



# Ian Goodenough

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# Widen freeway – MPs

By **LUCY JARVIS**

**MORE** MPs have joined a fresh call to expand the Mitchell Freeway, after reports neither the State nor federal governments had plans in place.

Ocean Reef MLA Albert Jacob said widening the freeway between Hepburn Avenue and Hodges Drive would be his main budget priority and he presented Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough's



**Buswell**

petition with 600 signatures to parliament last week.

Mr Jacob said he and other MPs had spoken to Transport Minister Troy Buswell about the importance of the project to residents.

"On a freeway with a 100km/h speed limit, workers should not have to put up with stop-start driving as they head

home to their families," he said. "The freeway bottleneck is eating into workers' family time day."

The *Times* reported North Metropolitan MLC Michael Mischin and Cr Goodenough have called for freeway funding earlier this month.

Mr Buswell has said decisions relating to the extension of the Mitchell Freeway would be made as part of the budgetary process.

# Anger over delay for lights at intersection

By **LUCY JARVIS**

TRAFFIC signals at the Hester Avenue and Wanneroo Road intersection won't be installed this year, though they are a step closer after Planning Minister John Day endorsed land being excised from Neerabup National Park to road reserve.

The minister's office confirmed his endorsement this month and said a proposal for traffic signals at the intersection was now with the Department of Environment and Conservation.

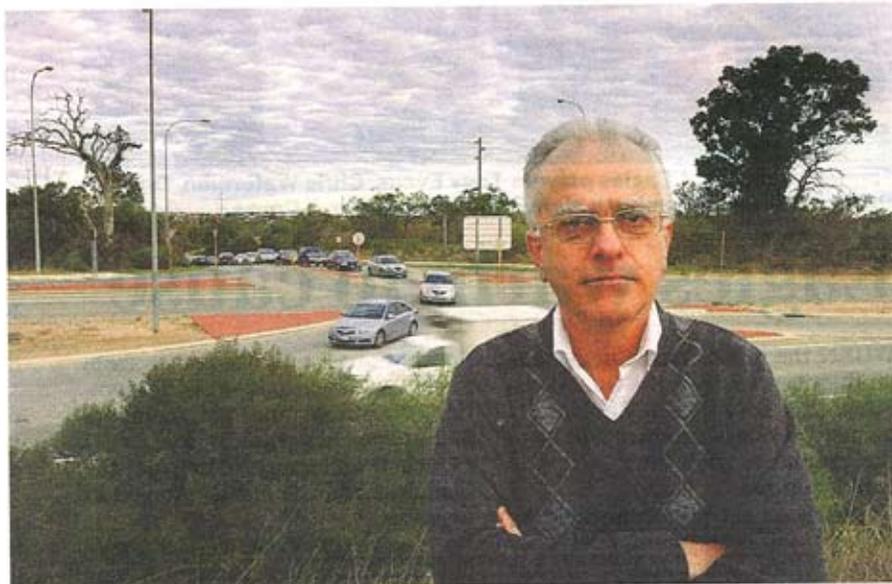
Wanneroo Mayor Jon Kelly said work was expected to start in January or February 2012, if all land-related approvals, including Native Title, were finalised.

"The land needs to be dedicated as road reserve before any works are able to proceed," he said.

Mr Kelly said the city expected a parliamentary decision within three months, once Lands Minister Brendon Grylls had endorsed the excision and it has been tabled in parliament.

The *Times* reported on April 12 ("No light at the end of the tunnel") that despite federal funding being allocated for the proposal in 2009, the project had stalled in the approvals process, requiring environmental and Aboriginal heritage studies.

Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough said community safety was being put at risk daily by bureaucracy.



**Kevin Fairman at the notorious intersection.**

Picture: Emma Reeves

www.communitypix.com.au d356285

"It is difficult to comprehend that the environment and Native Title could be so greatly impacted as to involve two ministers and parliament in a process that will take more than two years," he said.

Mindarie resident Kevin Fairman, who uses the intersection regularly to get to Wangara and Wanneroo, said it was dangerous and he discouraged others from using it.

"I try to tell everybody not to use it,"

he said. "I tell both my wife and daughter to avoid that intersection."

A few years ago, Mr Fairman stopped to help at "a nasty accident" and he said, though the man he helped survived, he saw white crosses where others had died.

Mr Fairman said heavy traffic along other roads, including Connolly Drive and Burns Beach Road, was "an absolute nightmare", so he used Hester Avenue to reduce travel time.

## OPINION

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### ELECTION ISSUE

IT was very disappointing to read that Cr Ian Goodenough's appeal to the Federal Government for assistance with funding the Mitchell Freeway northern extension fell on deaf ears.

Without doubt the northern suburbs will need to suffer terminal gridlock before either the Labor Federal Government or Liberal State Government decides to put a plan in place. Their reasons for ignoring our needs are political not budgetary and therefore our fight should be very political.

I will be making this issue very public at the next State and Federal elections. It is time for all northern suburb residents to join forces and make this issue an election loser for the party that doesn't have a firm costed and timed infrastructure plan for our electorates.

**Doug Croker,  
Butler.**

# Freeway Budget boost

By **JUSTIN BIANCHINI**

THE Mitchell Freeway northbound will be widened to three lanes from Hepburn Avenue to Hodges Drive.

Funding for the project is expected to be announced in today's State Budget.

The *Weekender* and its sister paper the *Wanneroo-Joondalup Times* pushed for the extra freeway lane (in both directions) last year after calls for the widening from local politicians.

"Our state's finances may be under pressure, but widening the Mitchell ought to be a priority in the interests of road safety, productivity and lifestyle," one of our editorials said in May last year.

"Ignoring the frustration of motorists won't make the problem go away."

Ocean Reef MLA Albert Jacob said he believed Transport Minister Troy Buswell and Treasurer Christian Porter had heard the concerns of the community "that

I have regularly raised in Parliament".

In March, Mr Jacob presented a 600-signature petition – organised by Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough – to Parliament calling for the widening and extension to Hester Avenue or Neerabup Road.

North Metropolitan MLC and Opposition transport spokesman Ken Travers has criticised the Government for not putting aside money to widen both sides of the freeway.



**Ocean Reef MLA Albert Jacob and Kingsley MLA Andrea Mitchell at the Hepburn Avenue freeway overpass.**

# Developer lobbies for centre vote

By **JESSICA WILLOUGHBY**

FRUSTRATED developers of Clarkson's Ocean Keys shopping centre have sought an ally on Wanneroo Council for the next stage of centre extensions.

Cr Ian Goodenough has revealed that Taylor and Robinson Architects director Graham Taylor contacted him two weeks ago to gain backing for the next stage of the development.

The proposed expansion aims for the approval of an extra 8000sqm of floor space which would include an additional department store, specialty shops and a food hall.

Cr Goodenough said Mr Taylor, representing centre owner AMP Capital Shopping Centres, felt the council did not share "his enthusiasm" for the project.

"Mr Taylor simply does not think the council is behind the project," Cr Goodenough said.

"So when he asked me if I could throw my support behind the project when it comes before council, I will."

Cr Goodenough said the development should be supported at all levels of the approval process.

"Unfortunately a lot of the city's shopping centre redevelopments have been held back or progressed slowly," he said.

"The community will benefit from the improved access to services, greater choice and increased competition as a result of this welcome addition to the Ocean Keys district centre."

Mr Taylor declined to comment on the support plea.

Wanneroo Mayor Jon Kelly said the problem with approval delays for the Ocean Keys centre was an issue over the Main Street design.

"The problem with this principle, which is part of the Town Centre Strategy, is that it is not always commercially viable," he said.

"The design does not always achieve the desired result as it gets polluted by negotiations between City administration and developers."

He said the City had recently reviewed the strategy.

"We are hoping to see changes to the strategy in the new year that will see a downgrading of the main street policy and be more favourable to developers," he said.

An AMP Capital Shopping Centres spokesman said the company would continue to work with the City in the consideration of opportunities for expansion of the centre.

"The future growth of Clarkson and surrounding suburbs may provide the opportunity for an enhanced retail offer," he said.

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# Plea after arson hit

AN attempted arson attack near Mindarie foreshore has prompted a call from Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough for residents to report any suspicious behaviour in the area to police.

Last Tuesday afternoon residents in the area north of Rosslare Promenade were alerted to the problem when thick smoke entered their homes.

It is thought two young boys, setting fire to dry grass, caused the blaze.

Fire and emergency services were called, but later cancelled after residents were able to put out the flames with their garden hoses.

Cr Goodenough said the area was an issue for property safety standards.

"There is very steep ground on the area," he said. "If it was to catch fire, it would spread very quickly – like the recent incident at Kings Park."

More than 20ha of land was destroyed when a fire was deliberately lit at the well-known city park on January 16.

Local residents have asked the city to conduct maintenance on a firebreak installed in the area to further deter repeat incidents.

Cr Goodenough said a work order had been filed with the City administration to survey the area for maintenance.

Wanneroo Bush Fire Control chief officer Mike Teraci said the area was currently under investigation to assess how much can be cleared from the coastal reserve to ensure fire safety.

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**Cleaning up... again.**

## Graffiti surge across Mindarie

THERE was a surge in graffiti across Mindarie during the Anzac Day long weekend.

Coastal Ward councillor Ian Goode-nough said several residents were seen on the Monday cleaning graffiti both on their properties and in parks near their homes.

"One resident of Andross Circuit reported hearing from a group of youths passing the navigation beacon late on the Sunday night but did not

investigate," Cr Goodenough said.

Affected areas included Anchorage Drive, Rothesay Heights, Bellport Park near the tennis courts and navigation beacon, Mindarie Senior College, the Quinns Mindarie Surf Life-saving Club car park and Seaham Way.

"It will be a group of dedicated volunteers, People Against Vandalism, who will spend hours cleaning up the senseless vandalism," he said.

# Making a taxi stand

By JESSICA WILLOUGHBY

THE availability of taxis in the Wanneroo area will be the first issue raised by newly appointed Taxi Industry Board Reference Group member Ian Goodenough.

Transport Minister Simon O'Brien recently appointed the Coastal ward councillor to the group to help in discussions for the "future of the taxi industry".

Mr Goodenough said the general availability of taxis, particularly in the outer metropolitan 6027 to 6036 postcode suburbs, was an issue he intended to raise with the group.

"Currently there are relatively long waiting times associated with the taxi service in the northern suburbs," he said.

"The community would benefit from pa-

trons leaving licensed venues or functions having access to transport in a reasonable time.

"Particularly at night when the risk of anti-social behaviour or violent incidents are higher."

