

City of South Perth Media Release

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Local Governments united against closure of Riverside Drive

The Mayors of seven metropolitan local governments have warned the state government that the delivery of the Perth Waterfront Development will be undermined unless more attention is focused on the impact of the closure of Riverside Drive.

Consisting of the mayors and chief executive officers of Belmont, Cambridge, Nedlands, South Perth, Subiaco, Victoria Park and Vincent the group has met and discussed the potential impact of the closure of Riverside Drive on their municipalities. The seven local government areas have a combined population of well over 200,000 persons.

The group warns that the State Government Waterfront Development will be seriously undermined unless proper planning and scheduling of ancillary works are prioritised and undertaken in a timely manner.

Collectively, the mayors urge the State Government to ensure sufficient funding is in place to properly complete all planned complementary works before Riverside Drive is closed and that all necessary works have been finalised to minimise traffic disruption in and around inner metropolitan Perth.

In addition to the Perth Waterfront Development, other major Perth 'transformational' works occurring at the same time will add to traffic disruption including the:

- Northbridge City Link development;
- Perth City Cultural Precinct development;
- Burswood Stadium development
- Trinity development at the Causeway end of East Perth; and
- QE11 Hospital development in Winthrop Avenue.

The mayors strongly hold the view that major transport infrastructure works planned to support these developments need to be completed prior to the closure of Riverside Drive. These works include:

- completion of the widening of the Graham Farmer Freeway tunnel to three lanes in each direction (and appropriate modifications to Freeway access / exit lanes);
- widening of Thomas and Loftus streets to three lanes;
- completion of planning for the light rail route link and
- construction of the proposed Railway Station at South Perth.

The Local Government Mayors are united in their view, as important stakeholders, continued effective consultation and communication is essential with the respective Councils on such significant proposals. The Mayors are extremely concerned that the closure of Riverside Drive, along with all other developments, will greatly impact on their communities unless all complementary works are first completed.

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