



HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

7 September 2018



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www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

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Brodie FEB 2015



“Last time we take the wheelchair and probably the last time for a while I just take Brodie to the beach, he is getting too heavy to transport over a large distance.”

38,877km of coastline

7 September 2018

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10,685 beaches

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Hobsons Bay in Melbourne's West



- 20 kms of foreshore including Williamstown and Altona beaches
- people with a disability represent 18.5% (17,790 people) of the population
- all community members should have the opportunity to be spontaneous and actively participate in the community rather than watch from the sidelines
- BUT how do we achieve this at the beach?

Accessible Beach Timeline AUG 2015 to DEC 2018

AUG 2015 implementation



DEC 2015 trial

WILLIAMSTOWN AND ALTONA BEACH
5 December 2015 to 27 March 2016

The beach matting and beach wheelchair will be available on Saturdays and Sundays during the surf life saving club patrol hours.

www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

SANDCRUISER BEACH WHEELCHAIR ALTONA BEACH
Where: The beach wheelchair is based at the Altona Surf Life Saving Club, 127 Esplanade Street, Altona.
Where: Available Saturday and Sunday during the surf life saving patrol hours (10am to 5:30pm).
Who: The 'Sandcruiser' is ideal for people who have mobility challenges, including those with permanent disability, temporary disability or those with reduced mobility due to age.
Booking: This is a free but bookings are essential. To book contact the Coordinator at the Altona Life Saving Club.

ACCESSIBLE BEACH MATTING WILLIAMSTOWN BEACH
Where: Williamstown Swimming pool & Life Saving Club, corner of Victoria Street and Esplanade, Williamstown.
Where: Available Saturday and Sunday during the surf life saving patrol hours (10am to 5:30pm).
Who: Anyone can use the matting, however it particularly helps people with wheelchairs, prams, walking and mobility aids to pass over the roll sand to get to the front sand.

www.willamstownshc.org.au

JUN 2016 council endorsement



Recommendation Tracker Fully Accessible Beaches by 2020



Recommendation 1: explore the feasibility and funding available to provide a Changing Places toilet



Recommendation 2: explore funding opportunities to provide beach matting to the hard sand seven days a week and storage opportunities when matting is not in use



Recommendation 3: explore funding and storage space to provide a range of beach wheelchairs, adult, child, water and independent.



Recommendation 4: explore the possibility of hiring the beach wheelchair seven days a week by working with local traders and other stakeholders



Recommendation 5: explore the feasibility of developing an online booking system to support the hiring of beach wheelchairs



Recommendation 6: review the access appraisal and explore the opportunity to incorporate these works within future budgets for upgrades



Brodie DEC 2015



“Two happy kids and one happy Mum going to the beach today. No more having to carry Brodie who is nearly 20kgs across the sand. Can’t wait until next time.”

Accessible Beach Timeline AUG 2015 to DEC 2018

DEC 2016 matting and chair on both beaches



DEC 2016 mobi chair water access



DEC 2016 matting 24/7



Brodie DEC 2016



“The use of the beach mat has created an opportunity for us actually to GO TO the beach. Kye his brother also won’t miss out going now (and riding his inflatable shark!) because it’s not a burden and impossible for us as a family to take Brodie in his wheelchair across the sand to the water.”

Accessible Beach Timeline AUG 2015 to DEC 2018

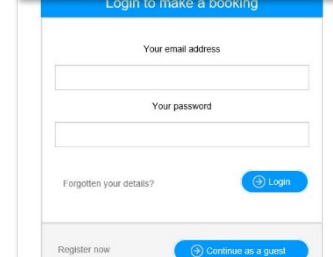
APR 2017 winter testing



SEPT 2017 accessible changing facility



DEC 2017 booking system



DEC 2017 children's chair



APR 2018 500 days of access



DEC 2018 independent chair



Debunking Barriers

risk - liability and insurance

cost - too expensive

fear - unprecedented



Debunking Barriers

storage - matting and chairs

maintenance - wear and tear

theft and vandalism - security



Brodie DEC 2017



“Brodie just likes to sit in the water and dip the toes in. We have fun. He is just so happy. He will try and scoot away from us because he just doesn’t want to leave. He just loves it so much. They now have changing room facilities and they are amazing too with the hoist and the shower” ”

Key Milestones

leading the way

life saving club support

matting and wheelchair combo

Key Milestones

24/7 matting 365 days a year

accessible changing facility

bespoke children's chair



Key Outcomes

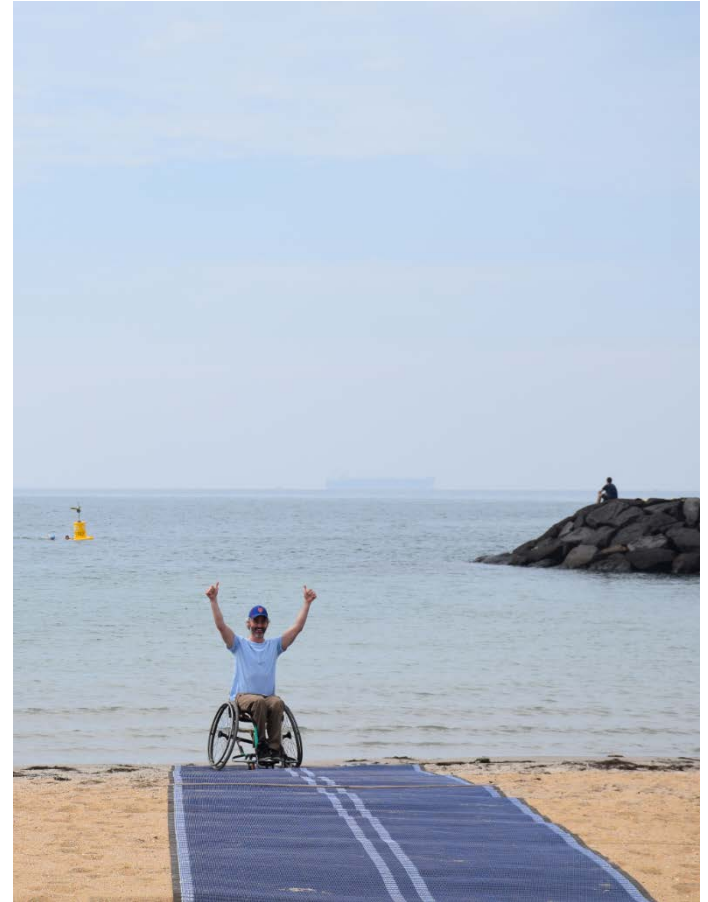
beaches for all

accessible tourism

families together

attitudinal change

starfish nippers



A catalyst for change...

2015 Victoria - 0

2018 Victoria - 9

A catalyst for change...

Mornington



Geelong



Mordialloc



St Kilda



A catalyst for change...

2018 Australia wide - 40

10,685 beaches in Australia

0.04% lots of potential



ALEX



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AMAN



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SAM



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HEATHER



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Any questions?

ROBOT



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