He said decentralisation of the taxi service away from the inner city would be a key objective.

Mr Goodenough will be seeking community feedback on these issues.

If you wish to make a comment, contact him on 0411 476 561.

See also page 17



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“The community would benefit from patrons leaving licensed venues or functions having access to transport in a reasonable time.”

# Club car parking approved

By JESSICA WILLOUGHBY

QUINNS Rocks Sports Club will have a compacted limestone road-base installed as a temporary car-parking facility, despite the City of Wanneroo administration warning of current financial constraints.

Councillors voted in favour of an amendment allowing the temporary development at last Tuesday's meeting, after city officers advised against providing funding support for the project.

The temporary road-base will be used only until the City can find funding available in the future to construct a formal bitumen car park and related infrastructure, costed at about \$600,000.

The cost of the temporary arrangement is as yet undetermined.

Cr Ian Goodenough, who presented the amendment, said the club was of "critical importance" to the northern community.

"This club is a bit like the big Wanneroo Sports Club with the family-friendly and community atmosphere it provides," he said. "By enabling this temporary car parking measure, this allows the extension to proceed.

"Then in a couple of years' time the City can add in the soak wells, kerbing and extra lighting needed to complete the work."

The new car park was part of an application put forth by the club to extend its grounds to cope with a rapid influx of demands for its services.

The club approached the City about funding help towards the construction

of the new car park and connection to infill sewerage, to meet statutory facility development requirements.

City officers also recommended against funding the \$107,800 connection to the infill sewerage system, but council moved to list the project as a priority for consideration in future budgets.

Other aspects of the project, which will be self-funded by the club, include the development of a third bowling green and extensions to the clubhouse to cater for current and future membership.

At the meeting, mayor Jon Kelly called the club a "major piece of infrastructure" for the northern corridor.

The club currently has 1000 members but is licensed for only 240 patrons at a time.



**On Mitchell Freeway at peak hour.**

## **Plea for extension**

**PLANS** for the Mitchell Freeway to be extended northwards should be accelerated to provide a vital transport link to Neerabup Industrial Estate, Wanneroo and Joondalup, chief executives Daniel Simms and Garry Hunt believe.

Next month, they will make a submission to State Government outlining their views and pushing for the freeway to be extended to Hester Avenue by 2012.

Ocean Reef MLA Albert Jacob last month presented a petition, organised by Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough containing 2917 signatures in support of the freeway extension, to the Legislative Assembly.

Mr Simms and Mr Hunt recently met Transport Minister Simon O'Brien to discuss the freeway extension and the important role it could play in advancing economic opportunities in the northern corridor.

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# Extension hits hiccup

By JESSICA WILLOUGHBY

PROPOSED extensions to the Quinns Rocks Sports Club have suffered a setback with a number of resident complaints about clearing of land prompting an investigation.

The Department of Environment and Conservation have received three appeals from residents voicing their concerns about a clearing permit granted to the City of Wanneroo in November last year.

The permit granted the City permission to clear 0.795ha of land from Gumblossom Reserve for the proposed extension works.

A Department of Environment and Conservation spokeswoman said the nature of the appeals was currently being considered and the clearing permit was being placed on hold until a decision had been reached.

The proposed works, to be funded by the club, would include a compacted limestone road-base to be installed as a temporary car park facility.

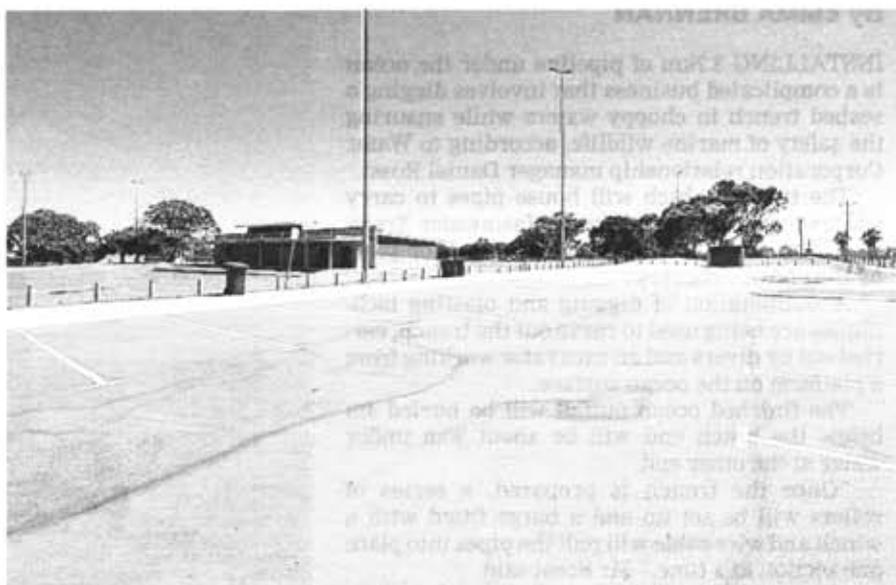
There is also provision for the development of a third bowling green and extensions to the clubhouse.

Club president Peter Hunter said he believed the complaints were related to the installation of the temporary car park facility.

"The main appellant is a member of the club and has raised concerns about noise and dust issues relating to the temporary car park," he said.

"But it would cost us more than \$600,000 to install a formal bitumen car park and, without help from the City, we cannot afford to put in a permanent one."

The new car park was part of an ap-



Residents have voiced concerns about the Quinns Rocks Sports Club plans.

“... it would cost us more than \$600,000 to install a formal bitumen car park and, without help from the City, we cannot afford to put in a permanent one.”

– Quinns Rocks Sports Club president Peter Hunter

plication proposed by the club to extend its grounds to cope with a rapid influx of demands for its services.

The club currently has 850 members but is licensed for only 240 patrons at a time.

Cr Ian Goodenough said objections to the works were expected.

“Even if we did surface the car park permanently, the City would have still

received complaints about the facility,” he said.

“Maybe, to alleviate some resident concerns, the City could put up chains and have the area fenced off when it is not being used to stop anti-social behaviour.”

Mr Hunter said he was positive the department would give the permit the “tick of approval”.

# Oz Day Brighton Ashes draws 350

BRIGHTON Estate Residents' Association attracted about 350 people to its fifth annual Brighton Ashes Australia Day cricket match at Kingsbridge Park in Butler last Wednesday.

Cricket enthusiasts took part in three matches – a junior game for youngsters, a junior Ashes for teenagers and a Brighton Ashes limited over clash won by Australia (100 runs) over the Rest of the World (61 runs).

The morning event, supported by Brighton estate developers Satterley Property Group, included music by Challenge Brass Band and a bouncy castle.

Association members served about 300 breakfast rolls during the day, raising money for fu-

ture community events.

Wanneroo Deputy Mayor Tracey Roberts opened the festivities and fellow councillor Ian Goodenough flipped a coin for the Brighton Ashes.

Satterley community development co-ordinator Ben Hogarth said the co-operative effort helped build a strong foundation for the community's future.

"It is a credit to the residents' association that this was a fully sustainable event," he said.

The next community event is a free screening of *Toy Story 3* at Brampton Park on Saturday, February 12 at 7.45pm. Refreshments available but BYO rug.

Details from [benh@satterley.com.au](mailto:benh@satterley.com.au)



**Oz Day joy: Melanie Taylor, Zoe Williamson, Sophie Gerrick.**  
Pictures: Hazel Buckley [www.communitypix.com.au](http://www.communitypix.com.au) d348031



**In the mood for cricket: Charlie Triggwell (batting) and Will Barnes.**



**Sharron Burdon and Denise Walker.**



**T for two: Richard and Pam Woods.**

# Step closer for coastal path

From page 1

"Not all Tamala Park stakeholders have been supportive of the pathway, especially non-local landowners and authorities," he said.

"However, we are grateful that the City of Joondalup and Albert Jacob have been remarkably supportive, and we look forward to the equitable sharing of costs to bring the project forward."

The path was expected to define the western boundary of the coastal reserve, but its route will depend on topography, vegetation and earthworks needs.

Council will tonight also consider Tamala Park Regional Council's draft Future Plan.

At last week's briefing, corporate strategy and performance director John Paton said they thought the plan was lacking in two areas: namely details on financial disbursement and enshrining objectives of the plan with key performance indicators for each objective.

"We would like to see some of those qualitative values expressed in the plan," he said.

He also said it failed to iden-



Tracey Roberts and Ian Goodenough.

d349362

tify when the City would receive money from the land sold.

Mayor Jon Kelly raised concerns about the potential for discrimination with access through the park.

"They (TPRC members) need to support the principles of universal access," Cr Kelly said.

"They may undermine people with disabilities."

# Coast path on track

By **LUCY JARVIS**

A COASTAL foreshore path could soon link Mindarie and Burns Beach if Wanneroo councillors take a step towards the proposal tonight.

A \$50,000 funding proposal, to

be matched by both the City of Joondalup and the Department of Planning, will be considered at tonight's council meeting.

The funding, to be included in the 2011-12 budget, would be used for a study into establishing a Tamala Park Coastal Reserve and

constructing a path along the coast.

Deputy Mayor Tracey Roberts and Councillor Ian Goodenough have lobbied for the path for about five years, and organised a petition backing it with more than 650 signatures in 2007.

Cr Roberts said it was desirable to link Burns Beach and Mindarie to increase recreational activity along the coastline.

"Cycling and walking along this scenic foreshore route will promote healthy lifestyle choices for our community, and it will

benefit local tourism," she said.

Cr Goodenough said they wanted to start the process as soon as possible as the community consultation, planning approval, design and construction stages would be time consuming.

**More, page 2**

# Councillors back Eglinton plan

THE proposal for the Eglinton Local Structure Plan was welcomed by councillors last Tuesday.

Cr Ian Goodenough said the development would put the little-known and often mis-spelt Eglinton "well and truly on the map".

Cr Tracey Roberts said she hoped the development and growth in the area would "catapult State Government investment" into infrastructure in the City of Wanneroo, where there was currently only one railway station and no freeway.

# Freeway plans stalled

PLANS to extend Mitchell Freeway remain off the table – despite local government and public support for it.

Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough contacted the Federal Government earlier this year to lobby for funding to extend and widen the freeway

“At this stage, neither the State or Federal Government has acknowledged the importance of upgrading the freeway,” Cr Goodenough said.

“Neither has made provision in their respective forward capital works budgets.”

A Department of Infrastructure and Transport spokesman said the Federal Government had committed \$3.5 billion to transport infrastructure in WA between 2008-9 and 2013-14, which had already been allocated to specific projects.

He said the responsibility of funding construction of Mitchell Freeway rested with the State Government.

