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For immediate release

Shire of Broome secures \$1.66m CoastalWA grant for vital Cable Beach foreshore protection works

Vital coastal protection works at the northern end of the Cable Beach foreshore precinct are set to go ahead, with Broome coming out top in the latest round of State Government CoastWA grants.

The Shire of Broome has secured \$1.66 million for works that will include the construction of low-crested rock revetment to protect the area in front of the Cable Beach amphitheatre and either side of the existing vehicle access ramp.

The work will be integrated into the Walmanyjun Cable Beach Foreshore Redevelopment (WCBFR).

The WA Government provided the funding under the Hotspot Coastal Adaptation and Protection program (H-CAP), which distributes grants to assist in designing and implementing coastal adaptation works across WA.

The \$1.66 million payment to the Shire of Broome is a significant contribution for a single project and represents 100 per cent of the H-CAP funding available for FY24/25 and 22 per cent of all H-CAP funding across the program's life.

The Shire sought funding after wave modelling and analysis identifying this small part of Cable Beach's 22km coastline receives wave focusing and shoaling due to a natural reef system, resulting in increased erosion that exposes rocks and the pindan headland.

The area is also vulnerable to cyclone-induced storm surges, and previous Shire efforts to control erosion in this area involved gabion (mesh) rock baskets with limited success.

The revetment is crucial in addressing significant erosion and protecting the culturally significant northern headland, which aligns with Nyamba Buru Yawuru's Heritage Survey

requirements. It will extend between two existing rocky outcrops and protect 105m of foreshore and adjoining infrastructure, including the amphitheatre, vehicle access ramp,

Broome Camp School, Cable Beach Club Resort, and critical outlets for Millington Road and Cable Beach West Road drainage areas.

Shire of Broome President Chris Mitchell thanked Planning Minister John Carey and Deputy Premier and Transport Minister Rita Saffioti for the H-CAP grant, which will help make the much-needed coastal protection works a reality.

Shire President Mitchell said the Coastal WA grant is the latest important funding announcement for the Walmanyjun Cable Beach Foreshore Redevelopment, which is continuing to progress without significant cost to ratepayers.

"It is also one of the most important announcements," he said.

"Unlike the sandy dunes to the south, the current pindan dune slope has been heavily modified over the years, making the area more vulnerable to storm surges and heavy rain.

"This has resulted in several landslips, which has made the area the bottom of the amphitheatre unsightly and potentially unsafe."

"These works will give the area a new lease on life and ensure its protection from future storms and sea level rises so it remains a special place to view and access Cable Beach for many more years."

The \$1.66 million H-CAP grant follows the \$26.3 million in federal funding recently awarded to the Shire for Stage 2 of the WCBFR, slated to begin in 2025.

This is in addition to the \$12 million in grant funding already secured for Stage 1, which included \$11 million in federal grants and a \$1 million Lotterywest contribution, plus \$5 million Lotterywest funding for a waterpark to be built during Stage 3.

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