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Guy Barnett, Liberal Member for Lyons

A ride on the wild side

The Hodgman Liberal Government is the strongest supporter of our booming visitor economy, because it supports local economies and creates jobs right across the State.

In particular, cycle tourism is fast becoming one of our strong competitive advantages, with already around 38,000 of our visitors and many more Tasmanians jumping on a bike to enjoy the beautiful scenery and testing tracks on offer around the State.

Last week I attended an announcement regarding the further expansion of Tasmania's world-class mountain bike experience.

Construction of the Wild Mersey Mountain Bike Development will start within weeks thanks to \$600,000 of funding provided under the Tasmanian Government's Cycle Tourism Strategy.

Tasmania is on track to becoming the cycle tourism capital of the nation, and the Wild Mersey will turn the attention to the North West region.

I would like to congratulate the Latrobe and Kentish councils on their united commitment to the Wild Mersey Mountain Bike Development project, which will have massive economic and social benefits for the North West region.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government's Cycle Tourism Strategy is backed by a \$6 million fund to support the investment needed to achieve this vision.

Other cycling tourism developments to receive funding through the strategy include the St Helens Mountain Bike Trail Network and the Blue Derby Mountain Bike Trails.

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