Transport Minister Troy Buswell said land was reserved in the Metropolitan Region Scheme for the extension of the freeway through to the MRS boundary north of Two Rocks.

“Planning is underway. However, no timing has been set for construction,” he said.

Preliminary plans included six interchanges between Burns

Beach and Yanchep Beach roads, and the staging could terminate at any of these interchanges.

“Factors that impact on decision-making around freeway extensions include road transport demand in the area, economic benefits, project costs and funding availability,” Mr Buswell said.

Cr Goodenough said rapid population growth in the past decade within the northern coastal corridor had resulted in a significant increase in traffic volumes, placing greater demands on the road infrastructure in the cities of Wanneroo and Joondalup.

“In addition to the commuter traffic, the development of the Wangara Industrial Area, Wanneroo Town Centre, Clarkson District Centre and Joondalup CBD has contributed to substantially increased activity in terms of road freight and supply logistics,” he said.

“Motorists using Connolly Drive, Marmion Avenue, Wanneroo Road and Hester Avenue are being affected by traffic congestion and road safety issues associated with heavy traffic.”

Mr Buswell did not provide an answer to how soon work could start to extend the freeway or how long it would take to extend it.

**Lucy Jarvis**

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# Mitchell needs widening too: MP

A LOCAL politician has called for the extension and widening of Mitchell Freeway to be brought forward, following Transport Minister Troy Buswell's announcement last week that the Kwinana Freeway would be widened.

North Metropolitan MLC Michael Mischin called last week for Mitchell Freeway to be extended, preferably to Hester Avenue, and widened around problem areas further south.

"No doubt the widening of the Kwinana Freeway is vital, but no less so than the Mitchell," he said.

Mr Mischin said it was important for the cities of Jondalup and Wanneroo to add an extra lane to the freeway, especially northbound, and to extend it north to at least Neerabup Road.

"Traffic congestion on the

Mitchell is a constant source of frustration for residents of our growing northern-most suburbs, and being caught in the peak hour congestion affects both quality of life and economic productivity," he said.

Transport Minister Troy Buswell said congestion was "arguably worse" in the part of the Kwinana Freeway set to be widened than its northern counterpart.

Mr Buswell said traffic speeds could drop to 40km/h during peak hours on the southern freeway compared to 50km/h between Hepburn Avenue and Hodges Drive.

"It is also important to point out that Kwinana Freeway provides an important route for freight travelling to the Fremantle Port," he said.

Mr Mischin also said he supported Wanneroo council-

lor Ian Goodenough's comments that the Federal Government wasn't doing enough to help solve traffic issues in the northern suburbs.

"It wants to redistribute WA's GST revenue, and raise revenue by further taxing our mining industry, but seems to regard funding infrastructure such as our freeway as solely WA's problem," he said.

"Nevertheless, it falls to our current State Government to fix the problem and I'll continue to lobby it to bring these works forward."

In its 2011/12 budget submission, the RAC called on the State Government to prioritise investigating options to widen both Kwinana and Mitchell freeways, and to provide a firm timeline for the extension of the Mitchell Freeway to Clarkson.

**Lucy Jarvis**

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# No light at end of the tunnel

By **LUCY JARVIS**

PLANS to install traffic lights at the intersection of Hester Avenue and Wanneroo Road have been held up for months, with no clear indication of when the project will get the green light.

Federal funding of \$530,000 for the traffic signals has been sitting in the bank since 2009 while waiting for Neerabup National Park land needed for a turning lane to be transferred to road reserve.

Wanneroo Councillor Ian Goodenough said the bureaucratic process required for work to begin on constructing a turning lane was "ridiculous and absurd".

"The black spot funding is already available and has been sitting idly in the bank for more than a year," he said. "Community safety is being put at risk on a daily basis because of this bureaucracy."

Deputy Mayor Tracey Roberts said the intersection was increasingly busy as a major east-west route and had been dangerous in terms of crash statistics.

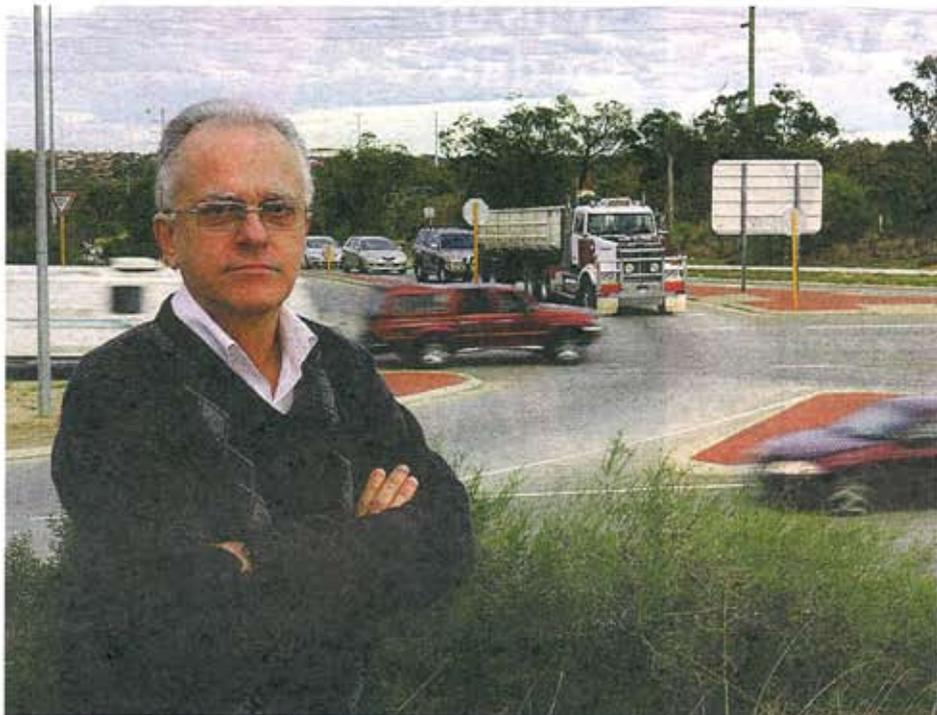
"Traffic is banked back for several hundred metres along Hester Avenue waiting to turn right on to Wanneroo Road from 6am most mornings," she said.

"It is difficult to make right-hand turns across multiple lanes without traffic lights."

The work would require an environmental assessment and impact study, and Aboriginal heritage study. Inquiries to the City of Wanneroo, Department of Environment and Conservation, Minister for Environment, and Minister for Lands could not confirm at what stage the land transfer application had reached.

Cr Goodenough said they wanted to meet with representatives from the relevant government departments to reach a resolution urgently.

# No signals yet for intersection



Mindarie resident Kevin Fairman at the Hester Avenue and Wanneroo Road intersection, which he described as "dangerous". Picture: Emma Reeves d356285

## But minister confirms there is a plan for it later

By LUCY JARVIS

TRAFFIC signals at the Hester Avenue and Wanneroo Road intersection will not be installed this year, although they are a step closer after Planning Minister John Day endorsed land being excised from Neerabup National Park to road reserve.

The minister's office confirmed his endorsement this month and said a proposal for traffic signals at the intersection was now with the Department of Environment and Conservation.

However, Wanneroo Mayor Jon Kelly said work was expected to start in January or February if all land-related approvals, including native title, were finalised.

"The land needs to be dedicated as road reserve before any works are able to proceed," he said.

The City expected a parliamentary decision within three months once Lands Minister Brendon Grylls has endorsed the excision and it has been tabled in Parliament.

The *Times* reported in April ('No light at the end of the tunnel', 12/04/11) that despite

federal funding being allocated for the proposal in 2009, the project had stalled in the approvals process, requiring environmental and Aboriginal heritage studies.

Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough said community safety was being put at risk daily by bureaucracy.

"It is difficult to comprehend that the environment and native title could be so greatly impacted as to involve two ministers and Parliament in a process that will take more than two years," he said.

Mindarie resident Kevin Fairman, who uses the intersection regularly to get to Wangara and Wanneroo, said it was dangerous and he discouraged others from using it.

"I try to tell everybody not to use it," he said. "I tell both my wife and daughter to avoid that intersection."

Mr Fairman said heavy traffic along other roads, including Connolly Drive and Burns Beach Road, was "an absolute nightmare", so he used Hester Avenue to reduce travel time.

"It can save an awful lot of time (but) I find it incredible that we can't get traffic lights there," he said.

# Costly delays feared

By LUCY JARVIS

cant economic flow-on effects and loss of recurrent rates income.

"As rates notices begin arriving in letterboxes shortly, the bad news is annual rate rises in the order of 6 per cent are likely to be a reality for the next 10 years unless the City is free to develop its substantial land assets to generate financial self-sufficiency."

However, Wanneroo Deputy Mayor Tracey Roberts said the City was not dependent on land sales from Neerabup to repay the loan and had until 2027 to repay it.

"The City's prudent financial management has ensured a reserve is provided and a fixed amount is put aside each year to enable the loan to be repaid as planned," she said.

"Any funds from land sales are allocated to the Asset Replacement Reserve, which is designed to fund new or replace assets for the City."

More page 3

BUSH Forever, carnaby's black-cockatoos, sun moths and environmental legislation could delay development of the 180ha Meridian Park industrial area in Neerabup, according to a Wanneroo councillor.

Cr Ian Goodenough said during a recent visit to the site that environmental legislation was delaying development of the City of Wanneroo and LandCorp project, along with the need for utility services.

He said delays could have financial implications for the City and ratepayers until proceeds from land releases could be used to repay \$60 million of Treasury loans to the City.

"Neerabup industrial area is a strategic site in the north-west metro region in terms of employment self-sufficiency for our growing residential population and in meeting the corridor's industrial needs," he said.

"Delays will have signifi-

## Costly delay fears for initiative

From page 1

Cr Roberts said it was vital for the Neerabup project to progress, however, as it was projected to generate up to 20,000 jobs and other industrial areas were nearing capacity.

"The Wangara and Landsdale complexes are expected to reach capacity within two or three years, and the only remaining industrial area available to meet the demand for industrial land in this

corridor is Neerabup," she said.

"Therefore, the NIA will need the appropriate infrastructure in place by 2012/13 to allow businesses to relocate, otherwise businesses may choose to move out of the northern corridor."

Cr Roberts said the City was continuing to work with all levels of government to ensure progress and looked for leadership at the state and federal levels to resolve environmental constraints.

During a recent visit to Neerabup, Cr Goodenough asked federal politicians Senator Michaelia Cash and the Member for Casey, Victoria, Tony Smith, to lobby the Federal Environment Minister for approval to start staged development.

