

Jeska Dee
Strategic Planner - Coastal
Draft letter to Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Private Bag 1000,
Rosebud VIC 3939
By email: jeska.dee@mornpen.vic.gov.au

INPUT TO HASTINGS BOAT RAMP CAR PARK DESIGN

Dear Jeska,

Further to VRFish's earlier submission in relation to the boat ramp at Hastings, we would like to re-iterate that the most important input into the way that the new facility is designed and operates comes from the regular users. In this case, the most accessible regular users are those at the fishing clubs located at the foreshore being Western Port Angling Club (WPAC).

Demand for recreational boat launching facilities across Westernport and Port Phillip Bay continues to grow and this means that facilities must increasingly be able to operate successfully during peak demand periods. Peak demand at boat launching facilities is influenced by a range of factors, including:

- Weather;
- Time of day;
- Days of the week;
- Season;
- Tides;
- Moon phase;
- Fishing reports;
- Road traffic;

Each of these factors has a unique influence on each boat launching location and this explains why there is no single design standard that can be used to ensure that a launching facility is fit for purpose. Instead, it is imperative that the factors that are the most important for each facility are understood and that the design allows for these factors.

**Let's make fishing
better, for everyone.**

For example, if the main peak demand period for a particular ramp is pre-dawn launches, increased peak traffic flow can be achieved through the use of good area lighting and reflective markings and markers on the ramp lanes and at the head of the ramp. If the peak demand is likely to be caused by the confluence of launching and retrieving traffic at the same time, then attention must be paid to the queuing capacity and equity between those arriving and those departing on both the land and water sides.

In each case the particular ways in which the ramp functions is known best by the users and therefore their experience and inputs are the single most important factor that will determine the success of the final design.

There are very few traffic engineers who have significant experience in the design of successful boat ramps and those that do will be well aware of the primacy of user experience in provision of detailed design input.

The best way to ensure that the design of the Hastings Boat Ramp Car Park leads to a successful outcome is to full and clear priority to the inputs of the users at WPAC.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Loats', written in a cursive style.

Rob Loats
Chair
Victorian Recreational Fishing Peak Body

2 September 2018