Media Statement DATE: 01 November 2022

Renmark Paringa Council – Houseboat Flood Response

Renmark Paringa Council is supportive of our vibrant houseboat industry. According to the Houseboat Hirers Association, the houseboat industry in Renmark Paringa employs over 50 individuals (either full or part time) and is responsible for providing 85,840 bed nights from commercial houseboat operators in the Renmark Paringa council area. The value of the industry in hire fees alone is over \$4 million without adding in any multiplier effect.

In response to the rising River Murray (River) levels, Council has taken a proactive approach in supporting commercial and private houseboat owners that lease moorings from Council.

Council is pleased to advise that a local contractor has been engaged as the principal to undertake works to provide additional steel mooring pylons, with Rob Hughes engaged to coordinate the works. Rob Hughes, owner of River Murray Houseboats, has been proactive in collaborating with Council to ensure that a suitable plan has been devised to support those who have houseboat moorings with Council during the anticipated flooding event.

The initial delivery of steel mooring pylons has occurred. These pylons will be cut to size by Ruston Engineering before being driven into the ground at the following Council mooring sites:

- Lock 5
- Ral Ral Creek
- Liba Liba
- Small Craft Marina
- Renmark Riverfront

Council and contractors are working as quickly as possible to have these pylons installed prior to access being potentially cut off.

Council Chief Executive Officer, Tony Siviour said "The houseboat industry is an important part of what our community is about. Council is doing everything within its power to provide strengthened mooring facilities for those that lease a Council mooring." To stay informed on Council's response to the rising River Murray levels, please visit our website, titled 'River Murray Flood Advice' which contains all Council updates and links to relevant State and Federal Government information sources.

All media enquiries can be directed to: Tony Siviour, Chief Executive Officer on 8580 3000 or email council@renmarkparinga.sa.gov.au



Renmark Paringa Council



Pylons being delivered to Ruston Engineering



Renmark Paringa Council



CEO Tony Siviour with Houseboat Flood Response Coordinator Rob Hughes