See opposition to South Pinjar, page 4.



Councillor Ian Goodenough (centre) with federal politicians Michaelia Cash and Tony Smith at the Neerabup industrial site.

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## Land sales strong at industry area

LAND sales are strong at the Meridian Park industrial estate, the developer says, countering recent concerns about delays in the Neerabup industrial area reported earlier this month.

LandCorp acting industrial business manager Travis McNaught said the joint development with the City of Wanneroo covered 400ha within the 1000ha Neerabup industrial area.

"We've received strong interest to date in Meridian Park with 10 lots sold to businesses such as hardware chain Bunnings and Layne Drilling," he said.

"The 10 remaining lots in Stage 1 range from 2569sq m to 9811sq m and are suitable for a range of businesses.

"Construction of the first building within the estate, Bunnings Trade, was completed in June

and is now operational."

Mr McNaught said construction had started on stages 2A and 3A, and Landcorp had also recently submitted subdivision plans for stages 6 to 9 to the City.

"The estate is expected to meet the industrial land needs of Perth's rapidly growing north west corridor for the next 25 years, setting a benchmark in smart and sustainable industrial estate design, and will be crucial to the economic development of the north metropolitan area," he said.

On July 12, the *Times* reported Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough's concerns environmental issues could delay development of the City's land in the wider Neerabup industrial area, with potential financial implications for the City and ratepayers.

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# Nod for tapas bar bid

MINDARIE couple Ray and Virginia Hancock celebrated getting a step closer to opening a tapas bar in the marina precinct after Wanneroo City Council approved their plans at its recent meeting.

Mr Hancock said they were looking forward to getting the venue organised, although it would probably take 12 months before it opened.

During his deputation at the July 26 meeting, he said they wanted to create a small bar where people could enjoy a small meal and drink "away from what can be intimidating pub scenarios".

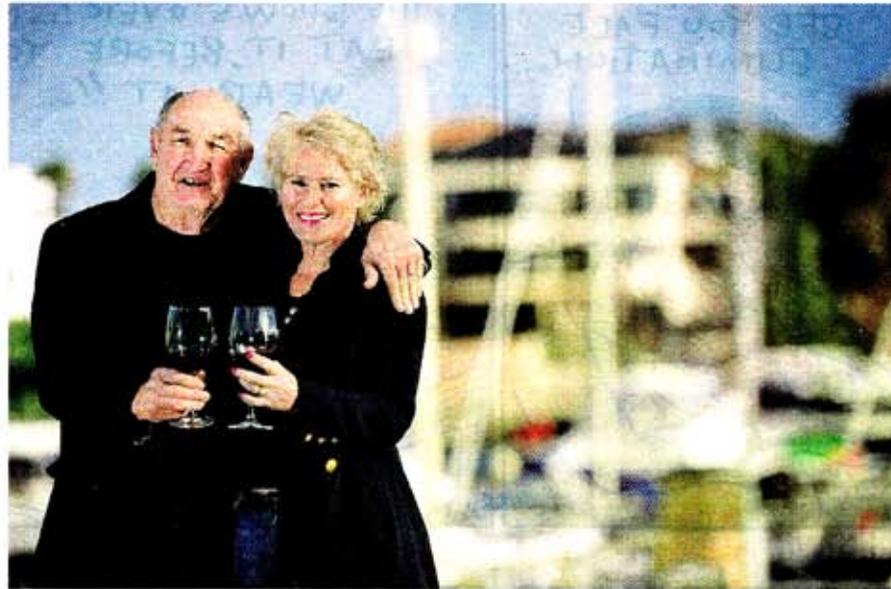
"It will offer employment and business opportunities to local suppliers," he said.

Another Mindarie resident, Jeremy Blank, raised concerns about parking and the viability of another business during his deputation.

"Cars are backed up on Saturdays and Sundays," he said.

Mr Blank, who runs an art gallery in Mindarie, said trading was "extremely challenging" in the marina precinct.

"While that business is welcome, any other alternative to alcohol sales other than the Dome has collapsed," he said.



**Ray and Virginia Hancock's proposed tapas bar for Mindarie is a step closer.**

Picture: Emma Reeves

[www.communitypix.com.au](http://www.communitypix.com.au) d360857

Eleven councillors supported the recommendation to approve the plans, with amendments, including Cr Tracey Roberts, who said it would create vibrancy.

Cr Ian Goodenough said the propo-

nents' willingness to invest in the local area could create "investment opportunity and tourism potential".

Cr Alan Blencowe's concerns about parking were echoed by Cr Rudi Stefens.



Approval has been given to expand Ocean Keys shopping centre in Clarkson.

# Council paves way for centre expansion

DESIGN of the Clarkson shopping centre expansion will begin after developers received approval from Waneroo City Council.

AMP Capital development manager Scott Nugent said the approval on December 13 was great news for the area's increasing population.

"An expanded Ocean Keys shopping centre will be able to provide better retail and services for this growing community," he said.

"There are still a number of

key steps to go before construction starts in 2013.

"We now begin working on the design for the expanded centre and look forward to sharing what this will look like in mid-2012."

Mr Nugent said the \$77 million expansion would increase the floorspace from under 23,000sq m to more than 37,000sq m, and include another discount department store, 58 more speciality retailers and a food court.

He said there would also be

two mini major retailers, a multi-deck car park, 10 residential apartments and commercial office space.

At the meeting, councillor Ian Goodenough said the expansion was "long-awaited" and would boost the local economy.

"This will enable our City to maintain market share for consumer dollars, and provide increased competition for the benefit of all consumers," he said.

Lucy Jarvis



**Mark Whitmarsh, Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough, Michael Jeffs, Patricia Bremen and Valerie Bremen, Harvey Smithers, Gwen Bradford and Kingsley MLA Andrea Mitchell at the swearing-in ceremony.**

# New Buffaloes join the royal herd

MEMBERS of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes from throughout WA gathered for the swearing in of Grand Lodge officers on Sunday, January 16.

Michael Jeffs, of the Woodvale-based Jubilee Lodge, is grand primo (or president) for the next 12 months, replacing Douglas Reid.

Jubilee Lodge secretary Harvey Smithers, sworn in as one of three Grand Lodge trustees, was Mr Jeffs' sponsor at the ceremony at Osborne Park Bowling Club, attended by about 80 people.

Other local lodges represented were Pride of Australia (Woodvale) and Sir Harry Woodward (Osborne Park). Members of kindred organisation, the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows, also attended.

Gregory Hincks (grand chamberlain) and Roy Kerr (grand tyler)

were among other northern suburbs appointees.

"It was a lovely afternoon," Mr Smithers said.

As a benevolent organisation, Buffaloes raise funds for such groups as the Red Cross Blood Bank in Hillarys, Northern Suburbs Stroke Support Group, Rocky Bay, Camp Quality and Make-a-Wish Foundation.

Jubilee Lodge plans a quiz night to benefit Woodvale Senior High School's music program.

Lodges always welcome new Buffaloes.

Jubilee Lodge meets on the second Sunday of the month at 10am; Pride of Australia, second Thursday at 7.30pm; and Sir Harry Woodward, first Friday at 1.30pm.

Call Harvey on 9409 7704 for meeting details.

**Margaret Price**

# Currambine District Centre Comes Alive

**T**ransformation of Currambine District Centre into a vibrant commercial precinct is set to continue with an additional 7,000 square metres of commercial floor space being constructed on Delamere Avenue.

The new complex comprising of seven buildings is being built in two stages over twin sites adjacent to Woolworths and Grand Cinemas by Westcapital Group Pty Ltd. Public submissions to the City of Joondalup closed on 31 August 2011, with a building licence expected to be issued within 6 weeks.

The first stage is expected to be completed in June 2012 and features a signature two

storey Dome Café, restaurants, dental surgery, showrooms, and office space. To follow within six months is the second stage which includes restaurants, a gourmet fresh grower's market, showrooms, medical consulting rooms, and offices.

Westcapital Group Director Ian

Goodenough said that the company had made the decision to invest in undercover parking and include a second storey element to maximise the future potential of the complex. "Pre-leasing activity has been strong with significant interest for higher-level uses such as restaurants, a medical

centre, service industries, and retail rather than the existing showroom zoning."

"It will necessitate the application for some planning changes to reflect the changing status of Currambine as an emerging District Centre."

Over the past three years Westcapital Group has played a pivotal role in the development of four hectares of land at Currambine District Centre including over 80 residential dwellings.

The new commercial development will provide residents with shopping and entertainment amenities within walking distance of their homes, and the City of Joondalup's new public open space and community centre.



# InsideCover

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## Kelly calls it a day after colourful career

The end is nigh for one of local government's more colourful characters, with Wanneroo mayor **Jon Kelly** bowing out come the October local council elections.

Mr Kelly will hang up the mayoral chain after 12 years — and his fair share of controversy.

Readers may recall Mr Kelly walked out of the Labor Party in 2004 to run as an independent against Girrawheen MLA **Margaret Quirk** after he failed to gain preselection.

After losing that election, he was eventually allowed back into the party and gained pre-selection for the Federal seat of Cowan in 2009.

However, that too ended in a hurry when former premier **Brian Burke** endorsed his candidacy — something Mr Kelly described at the time as the “kiss of death”.

It had followed a Corruption and Crime Commission report finding that Mr Kelly put himself at risk of misconduct through his relationship with Mr Burke.

However, Mr Kelly said he had no regrets and was glad to leave on his terms.



Leaving: **Jon Kelly**

“With the benefit of hindsight, I think that made me a better public officer,” he said of his brush with the commission. “You learn a lot through those experiences and I really did learn a lot about public office. I think I got about as close as you can get without it being devastating, so I certainly know where it's possible to make good faith errors for which it's almost impossible to recover.”

That said, Mr Kelly would not rule out another tilt at State or Federal politics.

“Certainly, I have friends and supporters who would like to see me continue in public life, but preselections are highly unpredictable in nature and I really have no idea what the future brings,” he said.

Mr Kelly said he would continue to run his Butler newsagency and study for his MBA, researching, among other issues, leadership in local government.

And the hot tip for his replacement?



Wanneroo council's deputy mayor **Tracey Roberts**. Although not a member of any political party, Ms Roberts is receiving strong campaign support from fellow councillor, good friend and long-time Liberal Party member **Ian Goodenough**.

### What's the plan, AMT?

On the subject of council elections and failed tilts at Federal politics, speculation continues that former planning minister **Alannah MacTiernan** will run for mayor of the now City of Vincent.

