through tourism, improved amenity for residents and connection with places of natural and cultural interest.

"The Collie River Trail is a significant project that connects our beautiful natural assets and existing trail network with the facilities and amenities of our town centre," Shire President Sarah Stanley said. "Trails are great tools to connect people with places, with nature, with community and with each other."

"I expect we'll be seeing many more cars with mountain bikes strapped to them, spending several days exploring the beautiful Collie River Valley, needing to be fed, watered and a place to lay their head."

"And in the long term, people that come to Collie to enjoy our trails may decide they like it so much, they'll unpack and live here."

The Collie River Trail and Trail Corridor Project has been made possible thanks to the \$420,000 funding commitment through the Australian Government's Building Better Regions fund,

matched by a \$40,000 contribution from the Shire of Collie, \$250,000 from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, \$90,000 from South 32 and \$40,000 from the South West Development Commission.

The project will be constructed in two stages, with the first stage beginning in August this year and final completion expected in 2020.

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