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Deep water public boat ramp a game-changer for Lake Nagambie

Strathbogie Shire Council has recently endorsed the allocation of \$100,000 from its Infrastructure Reserve Fund for a grant application for a deep water public boat ramp at Lake Nagambie.

The application has been made through the Department of Transport's *Boating Safety and Facilities Program*.

The boat ramp has a total budget of \$494,795, with \$100,000 contribution from Council, \$100,000 donation of the cost of the land and a request for \$294,795 from Department of Transport.

Council's Infrastructure Reserve Fund is a pool of money reserved for capital projects to leverage against grant programs.

Council are more likely to successfully receive a grant if they are able to contribute to the cost of the project in some way.

There is currently no deep water boat launching facility within the vicinity or catchment of Nagambie Waterways.

As demand for large scale events increases, the current boat ramps will be unavailable for more days more often, which means recreational users are unable to access the waterways for extended periods of time.

Strathbogie Shire Mayor Amanda McClaren said the boat ramp will allow for direct access to the Goulburn River when the lake is closed for events and will better position Nagambie Lakes Regatta Centre to attract and retain more large scale events and competitions.

"Only last week was the announcement that Lake Nagambie and the Goulburn River will be hosting *GoFish Nagambie*, Australia's richest and largest freshwater fishing competition and outdoor lifestyle festival in April 2019," Mayor McClaren explained.

"A deep water boat ramp will be required to cater for the thousands of boats that will need to access the waterways over the four day event."

"This infrastructure forms part of our broader vision for Nagambie Lakes Regatta Centre to become an International Water Sports Centre of Excellence," she said.

The outcome of the application is forecast to be determined by the end of the financial year.

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