

## Mandorah marine facilities upgrade Design and construct contract awarded

A \$63 million design and construct contract for Stage 1 of the Mandorah Marine Facilities project has been awarded to Australian owned specialist marine infrastructure company SMC Marine.

The Northern Territory Government is delivering the new facilities to improve and maintain public transport services for residents and visitors to Mandorah, Wagait Beach and Belyuen.

The new facilities will be safer for ferry users and will improve access for all users and importantly people with disabilities to get on and off the ferry.

The project will provide a calmer harbour ferry berthing facility to safely accommodate the ferry vessel that operates between Darwin and Mandorah, as well as allowing for future expansion.

The successful SMC Marine tender included an alternative concept design of the facilities that is expected to minimise the environmental footprint, improve ferry accessibility and provide weather protection. This alternative concept design meets the desired outcomes of the master plan, including *Disability Discrimination Act* compliance, and will be presented to key stakeholders prior to detailed design.

The project will include:

- two breakwater structures to provide protection from sea swells and wave action
- access improvements for people with disability and people who need mobility assistance, including wheelchairs and prams
- modifications to the car park layout to add car/trailer parking and additional bays for people with disability
- upgrade existing building to provide shade and toilet facilities for ferry passengers
- new boat ramp.

The design and construct contract was awarded after a rigorous tender process, including two rounds of public tender that attracted interest from international, national and local companies.

SMC Marine's head office is based in Sydney and is now committed to opening a Darwin office as part of this project. The company has proven experience in designing and building major marine infrastructure projects around Australia, including the Cairns Marine Precinct, Broome Town Beach Jetty and new Sydney Fish Market in Blackwattle Bay in Sydney Harbour. This project will allow SMC Marine to upskill locals in the design, management and construction of specialist marine infrastructure.

SMC Marine is committed to employing local people on the project, engaging local sub-contractors and buying from local suppliers in the Territory with approximately 70% of the contract value proposed to remain in the Northern Territory. Their design partner is local Darwin design consultants WGA Consulting.

It is anticipated the project will have 112 workers at the peak of construction, with the design expected to be completed by Q2 2024 and construction anticipated to start following this.

## Stakeholder Notice

Local NT company Ostojjic Group will supply the rock for the breakwaters from Mount Bundy quarry.

SMC Marine and its main local sub-contractor Ostojjic Group are committed to employing 17 Indigenous people and supporting 16 local apprentices during construction of the project, as well as providing training opportunities for workers to complete a coxswain qualification and specialised qualifications in crane operation.

SMC Marine is committed to opening a Darwin office to support the Mandorah Marine Facilities project and to participate in future marine infrastructure projects planned in Darwin Harbour and the Top End over the next 10 years.

The existing Mandorah Jetty will be maintained to provide continued ferry services to residents, visitors and recreational fishers while the project to deliver the new marine facilities is in construction.

Access to some sections of the Mandorah Jetty car park area may be restricted during the works and regular updates will be provided on any potential construction impacts.

An early works contract to prepare the site and the existing building has been completed, with six Indigenous residents from Belyuen sub-contracted by the contractor through the Belyuen Community Government Council.

For queries regarding the delivery of the new Mandorah Marine Facilities project, please visit the web page [here](#), email [dhip.dipl@nt.gov.au](mailto:dhip.dipl@nt.gov.au) or call 8936 5668.