

# Save Bastion Point

*protect this coastal environment from inappropriate development*

## MEDIA RELEASE

**Monday, 13 August 2012**

### **It's finally time for Council to adopt a low impact solution for Mallacoota's Bastion Point**

Last week the State Government asked East Gippsland Shire Council to make its intentions known, by the end of 2012, as to what it proposes for Bastion Point.

The Save Bastion Point Campaign (SBPC) is calling on the Shire Council to listen to the community and follow the findings of a community consultation conducted by the Department of Transport earlier this year, which found that by far the most popular option for Bastion Point was a low-key upgrade at the site of the current boat ramp, without breakwaters.

Victoria's peak boating group, the Boating Industry Association of Victoria, also supported this option in the consultation.

"The Government has left it in the Council's court as to whether it will seek Coastal Management Act approval for the large Option 3b", said spokesman for the SBPC, Mr Leo op den Brouw.

"Option 3b is a dinosaur development which includes a massive breakwater and road on the beach. It will impact heavily on surfing and the character and amenity of Bastion Point, and was found by the Environment Effects Statement Inquiry in 2008 to be uneconomic and to the long term detriment of tourism."

"The Option 3b development was rejected by 87% of the broader community in two separate public consultation periods conducted over the last four years. As in the past, we urge Council to recognise that the community does not support Option 3b. Furthermore, this option does not meet either the letter or intent of the Coastal Management Act."

In April this year, SBPC was one of 19 local, state, national and international organisations that called for a community-supported upgrade of the boat ramp at the current site.

Signatories included the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, Surfriider Foundation Australia, the Victorian National Parks Association, Australian Conservation Foundation and the National Trust.

#### **Contact details for interviews –**

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#### **Background information**

The Department of Transport consultation report is at <http://savebastionpoint.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/DoT-Review-Submissions-March-2012.pdf> , Boating Industry Association of Victoria submission is no. 287.

A graphical summary of the review process is at <http://savebastionpoint.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Presentation-Part-2.pdf>

Joint statement from 19 organisations is at <http://savebastionpoint.org/wp-content/uploads/2008/05/JOINT-STATEMENT-Bastion-Point-final-outlines1.pdf>