



Gladstone Ports Corporation  
*Growth, Prosperity, Community.*

## Media Release

21 December 2009

### New public boat ramp for Gladstone

Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) will begin construction of a major new boat ramp in the Marina next year.

In what has been described as a big win for the boating community, the new boat ramp will feature five lanes, a floating pontoon and a new home for the Volunteer Marine Rescue Group (VMR).

CEO Leo Zussino said GPC's board approved the project at its final meeting for the year last week.

"We have been consulting with VMR for over two years on this project," Mr Zussino said.

"I would like to particularly thank those members of the VMR who have worked tirelessly with the port to ensure a modern and safe boat ramp facility.

"Their diligence and patience has been rewarded with an outstanding result."

Mr Zussino said the VMR would have a new office on site as well as a dedicated pontoon to berth their rescue vessel.

He said the project has been divided into three stages.

"The first stage involves building the boat ramp with five lanes and a floating pontoon, and housing for the smaller VMR boats.

"The second stage will include parking facilities for up to 110 trailer car parks and the third stage will consist of the new building for VMR Operations, sealing of the remaining car parks and landscaping."

Mr Zussino said the first stage of the boat ramp would be built at an initial cost of \$2.4 million.

"We considered different scenarios to increase boating facilities for the Gladstone community to access the harbour and after much consultation identified the Marina as the most appropriate location," Mr Zussino explained.

"The boating community have regularly raised concerns over insufficient access to the harbour and I am pleased we can make this announcement today.

"Nowhere on the east coast of Australia has a port provided such a facility for the public," Mr Zussino stated.

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