



**Cynthia Lui MP**

**Member for Cook**

**Media Release**

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## **Ayton Boat Ramp Upgrade**

### **\$1 million for Bloomfield boat ramp upgrade**

Bloomfield River (Ayton) boat ramp is set for a refresh, as part of a \$1 million upgrade. Member for Cook Cynthia Lui said the announcement was welcome news to Far North Queensland boaties.

“The Palaszczuk Government is committed to providing lasting infrastructure that connects communities,” Ms Lui said.

“The Ayton boat ramp is a lifeline for some Degarra residents in the Douglas Shire, who use it to access essential supplies or even to evacuate if roads are cut off by floodwaters.

“This upgrade will see the existing boat ramp rebuilt and a new pontoon installed beside the ramp on the downstream side.”

Ms Lui said planning was currently underway, with construction to commence in 2023.

“Next year, we will begin designing the new facility before going through the tender process and the start of construction,” she said.

“Some interim works will take place as soon as possible, however all construction activities will be timed around the wet season.

“The upgrade will provide a boost to safety for locals and create tourism opportunities for the region.

“This funding is a big win of the Far North and I look forward to seeing work progress on this important project.”

Ms Lui said Cook Shire Council managed the existing boat ramp on MSQ's behalf and had agreed to become facility manager for the new pontoon.

"Aside from serving recreational boaties and providing a delivery point for essential supplies, we anticipate the new pontoon will be available for charter vessels to pick up and drop off passengers," she said.

For more information on Maritime Safety Queensland, visit <https://www.msq.qld.gov.au/>

**ENDS**

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