



FROM THE COAST

How will the Waterfront landscaping change the foreshore?

The transformational Esperance Waterfront project has entered an exciting stage with the commencement of the landscaping works. When the work is complete we will have a world-class waterfront area for Esperance and I look forward to seeing the final result.

A beachside urban plaza, celebrating Esperance, will be created at James Street and will provide a landmark entry point to the waterfront. It will feature art, beach shelters, coastal planting and facilities including new barbecues, picnic tables, shelters, informal seating and wide stairs in the beach access zone. Boulders of local Esperance granite will be placed in garden areas and feature in landscape detailing. Public art will enhance the plaza and the whale tail sculpture will be large enough to be visible both along the foreshore and as you look from town towards the sea. The plaza will also provide convenient access to the beach. Showers, towel rails, bicycle racks and a drinking fountain will complement the beach experience for users.

Since strolling and exercising along the foreshore are enjoyed so much by the community connectivity between the separate areas of the Waterfront will be improved through the widening of the existing dual-use path to three metres. At Brazier Street the sea wall extends slightly and is lower offering a sea view platform close to sea level.

To maintain the natural beauty of our coastline trees and coastal dunes will be planted along the foreshore, providing shelter from wind while enhancing key views. Grass areas will be created and our Norfolk Pines will be protected and highlighted with uplighting. Heritage interpretation features will include signage, artwork, playground equipment and storyboards. They will tell some of the stories of Esperance.

On the headland a boardwalk deck will be constructed following the alignment of the Tanker Jetty. A playground and spaces for food and coffee vendor vans will be created. Paths will connect the jetty boardwalk and links to the alfresco plaza, new toilet block and car park. The interactive rudders sculpture public art will also feature.

The landscaping work covers a large area and the entire site has been fenced off because infrastructure beneath the foreshore needs to be worked on simultaneously. This control of the site will enable contractor Sime Building and Construction to complete the work as efficiently, quickly and inexpensively as possible. While the fencing currently along our foreshore is temporarily interfering with our ocean views, I am confident the promise of what to come will be worth the wait.