



City of **HOBART**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

17 March 2017

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### **A great short walk rejuvenated**

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As part of its *One Mountain, One Destination, Three new visitor experiences*, the City of Hobart has commenced the first of three projects, *rejuvenating the great short walk*.

This project will see the iconic Organ Pipes and Pinnacle walking tracks on kunanyi / Mount Wellington return to their original condition and popularity of their 1930s heyday.

The Lord Mayor of Hobart, Alderman Sue Hickey said this two year project would see the upgrading of the Organ Pipes and Pinnacle tracks linking the Springs to the Chalet and will build upon its listing as one of the Great Short Walks in Tasmania.

“The Organ Pipes Track is the jewel in the crown of kunanyi / Mount Wellington and is every bit as spectacular as Tasmania’s other ‘must do’ walks at Dove Lake, Wine Glass Bay and Cape Hauy,” said the Lord Mayor.

The City of Hobart’s expert in-house Tasmanian track workers will renovate four kilometers of the 100 year old track in three stages over the next two years

“This is a major undertaking for our track workers who will be renewing the track surface and repairing the dry stone retaining walls, working across larger dolerite boulder fields to restore the track which has lost much of its original surfacing due to more than 80 years of continual use,” said the Lord Mayor.

Chairman of the Council’s Parks and Recreation Committee, Alderman Anna Reynolds said that the City of Hobart manages 200 kilometres of tracks and trails.

“This incredible network provides great value to our community and as part of our natural resources that contribute greatly to the character and appeal of Hobart and are important for recreation.

“As a Council, we are committed to improving visitor experiences on kunanyi / Mount Wellington for not only tourists, but also the local community to encourage people to get out and enjoy the mountain.

“The new track will use the same style, techniques and materials used when the track was originally constructed, and when complete, will provide for easier walking, retain a natural bush feel and heritage values,” Ald Reynolds said.

Due to the arduous terrain, a helicopter will be used to deliver supplies to various locations along the track once or twice a week from late March 2017.

To ensure public and worker safety, sections of the tracks and Pinnacle Road will be temporarily and intermittently closed to allow for the early morning transportation of materials.

Stage 1 of the project involves upgrading of the Organ Pipes Track that begins in March and is due to finish before winter and stages 2 and 3 will focus on the Pinnacle Track. The cost of the entire project is in the order of \$1.4 million.

Further information on the works, including maps, the proposed temporary road and track closures and proposed helicopter flight dates can be found on the City of Hobart’s website – [www.hobartcity.com.au/organpipestrack](http://www.hobartcity.com.au/organpipestrack)

## **ENDS**

### **For interview:**

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