*Inside Cover* understands an announcement is imminent, but AMT's venture back into council chambers 17 years after she finished as a City of Perth councillor will no doubt be influenced by whether incumbent mayor **Nick Catania** decides to stand again.

He is widely tipped to call it quits after 10 years, with an announcement also pending.

Meanwhile, where are all the candidates for the prestigious position of Lord Mayor of Perth?

Surely, **Lisa Scaffidi** is not running unopposed? Call us.

### Chamber boss bows out

Rumours are swirling about the departure of Fremantle Chamber of Commerce chief executive **Peter Nolin**.

Mr Nolin, who has made a few enemies in the port city with his pro-development stance, announced last Friday he would “vacate the position and move on to new challenges” when his contract is up in November. The US expat, who has lived and worked in Freo for 16

years, was recruited three years ago as part of a shake-up at the chamber.

Speculation about his departure has ranged from him being pushed to Mr Nolin wanting to turn developer in the port city.

But Mr Nolin has rejected those rumours. He said it was his idea to leave, after earlier extending his contract from June, and stressed he was “not a property developer”.

Mr Nolin said his future was in the “entrepreneurial, more corporate scene”.

### There goes another one

The exodus also continues at Channel 9 News. Long-serving political reporter **Nadia Mitsopoulos** has quit the network to take up the gig as producer for ABC radio's morning presenter **Geoff Hutchison** from next month.

“I've been in TV for 20 years, I've been at Channel 9 for almost 12 and I think it was actually just time for a change and I just wanted to explore opportunities,” Mitsopoulos said yesterday.

“I'm really looking forward to it. I love talkback so I thought it was too good an opportunity not to take up.”

The mother of two young children, Mitsopoulos said the early starts would not be a problem.

“I'm up early anyway,” she said.

The resignation follows the departures of presenters **Dixie Marshall** and **Michael Thomson** and reporter **Jessica Strutt**.

### Doctor's daily dose

Here's something to motivate those of us using winter as an excuse to avoid exercise.

**Michael Clarke**, pictured below, is a long-retired psychiatrist who lives in the south coast town of Denmark and likes to spend his mornings in all sorts of contorted positions.

Dr Clarke, at a spritely 82, says he took up yoga only 10 years ago.

“What can it possibly be about yoga that could convert a person who has always cherished the comforts of life into someone who springs out of bed every morning at 6 o'clock to spend the next hour or so going through a strenuous and demanding series of stretching, strengthening and balancing exercises,” he asks.

He goes on: “All I know is that when I get into bed at night I'm already looking forward to rising at 6 to repeat the daily challenge.”

The good doctor has written an internet book about his experience, found at [www.yogamichael.com](http://www.yogamichael.com), hoping the photographs will encourage others to take it up.

I'll try, Dr Clarke.

• Although this reporter has long-believed *IC* needed a woman's touch, the change is only temporary while regular columnist **Gary Adshead** is on assignment.



Daily dose: Dr Clarke strikes a pose during his morning yoga session.



The purse strings may soon be relaxed if the state's 2010-11 financial performance turns out to be better than expected.

Peter Kennedy

| POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE ■

**BACK TO BUSINESS**

**Change not always good**

A new report has taken climate change phobia to an absurd new level.

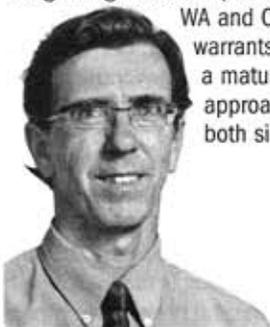


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**Oakajee to test ties**

The growing relationship between WA and China warrants a mature approach from both sides.



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**A pointless pursuit?**

Retailers have every reason for concern following a recent report from the UN.



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**Robin Hood v robber barons**

Beating up on the rich is counterproductive; we want more of them.



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# Time for pre-election largesse?

AS Colin Barnett's Liberal-National alliance approaches the final 18 months of its first term in government, there are some rumblings from a most unlikely source, with the state's major employer lobby group becoming impatient over lack of action in key areas for its members.

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA has accused the government of failing to honour crucial election promises made to small and medium-sized businesses during the 2008 election campaign. The main issues are tax cuts and red tape.

During the election campaign in 2008, Mr Barnett promised tax cuts of \$250 million should the Liberals win the election. His government did provide an early one-off payroll tax exemption worth about \$100 million over one financial year to counter the GFC, but business is becoming impatient for the rest.

CCI chief executive James Pearson says time is running out.

"Many employers not directly linked with the resources industry are finding current conditions tough," he says.

"The longer WA continues to be the highest-taxing state in the nation on a per-capita basis, the longer WA firms will find it harder to compete with the rest of the nation and internationally."

Mr Pearson says both the federal and state governments have a responsibility to remove inefficient taxes and charges, which he claims are holding WA business back.

At the state level that's code for payroll tax, long criticised as a tax on jobs. It was earmarked to 'go' in the early days of the goods and services tax campaign but fell by the wayside as John Howard had to compromise to win the crucial support of the Australian Democrats to get the bulk of his GST package through.

But a cut in payroll tax, especially for small business, would go part of the way in pacifying the CCI. And there's always scope for easing

stamp duty and land tax rates when the economy is performing well, although it's not exactly happy days in all sectors.

Red tape has been as big issue for small business for years. Successive governments have promised to cut it, with limited success. I remember (then) Labor deputy premier and small business minister Mal Bryce launching Small Business Week by symbolically – for the TV cameras – cutting the red tape around a mountain of booklets containing relevant legislation and regulations. That was in 1984.

All governments make a fuss about red tape and this one is no different. Early in its current term, Liberal MPs Ken Baston and Liza Harvey were charged with preparing a report on areas where regulations were hampering industry. The report was duly completed and handed to Treasurer Christian Porter. Clearly the CCI is becoming impatient.

the imminent release of the state's financial performance for 2010-11, and the current position, hinting that they will be far stronger than many people thought possible.

If that's the case, don't be surprised if the purse strings are soon relaxed somewhat, with a few sweeteners starting to flow. Voters have just been through three long years with few concessions in taxes and charges. A modest slice of largesse just might make them more partial to giving the current administration a second term.

Mr Barnett, however, who before entering politics was the executive director of one of the CCI's forerunners, – the WA Chamber of Commerce – would be unwise to ignore the warnings from his old colleagues.

With the election countdown getting closer, he would want to have them well and truly in the tent as he

**Don't be surprised if the purse strings are soon relaxed somewhat, with a few sweeteners starting to flow.**

Also impatient is the opposition. It is still waiting for the promised legislation for a lobbyists' register – though it is said to be ready soon. And National Party leader Brendon Grylls promised significant rent concessions for teachers, nurses and police officers in regional WA, which have yet to eventuate. Then there's the Ellenbrook railway line, which had been earmarked for construction should the Liberals win a second term, but has since been shelved.

It's one thing for a party to make promises to win votes during an election campaign; should that party subsequently win power, the people who put it there expect the promises to be honoured. It's all a matter of credibility.

Mr Barnett has foreshadowed

promotes WA as a good place to do business.

**Early poll planning**

THE next federal election might not be held for almost two years, but planning for new candidates in safe seats is already well under way, within the WA Liberal Party at least.

The Liberal strategy has been helped by the early announcements from two veteran MPs – Judi Moylan in Pearce and Mal Washer in Moore – that they do not intend nominating for re-election. So behind the scenes jockeying for two almost certain Liberal seats in the House of Representatives has been on in earnest.

However if you are a Liberal supporter and tempted to put your hand

up for Moore, which takes in Perth's coastal suburbs north of the Cowan electorate, it's too late.

The early mail indicates the nomination is all but signed, sealed and delivered. Land and property developer Ian Goodenough, who has been president of the Moore division of the party for the past four years, has emerged as a short-priced favourite to win Liberal endorsement.

Mr Goodenough is said to have the support of both Dr Washer and the previous Moore president, Senator Michaelia Cash, and has helped develop 12 constitutional Liberal branches in the electorate, with more than 400 members. And the division is well funded, making donations to campaigns in other seats, plus kicking in \$7,500 to the last federal Liberal campaign fund.

Dr Washer has built up a comfortable margin of 11.2 per cent in Moore. But the position in Pearce, where Ms Moylan produced a buffer of 8.9 per cent, is less clear-cut.

The names of several strong contenders are in the mix, including lawyer Lorraine van der Ende, who has worked in Canberra, and prominent lobbyist Dean Smith, who has been director of policy for former prime minister John Howard and former premier Richard Court.

Mr Smith has been state Liberal treasurer for the past five years and is senior vice-president of the Pearce division. He has also been mentioned as a possible contender for a Senate seat. That means the endorsement ballot for Pearce early next year is almost certain to be hotly contested.

The remaining nine federal Liberal MHRs are expected to renominate and be endorsed. The same goes for Labor's three MPs.

The National Party's Tony Crook will face a hot challenge from Katanning farmer Rick Wilson, who has already been endorsed by the Liberals in an attempt to regain the Wheatbelt seat of O'Connor. It had been a Liberal stronghold for 30 years until Wilson Tuckey's surprise defeat in last year's federal poll.

# Row looms over parking bays at planned premises

THE proponents of a proposed commercial development in Currumbine will appeal if the Joondalup Council votes to refuse their development application at its meeting tonight.

In a report to council, planning and development director Dale Page recommends rejecting the proposal because of a parking shortfall of 47 bays.

"The amount of car parking proposed will not be adequate to service the development at peak times," she said.

"The applicant's justification of informal reciprocal parking on adjoining sites and roadside embayments are also not considered adequate."

Currumbine District centre director Ian Goodenough disputed the City's calculation of the parking shortfall.



**An impression of the proposed development.**

"We have a separate development application next door which will have a surplus of 21 bays and we have offered cash in lieu of \$259,290 to fund more parking in the area," he said.

"We have also offered to construct six on-street parking spaces which would bring the shortfall, by our

calculations, to just 11 bays."

Mr Goodenough said an adjacent development in Currumbine being considered at tonight's meeting, which had a parking shortfall of 190 bays, was recommended for approval.

"I believe that is grossly unfair," he said.

"It should also be noted

the shortfall assumes 109 bays will be built as a result of a separate development application - otherwise it is a 299-bay shortfall.

"And the 47-bay shortfall quoted in the report does not consider the surplus of 21 bays on our second stage on Lot 5001."

**David Gear**

# Little consultation, fundamentally flawed

By LUCY JARVIS

SEVERAL Wanneroo City councillors have rejected a rezoning proposal in Wangara because they say there has been inadequate public consultation.

Eight councillors voted against the proposal to rezone about 81ha from rural to industrial last week, before adopting an alternative motion to rezone one portion of the land.

