



# Media Release

6 September 2019

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## ***Shared path – constructing the final link***

Ballina Shire Council has started works to complete the final link of the Coastal Shared Path, from the Skennars Road roundabout to our iconic Pat Morton Lookout at Lennox Head.

“This section will be the final link to our shared path and will allow locals and visitors to walk, run or cycle all the way from West Ballina to Lennox Head village along our pristine coastline and riverside. This type of infrastructure is rare and will be a unique recreational asset for our shire,” said Cr David Wright, Ballina Shire Council Mayor.

Ballina Shire Council’s Visitor Services Team is also excited about the tourism opportunities the completed path will bring.

“This final link will create a connection for visitors and enable them to further explore our scenic coastline and the experiences offered along the way. We expect to see more visitors out on foot and bicycles exploring further than they previously would have,” said Ms Alicia Wallace, Team Leader Visitor Services.

“Funding for this section of the shared path is thanks to \$880,000 from the Australian Government’s Regional Jobs and Investment Package and \$880,000 from the NSW Government’s Stronger Country Communities Fund.”

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro said the Stronger Country Communities Fund was created to deliver infrastructure that improves the lives of local residents and the Coastal Shared Path project in Ballina Shire is just one of the hundreds of projects being delivered right across regional NSW.

“The completion of the Coastal Shared Path will be a fantastic asset to attract tourists to admire the natural beauty of this coastline and it will also provide an amazing recreational facility for locals to enjoy,” Mr Barilaro said.

“I congratulate the Ballina Shire community on winning this funding for the project, which is among more than 1,000 Stronger Country Communities Fund projects in regional NSW, with hundreds now close to completion.”

The Stronger Country Communities Fund is part of the \$1.7 billion Regional Growth Fund, which together with the \$4.2 billion Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund is delivering once-in-a-generation infrastructure that generates opportunities, investment and jobs, on top of the NSW Government’s \$1.8 billion in drought support measures.

This section of the path will be a combination of boardwalk and asphalt.

The Coast Road speed zone restrictions, north of the Skennars Head Road roundabout, have now been changed and will continue during construction. This is because the path's construction is in close proximity to the busy main road.

Council would like to thank the community for their patience during this time and anticipates the path will be completed by the end of 2019 (weather permitting).

For more information visit ***ballina.nsw.gov.au*** or contact council's Engineering Works Section 1300 864 444.

For further information about the Stronger Country Communities Fund, go to [www.nsw.gov.au/SCCF](http://www.nsw.gov.au/SCCF)

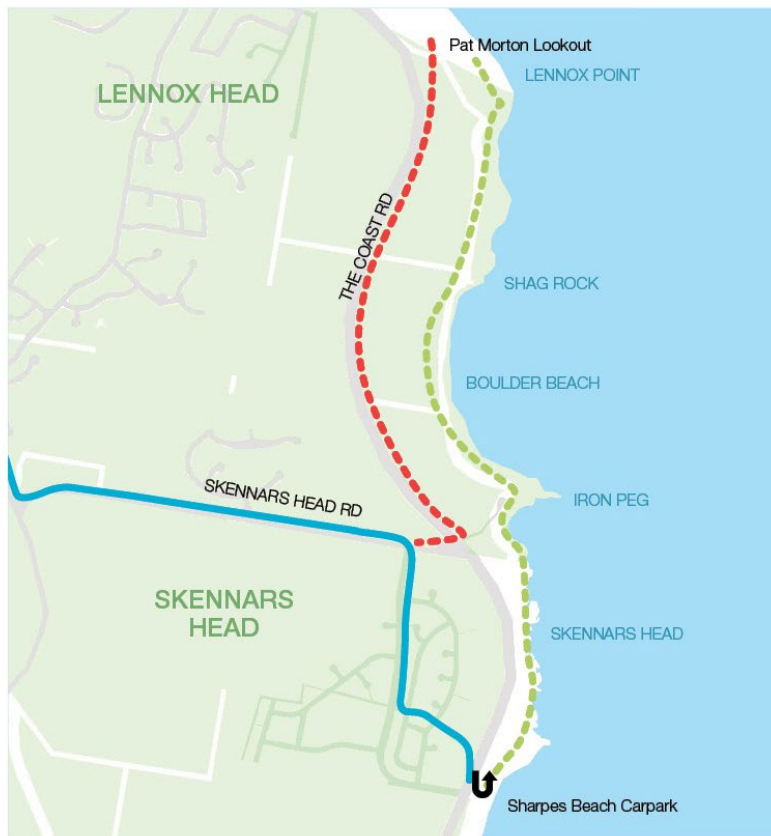
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<b>Distribution</b> Local Media	

Image: Work begins on the Coastal Shared Path



Image: Coastal Shared Path map



- Shared Path West: East Ballina to Lennox Head (Existing)
- Shared Path East: Skennars Head to Pat Morton Lookout
- Coastal Recreational Walk: Sharpes Beach to Pat Morton Lookout (to be upgraded)