

MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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HERITAGE
COUNCIL



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HERITAGE COUNCIL VISITS ESPERANCE

Members of the Heritage Council and representatives from Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage met with the Esperance Shire Council in Esperance today.

All representatives were taken out to inspect the heritage listed Tanker Jetty before moving on to the Shire Depot to see the recovered section from the uncontrolled collapse. This also allowed visitors to see the condition of the deck planks which have previously been unavailable for condition assessment due to the concrete overlay.

A meeting was then held between the Heritage Council and the Shire Council which covered topics ranging from the removal of the superstructure and the concept design, to the principles and practices required to identify and recognise the cultural heritage of the Tanker Jetty.

Shire President Victoria Brown said "We would like to thank the Heritage Council for coming to Esperance and explaining what needs to be done to progress this project.

"It was helpful for both Councils to have the opportunity to exchange views and ideas and for the Heritage Council to get a better understanding of our current financial resources and community expectations."

The Heritage Council has stated they will support either of these options;

- Option one is reconstruction of the existing structure based on the 1935 design, potentially using old and new material. If this is not feasible then;
- Option two is replacement using a more contemporary design driven by heritage values constructed with new and recycled materials. For example, built to today's current engineering standards, the piles could be 9m apart rather than the 4.2m currently in place.

Heritage Council Chairperson, Anne Arnold recommended that the replacement design be led by a heritage architect and engineer to ensure the replacement reflects the values outlined in the statement of significance. The Heritage Council has offered to assist the Shire to identify suitable heritage expertise to assist with the task.

Mrs Arnold said, “The Heritage Council could support a reconstruction, but if the Shire concluded this was not feasible, then a replacement could be supported for which the recent concept plans were a positive starting point.

“Any design must have some interpretation of the length, width and elevation of the original jetty using lighting or another unique way to give visitors and locals the authentic experience of the original Tanker Jetty.”

Ends

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CC: Heritage Councillors Inspecting the Jetty

