District Council of
Mount Remarkable

MEDIA RELEASE

27 November 2026

Port Germein Jetty Repairs Progress to Tender Stage

The District Council of Mount Remarkable is pleased to advise that tenders have now been released for storm damage repairs to the Port Germein Jetty, marking a significant milestone in a complex project to restore one of South Australia's most recognised heritage structures.

The jetty sustained storm damage in July 2025, requiring its closure on safety grounds while investigations were undertaken to determine the full extent of impacts and the most appropriate repair methodology.

Mayor Stephen McCarthy said Council understood the community's desire to see the jetty reopened as soon as possible and acknowledged the patience shown by residents, visitors and businesses throughout the process.

"Like many people, we would have preferred to see the jetty reopened sooner," Mayor McCarthy said.

"However, repairing an almost 150-year-old marine structure with significant heritage value is not a simple task. Before any works could proceed, extensive investigations, engineering assessments, approvals and detailed design work were required to ensure repairs could be undertaken safely, appropriately and in accordance with heritage and planning requirements."

Importantly, the Port Germein Jetty remains a State Government-owned asset. Council manages the jetty under a long-standing management agreement and has coordinated the investigations, design and procurement processes necessary to facilitate the repair works.

Following the storm event, Council immediately closed the jetty and commenced investigations into the extent of damage. At the same time, Council worked closely with the State Government and insurers regarding responsibilities, funding arrangements and repair requirements.

In late 2025, specialist engineers were engaged to undertake detailed investigations of both the storm damage and the overall structural condition of the jetty. These extensive assessments included above-water and underwater inspections, measurements and condition assessments across the structure.

Given the jetty's age, location and the nature of the investigations, the assessment process required considerable time and was dependent on suitable weather, marine conditions and tidal windows.

Council received the final engineering reports during March and April 2026 and immediately progressed detailed design work for the storm-damaged sections of the jetty. The designs then underwent further review, cost estimation, insurance assessment and approval processes before heritage, planning and development approvals could be obtained.

Because portions of the structure extend beyond the Council boundary, several approvals involved multiple agencies and jurisdictions. Final development approval for the repair works was received on 13 November 2026.

Council subsequently released tenders for the repair works on 23 November 2026.

Tenders are scheduled to close on 11 January 2027, with evaluation and contractor appointment expected by the end of January.

Subject to contractor availability, weather conditions and any unforeseen site circumstances, construction works are anticipated to commence during March 2027 and continue through April 2027.

The storm damage repairs have been estimated at approximately $1.5 million. Council has secured funding arrangements through the Local Government Finance Authority to ensure the project can proceed while reimbursement processes are finalised.

The broader engineering investigations also identified an estimated $9.9 million worth of longer-term deterioration and renewal requirements associated with the ageing structure. These matters are separate from the current storm damage repairs and will

require ongoing discussions with the State Government regarding the long-term future of the asset.

Council remains committed to working collaboratively with the State Government and other stakeholders to ensure the Port Germein Jetty continues to be enjoyed by future generations.

"We recognise just how important the jetty is to Port Germein and the wider region, including travellers from all over Australia." Mayor McCarthy said.

"Our focus throughout this process has been to ensure the repairs are properly investigated, appropriately designed and responsibly delivered so that the jetty can safely reopen to the community."

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