The land consists of several lots, owned by the Aboriginal Lands Trust and private parties, and is located in Sydney Road, on

both sides of Ocean Reef Road.

Cr Brett Treby, who put forward the alternative motion, said the proposal was "fundamentally flawed" because residents living around the subject area did not know about the proposal.

According to the council report, the WA Planning Commission advertised the amendment for public consultation between August 30 and November 4, and landowners within the amendment area were sent written notice, but not adjacent landowners.

Cr Dianne Guise also spoke against the original motion, say-



ing she supported the concept, which would generate funds for the Noongar community, but the broader community needed to be included in the conversation.

During discussion, Cr Ian Goodenough said Wanneroo's annual population growth of 8000

people represented a need for jobs and productive industry.

"It's estimated that the industrial land supply area in Wangara will come to an end in as little as 18 months," he said.

Cr Goodenough said there was a pressing need to rezone the land, and the Neerabup industrial area would not replace Wangara because it did not have all the necessary infrastructure in place, including access to transport.

"Neerabup is several years away from getting essential services (and) there are a number of federal environment issues delay-

ing the release of land."

Cr Frank Cvitan also supported the original motion, saying the pocket was zoned industrial under the metropolitan region scheme, but rural in the City's scheme. Before to the debate, representatives of the landowners within the amendment gave deputations seeking council support.

South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council chief executive Glen Kelly said there had been long-term issues with the Aboriginal community camp on the site, which would be resolved through the proposed extension.

# Weekender

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011

Community

## Tale of two top cities

### Joondalup best place in the world

DAVID GEAR  
davidg@communitynews.com.au

IT was no surprise to Anke Ramdohr, of Greenwood, to hear that the City of Joondalup was named one of the best places in the world to live in a UN-backed award over the weekend.

Joondalup was listed the most liveable city in the 150,001 to 400,000 population category, at the the LivCom Awards held this year in Songpa, South Korea.

Ms Ramdohr, who migrated to Australia with her husband and three children in March, said she loved the open spaces of Joondalup compared to her native Germany.

"There's so much room for the kids to play; it is a great place to raise a family," she said.

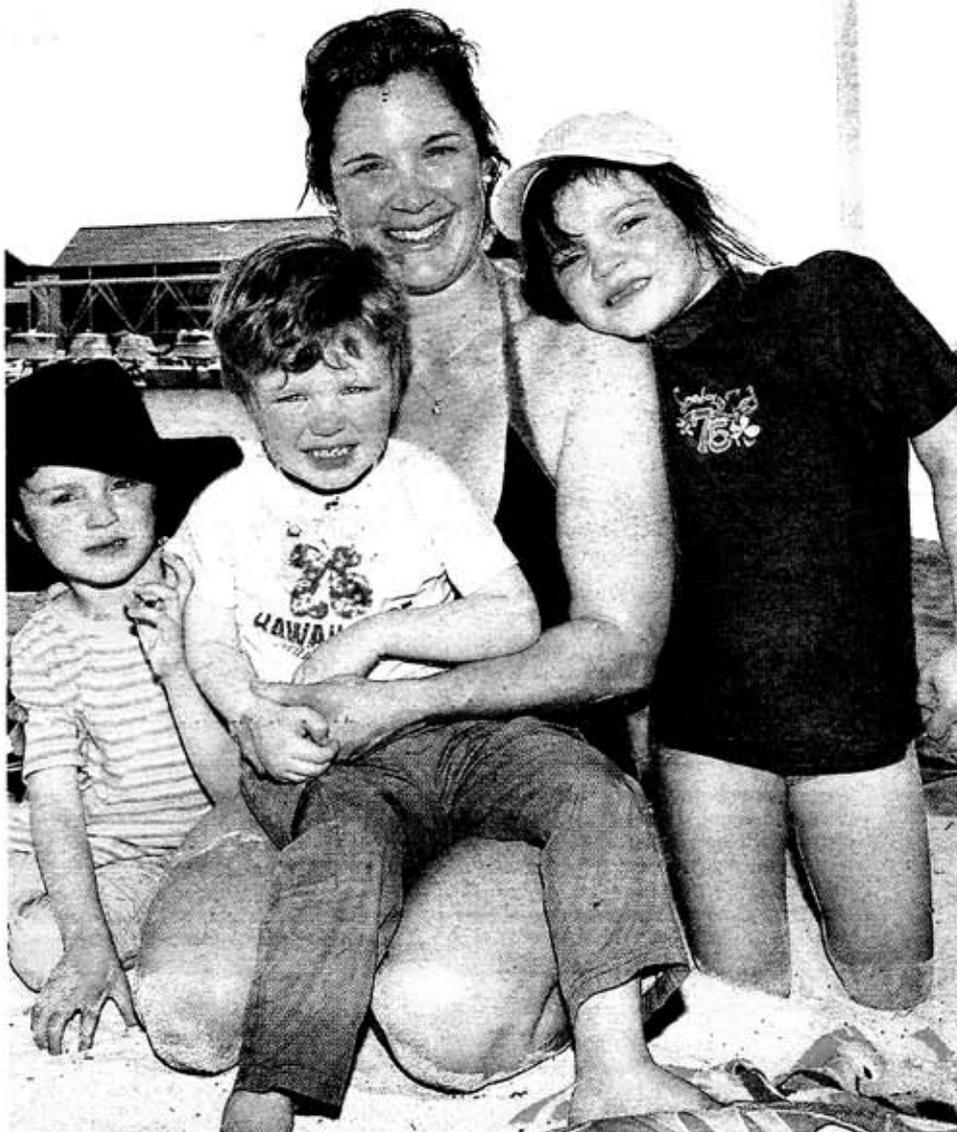
The awards - endorsed by the UN Environment Program - recognise communities with the best lifestyle for its' residents.

Communities are judged on environmental and health outcomes, community involvement, and arts and cultural heritage.

Joondalup Mayor Troy Pickard said the award gave cities the opportunity to share information and springboard ideas off one other.

"The City has come a long way in a few short years, providing the community with a great range of services and a sense of place, while developing sustainable planning and environmental strategies for the future," he said.

"Local governments face many challenges and must plan for them all. From climate change to population growth, community services and emergency management in the face of disaster, the City of



Anke Ramdohr and her children Julius(4), Lars (2) and Lillian (6), pictured at Hillarys marina, love Joondalup's open spaces.

Picture: Bruce Hunt

www.communitypix.com.au d367516

Joondalup is leading the way in local government in WA and, as this award now shows, internationally."

Mandurah came second in its population category of 20,001 to 75,000 and also picked up an award for strategic planning.

The regional coastal city of Geraldton, with its population of about 37,000, won the community involvement award.

Serpentine Jarradale Shire was recognised for its prowess in planning for future projects.

### Wanneroo's assets top the \$1b mark

LUCY JARVIS  
lucyj@communitynews.com.au

THE City of Wanneroo's total assets exceeded \$1 billion, a report to the audit committee revealed this week.

Committee chairman and Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough said the annual audited financial statements for 2010-11 were presented at a meeting on Tuesday and showed the City's assets were worth \$1,050,942,391.

"The City's total assets have now exceeded \$1 billion, reflecting the scale of the City's operation and continuing growth," the report said.

Cr Goodenough said the challenges associated with managing the portfolio of public infrastructure assets included the need to ensure ongoing maintenance of assets and replacement at the end of their serviceable life.

"Systems are in place to make financial provision for the cost of renewing items, such as the re-surfacing of roads, upkeep of community buildings, and replacing irrigation in parks to ensure that established suburbs do not deteriorate with age," he said.

"Under the 'renew before new' policy, funds are set aside in asset replacement reserves during each budget cycle."

Cr Goodenough said it could be tempting to spend funds on new facilities, but fiscal discipline would prevent infrastructure assets from becoming run down.

He said the transfer of parks, reserves and community infrastructure from land developers to the City had tipped it past \$1 billion.

While the total asset value milestone was celebrated, Cr Goodenough said the City expected the net value of its assets - including liabilities - to exceed \$1 billion by next year.

# Uneasy about vote, so councillor walks out

WANNEROO City councillor Ian Goodenough asked to be excused from the council chambers at Tuesday night's meeting during a discussion on a precinct structure plan for Drovers Place, Wanneroo.

Cr Goodenough, who had failed to have consideration of Structure Plan 80 deferred, said he understood a City of Wanneroo internal investigation relating to the matter was being conducted and asked to be excused from the chamber.

Cr Goodenough later told

the *Weekender* he left the chamber because he "didn't want to vote for something I wasn't sure about".

Councillors endorsed the plan with modifications to be sent to the WA Planning Commission for final approval.

Modifications included allowing for low-scale tourism-related uses such as tearooms, arts and craft, art galleries, cafes and an educational establishment on some lots.

The council also approved a requirement that a traffic im-

pact assessment be done for any proposed plans for the western part of the precinct.

The City will ask the WAPC to change the status of the 38ha land covered by the plan and rezone it from general rural to urban development under the Metropolitan Region Scheme.

The City has spent up to \$40,000 on consultants' fees in relation to traffic and retail assessments for the draft plan, as well as many staff hours and City resources.

**Belinda Cipriano**

# Drovers Place motion lapses

A MOTION to revoke Wanneroo City Council's August decision on Drovers Place lapsed after failing to get enough votes on Tuesday night.

Cr Bob Smithson had proposed revoking the decision on the precinct structure plan in order to expand permitted uses including a hairdresser, medical centre and video hire but failed to get the necessary support from five councillors at the meeting.

An amended motion, which removed two conditions and a related paragraph of administration's advice, was then debated.

Cr Smithson referred to a judgment by State Administrative Tribunal president Justice John Chaney last year about the shop-

ping precinct not being a district or regional centre and certain uses should not have been removed.

However, the City's planning and sustainability director Len Kosova said that judgment related to two specific uses, showrooms and storerooms.

Cr Smithson said a survey showed 58 per cent of shoppers at Drovers were from the City of Wanneroo, but there were also a significant proportion of City of Joondalup residents and to best service residents in the area, all the original permitted uses recommended would be needed.

"It's a very popular place indeed and these particular uses were taken out," Cr Smithson said.

"Administration worked a very

long time with the developers. There are buildings already there (and) we can be making more in the way of rates."

Cr Ian Goodenough, who referred to existing buildings, said the floor space in the new part of the building was currently vacant and available for lease.

"The proponent has received a number of inquiries from prospective tenants, including a hairdresser, drycleaner, gymnasium, veterinarian and liquor store to lease the vacant premises," Cr Goodenough said.

"These permitted uses and several others were removed from the structure plan by Council at previous meetings."

Mr Kosova said the motion

would create the first amendment to the structure plan, which would apply to several properties in the area.

"The uses were previously supported by administration," he said.

Cr Goodenough questioned the reason to disallow a hairdresser, drycleaner, gymnasium, veterinarian and liquor store.

He also said there were low vacancy rates in shopping centres across the City.

"Consumers will benefit from increased competition," Cr Goodenough said.

Cr Alan Blencowe said there were desperate shortages of the particular uses in the City.

The majority of councillors voted against the amended motion.

# Deadline reprieve for mine driving school

A MINING driver training school has until March to relocate following a decision by Wanneroo City councillors on Tuesday night.

Following the AGM of electors last week, councillors considered a report on Nowergup resident Sabine Winton's lost motion for council to take immediate

legal action against RMS Training and Recruitment for its training school operations on Nowergup Road.

The report recommended the City start prosecution proceedings if the company has not ceased operations and removed equipment from the site by February 10.

However, Cr Ian Goode-

nough's ammended motion to extend the deadline to March 2 found unanimous support.

During public question time, RMS managing director Merryn Richards asked councillors if they were aware RMS had never received complaints from Nowergup residents since operations started in 2008.

# Road proposal voiced

By **DEBBY VILENSKY**

AN alternative proposal to combat the number of traffic crashes at the corner of Hester Avenue and Wanneroo Road in Clarkson will be presented to the City of Wanneroo at the November council meeting.

Councillor Ian Goodenough is seeking community support for his plan to extend Neerabup Road east from Connolly Drive to Wanneroo Road that would link Marmion Avenue to Wan-

neroo Road.

He said his plan was an alternative to what was passed at the September 23 meeting that called for a reduction in the speed limit two kilometres on either side of Wanneroo Road from 90km/hr to 70km/hr.

Cr Rudi Steffens has been calling for the speed limit reduction and it was passed.

It will be implemented in the event funding does not come through from Main Roads WA with a decision expected this financial year.

Cr Goodenough said he

thought a road extension would reduce traffic along Hester Avenue and address the problems at the intersection.

"I voted against the speed limit reduction because I believe the best long term solution is to build a second east-west road linking Marmion Avenue and Wanneroo Road," he said.

"In addition, the extension will provide direct access to the Meridian Park In-

dustrial Park in Neerabup, facilitating employment creation, improving access to services and further economic development in the region."

Mr Goodenough also called on the City to consult the community and stakeholders over the design and construction of the road and an associated overpass over the railway line plus to lobby the State and Federal Governments for funding.



Have your say at  
[www.inmycommunity.com.au](http://www.inmycommunity.com.au)

## Development plan is delayed

By **DEBBY VILENSKY**

# Intersection needs safety boost: council

THE City of Wanneroo has put a submission to Main Roads WA for blackspot funding for the intersection of Wanneroo Road and Hester Avenue in Clarkson.

In the event that submission is not successful, the council will consider other options for improving the safety of the intersection.

Director of Infrastructure Denis Blair said that submission was being audited and a decision was expected this year or next.

Councillor Rudi Steffens presented his proposal to the council meeting last Tuesday to request Main Roads lower the speed limit on Wanneroo Road from 90km/h to 70km/h for one kilometre on either side of the Hester Avenue intersection and modify islands and trim vegetation nearby.

Cr Steffens, who is also on the RoadWise Committee, said if Main Roads funding did not come through, the city needed to consider other options to prevent the number of accidents caused by people rolling through the stop sign.

He said the intersection had "become somewhat of a speedway in both directions".

In the last five years, there have been 51 crashes at the site with five people hospitalised.

Cr Ian Goodenough said he thought any review should wait until the November opening of Marmion Avenue which could decrease traffic at the intersection.

Cr Laura Gray said there was nothing to suggest speed was to blame but rather that drivers not stopping at the stop sign was the reason for the accidents.

Main Roads reviewed the speed limit for the area in late 2006 and retained the 90km/h limit, promising to review it in 12 months.

The city has not heard the outcome of that review.

THE development plan for Yanchep and Two Rocks has been delayed being sent to the WA Planning Commission, with the Wanneroo Council and land owners Tokyu Corporation unable to agree to terms over a staging strategy to link residential development with employment opportunities in the area.

Council administration is insisting on including the staging strategy in the plan, while Tokyu does not support its inclusion.

At last week's council meeting, an amendment was passed to include the staging requirements in part two of the plan, rather than part one.

Councillor Ian Goodenough, who presented the amendment, said putting it in part two gave the plan more flexibility and would be less onerous on the proponents, who the City had worked well with up to this point.

At the meeting, Martine White

from Roberts Day town planning and a design firm working on behalf of Tokyu and its subsidiaries, said they were "strongly opposed to the staging provisions" that were not clearly defined.

She said there were other provisions in the district structure plan that covered the provision of infrastructure, community facilities and employment.

"It is our understanding that administration's primary concern behind the staging requirements is to ensure that the employment targets are met as residential development progresses," she said.

"We do not believe that putting staging provisions in part one will achieve anything that is not already covered through other processes."

Mayor Jon Kelly said modifications to the plan had to be made.

"Once the modifications are complete to the satisfaction of the City, the DSP (district structure plan) will be forwarded to the WAPC in its entirety," he said.

# Closer eye to be kept on \$5m investments

MAJOR Wanneroo development applications of \$5 million or more will now be more closely monitored to promote greater private sector investment.

A motion, put forth by Cr Ian Goodenough, calling for a status report on major planning projects to be presented

to the council bi-monthly passed at last week's meeting.

"Individual investment of \$5 million or greater is considered to generate a sufficient level of economic impact to warrant the extra resource commitment by the City in individually monitor-

ing approvals," he said.

Projects to fall under this requirement could include Clarkson and Madeley district centres, Enterprise Park and Wangara industrial estates and tourism zones.

"A high degree of coordination in the planning and approvals process is re-

quired to keep the lines of communication open and avoid unnecessary delays," Cr Goodenough.

"Closer monitoring of the status of major projects will ensure a more coordinated interagency approach to achieving approvals on a more timely basis."

# New water offensive

By **JESSICA WILLOUGHBY**

A NEW taskforce has been created to tackle the issue of elevated nitrate levels in Carabooda bore water supplies.

Agriculture Minister Terry Redman agreed to establish the representative group as a result of talks with Moore Federal MP Mal Washer and Carabooda community representatives last Wednesday.

The group, headed by the Department of Agriculture, will aim to lobby the departments of Health and Water to conduct further water testing in the affected area, map out the contamination points and develop future issue management strategies.

Mr Washer was asked to approach the minister after a recent meeting chaired by Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough and attended by more than 80 residents.

"I am very pleased with how the water quality issue is being approached now," Mr Washer said. "Over the past 10 years, there has been gross negligence from various government bodies leading to this crisis. But I believe they are looking into actively working towards a solution now."

Mr Redman said no timeframe had been set for projects to get under way, but activities were ongoing.

"The Department of Water is continuing groundwater monitoring to determine the extent of nitrate contamination across the entire area," he said.

"The inter-agency working group, which includes the departments of Water and Health, is currently developing options for the Government to consider in addressing poultry use."

**More page 2**

# Red tape delaying road safety works

By **JESSICA WILLOUGHBY**

BLACKSPOT traffic-management work at the intersection of Hester Avenue and Wanneroo Road in Neerabup is expected to be delayed by about a year due to environmental approvals processes, according to Wanneroo Cr Ian Goodenough.

The City of Wanneroo approved an intersection upgrade in the 2009-10 capital works budget to widen Hester Avenue to allow for two right-turning lanes into Wanneroo Road.

The \$530 000 project, fully funded by the Federal Government, would also include the installation of traffic signals.

Mayor Jon Kelly said vegetation along the southern edge of the road would need to be cleared to accommodate the works.

However, formal approval was needed from the Department of Environment and Conservation to clear the vegetation.

"This is further exacerbated by the need to formalise the transfer of what currently is Neerabup National Park land into road reserve," he said, "as well as redefining a further land parcel deemed as crown reserve."

Mr Kelly said an expected one-year timeframe had been placed on the approvals process, based on typical timeframes needed to settle past land ownership and transfer matters.

Cr Goodenough called on the State Government to "apply a commonsense approach" and co-operate with the City to expedite the process.

"It is evident the area to be cleared is a narrow strip of land alongside the

road reserve," he said. "(This land) does not fall into the same category as say a large development in pristine bushland which would warrant detailed flora studies.

"In the interest of road users and road safety, this important project should not be delayed by excessive bureaucracy."

A Department of Environment and Conservation spokeswoman said it would "make an effort to deal with clearing permits in a timely manner".

"The department aims to make decisions on 80 per cent of applications within 60 days," she said, "and 100 per cent of applications within 90 days, but the DEC places priority on applications where blackspots are involved and processes these in the shortest timeframe."

# Still no date for freeway extension

“Planning is underway. However, no timing has been set for construction” – Troy Buswell

By **LUCY JARVIS**

PLANS to extend Mitchell Freeway remain off the table – despite local government and public support for it.

Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough contacted the Federal Gov-

ernment earlier this year to lobby for funding to extend and widen the freeway.

“At this stage, neither the State or Federal Government has acknowledged the importance of upgrading the freeway,” Cr Goodenough said. “Neither has made provision in their respective forward capital works’ budgets.”

A Department of Infrastructure and Transport spokesman said the Federal Government had committed \$3.5 billion to transport infrastructure in WA between 2008-9

and 2013-14, which had already been allocated to specific projects.

He said the responsibility of funding construction of Mitchell Freeway rested with the State Government.

Transport Minister Troy Buswell said land was reserved in the Metropolitan Region Scheme for the extension of the freeway through to the MRS boundary, north of Two Rocks.

“Planning is underway,” he said. “However, no timing has been set for construction.”

Preliminary plans included six interchanges between Burns Beach and Yanchep Beach roads, and the staging could terminate at any of these interchanges.

“Factors that impact on decision-making around freeway extensions include road transport demand in the area, economic benefits, project costs and funding availability,” Mr Buswell said.

Cr Goodenough said rapid population growth in the last decade within the northern coastal corridor had resulted in a significant

increase in traffic volumes, placing greater demands on the road infrastructure in the cities of Wanneroo and Joondalup.

In addition to commuter traffic, development of Wangara Industrial Area, Wanneroo Town Centre, Clarkson District Centre and Joondalup CBD have contributed to substantially increased activity in road freight and supply logistics, Cr Goodenough said.

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# Mitchell Freeway needs funding too: MP

By LUCY JARVIS

A LOCAL politician has called for the extension and widening of Mitchell Freeway to be brought forward, following Transport Minister Troy Buswell's announcement last week that the Kwinana Freeway would be widened.

North Metropolitan MLC Michael Mischin called last week for the Mitchell Freeway to be extended, preferably to Hester Avenue, and widened around problem areas further south.

"No doubt the widening of the Kwinana Freeway is vital, but no less so than expanding the capacity of the Mitchell," he said.

Mr Mischin said it was important for the cities of Joondalup and Wanneroo to add an extra lane to the freeway, especially north-bound, and to extend it north to at least Neerabup Road, if not to Hester Avenue.

"Traffic congestion on the Mitchell is a constant source of frustration for residents of our growing northern-most suburbs, and being caught in the peak hour congestion affects both quality of life and economic productivity," he said.

Transport Minister Troy Buswell said congestion was "arguably worse" in the part of the Kwinana Freeway set to be widened than its northern counterpart.

Mr Buswell said traffic speeds could drop to 40km/h during peak hours on the southern freeway compared to 50km/h between Hepburn Avenue and Hodges Drive.

"It is also important to point out that Kwinana Freeway provides an important route for freight travelling to the Fremantle Port," he said.

"Decisions pertaining to the extension of the Mitchell Freeway will be made as part of the budgetary process."

Mr Mischin also said he supported Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough's comments that the Federal Government wasn't doing enough to help solve traffic issues in the northern suburbs.

"It wants to redistribute WA's GST revenue, and raise revenue by further taxing our mining industry, but seems to regard funding infrastructure such as our freeway as solely WA's problem," he said.

"Nevertheless, it falls to our current State Government to fix the problem and I'll continue to lobby it to bring these works forward."

In its 2011-12 budget submission, the RAC called on the State Government to prioritise investigating options to widen both Kwinana and Mitchell freeways, and to provide a firm timeline for the extension of the Mitchell Freeway to Clarkson, including appropriate funding allocations.



MLC Michael Mischin.

## BUSINESS

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# A dwindling resource

### Mining trainers are thin on the ground

TRAINERS for the mining industry are in short supply, a local recruitment and training company says.

Richards Mining Services general manager Jan Norberger said recruiting experienced trainers was difficult because they had to have several years of hands-on experience.

He said the company was constantly advertising for trainers, who commanded six-figure salaries equivalent to senior managers, but people who were good machine operators weren't necessarily good trainers.

Mr Norberger said the demand for trainers stemmed from the skills shortage.

"The flipside of the skills shortage is (mining companies) are having to recruit people who are unskilled," he said.

Mr Norberger commented on the challenges in meeting training demand whilst showing Federal MP Tony Smith and WA Senator Michaelia Cash around facilities in Joondalup and a 60ha quarry in Nowergup.

The tour included hands-on



Merryn Richards and Jan Norberger of RMS with WA Senator Michaelia Cash, Tony Smith MP and Cr Ian Goodenough with a dump truck at the Nowergup facility.

experience with a dump truck simulator worth \$1 million followed by the opportunity to drive a 100 tonne dump truck.

Mr Smith and Senator Cash listened to concerns about the impact of the Gillard Government's proposed mining tax on support industries to the mining industry, such as the training and recruitment sector.

Mr Smith said there were 125 known taxes in Australia and a need for tax reform.

The visit was organised by Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough who said he was keen to showcase local economic development ventures.

"Local people have the opportunity to undertake training within 15km of their homes and secure attractive jobs in the mining industry," he said.

Lucy Jarvis



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# Delays could cost City

## Fears for council income stream

By **LUCY JARVIS**

**BUSH** Forever, carnaby's black-cockatoos, sun moths and environmental legislation could delay development of the 180ha Meridian Park industrial area in Neerabup, according to a Wanneroo councillor.

Cr Ian Goodenough said during a visit to the site that environmental legislation was delaying development in the City of Wanneroo and LandCorp project, along with the need for utility services.

He said delays could have financial implications for the City and ratepayers until proceeds from land releases could be used to repay \$60 million of Treasury loans to the City.

"Neerabup industrial area is a strategic site in the North West Metro Region in terms of employment self-sufficiency for our growing residential population and in meeting the corridor's industrial

needs. Delays will have significant economic flow-on effects and loss of recurrent rates income," Cr Goodenough said.

"As rate notices begin arriving in letterboxes shortly, the bad news is annual rate rises in the order of 6 per cent are likely to be a reality for the next 10 years unless the City is free to develop its substantial land assets to generate financial self-sufficiency."

However, Deputy Mayor Tracey Roberts said the City was not dependent on land sales from Neerabup to repay the loan and had until 2027 to repay it.

"The City's prudent financial management has ensured a reserve is provided and a fixed amount is put aside each year to enable the loan be repaid," she said.

"Any funds from land sales are allocated to the Asset Replacement Reserve, which is designed to fund new or replace assets for the City."

More page 4



Wanneroo councillor Ian Goodenough (centre) visits Neerabup industrial area with federal politicians Senator Michaelia Cash and the Member for Casey, Victoria, Tony Smith.

## Neerabup project can generate 20,000 jobs

From page 1

Cr Roberts said it was vital for the Neerabup project to progress, however, as it was projected to generate up to 20,000 jobs and other industrial areas were nearing capacity.

"The Wangara and Landsdale complexes are expected to reach capacity within two or three years, and the only remaining industrial area available to meet the demand for industrial land in this corridor is Neerabup," she said.

"Therefore, the NIA will need the appropriate infrastructure in place by 2012/13 to allow businesses to relocate, otherwise businesses may choose to move out of the northern corridor."

Cr Roberts said the City was continuing to work with all levels of government to ensure progress and looked for leadership at the state and federal levels to resolve environmental constraints.

During a recent visit to Neerabup, Cr Goodenough asked federal politicians Senator Michaelia Cash and the Member for Casey, Victoria, Tony Smith, to lobby the Federal Environment Minister to approve staged development.

## Business Community

Be involved at [www.inmycommunity.com.au](http://www.inmycommunity.com.au)

# Call for credit card code

WANNEROO councillor Ian Goodenough is calling for the regulation of credit card surcharges.

The coastal ward councillor is a senior associate of the Financial Services Institute of Australasia, and said there was a need for the finance industry and Government to regulate the practice to ensure that consumer interests are safeguarded.

"It is increasingly common to see notices on shop counters advising that payments by credit card attract a surcharge," he said. "These charges are often overlooked because they occur at the point of sale – the consumer is not necessarily fully conscious of the total cost when making the purchase decision, and the charges are not always itemised on invoices."

"Credit card surcharges should be based on the principle of cost recovery and not an arbitrary percentage levied by individual businesses."

Cr Goodenough said the surcharge practice was

becoming widespread, with some businesses charging up to 4 per cent at point of sale.

He conceded businesses incurred transaction costs by accepting payments via credit card – these include a royalty to the credit card issuer and telecommunication charges.

"However, it should be noted alternative forms of payment also incur costs associated with manually handling cash and cheques and physically conveying the money to the bank.

"An industry code of practice and appropriate consumer protection legislation needs to be developed to ensure consumers are not being overcharged."

Email your feedback to [ian.goodenough@wanneroo.wa.gov.au](mailto:ian.goodenough@wanneroo.wa.gov.au).



Have your say at  
[www.inmycommunity.com.au](http://www.inmycommunity.com.au)

# Survey result good omen for trader

JESSICA WILLOUGHBY

jessicaw@communitynews.com.au

A DRAFT survey, listing almost 3000 Wanneroo residents' signatures, has thrown support behind further development within the Drover Place precinct.

A copy of the survey was presented to Mayor Jon Kelly outlining 2969 signatures of approval to move forward the proposed amendment to the Drovers Place Precinct Structure Plan number 47. The amendment would allow the existing *Garden Glow* fresh food market owner Darryl Tedesco to apply for other business uses in the area.

Recently council officers sought to refuse the amendment on the grounds it would increase the number of permissible uses in the area, currently being rezoned from rural to a restricted business zone.

Under the requirements of the zone, any acceptable uses within the area are left to the council's discretion provided they are consistent with the city's Centres Strategy and Policy guidelines.

The survey also asked residents what uses they would like to see operating in the area with many opting for a medical centre or chemist, a liquor outlet or a newsagency

The agenda was referred back to city ad-

ministration for further clarification at October's council meeting.

Councillor Ian Goodenough said clear community support for additional facilities in this area should be a signal for the council to pass the amendment.

"Given the lack of objection and the considerable community support, we (council) should abide by the result and be fair to the applicant (Mr Tedesco) by adopting the amendment," he said. "The applicant deserves the support of the council so that he can focus his efforts in building the local economy and not fighting bureaucrats."

Councillor Bob Smithson agreed.

He said the development could surpass the reputation of Herdsman's Growers Mart if given the right chance.

Mayor Kelly said the survey was ambiguous.

"It was hard to recognise whether the copy was a petition or a survey," he said.

"There is no doubt that Drovers Place has a large following, but the only question we have to ask is what is the role the precinct should play."



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## on the beach

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WANNEROO councillor Ian Goodenough wasn't surprised when he saw this photograph of a vehicle on the access stairway to Clayton's Beach in Mindarie.

The picture, taken on February 16, was sent to him by one of his constituents.

More than 50 people have signed a petition, organised by Cr Goodenough, that supports pedestrian road treatments along Alexandria View, Mindarie. Cr Goodenough said the treatments would make it safer for pedestrians to cross the road and could prevent hoons from driving on the wrong side of the road.

The petition will be presented to the City of Wanneroo next month.

Cr Goodenough has also written to Police Minister Rob Johnson to request a better police presence in the region.

# Councillor bids to distance himself

WANNEROO councillor Ian Goodenough has disposed of his shares in a property development company after recent revelations a former business partner was involved in bankruptcy proceedings.

Cr Goodenough exchanged his shares in Claymont Land for land in Currambine and East Perth, and resigned from his position as managing director of four related Claymont companies last month.

The moves resulted from a discovery late last year that a former business partner had been summoned to the Australian Federal Court to face bankruptcy charges by overseas creditors.

The councillor disclosed the changes in his financial interests to City of Wanneroo chief executive Daniel Simms this week, and said the land, worth \$9.7 million, which he received in the exchange would not present a conflict of interest as the lots were in the cities of Joondalup and Perth.

Cr Goodenough said the sale would free up his routine to enable him to spend more time on council duties and sporting pursuits, and to assist with a colleague's mayoral campaign.

He is also a founding director of Pipe Supports Australia, which has been supplying products for the Joondalup Health Campus expansion.

# City braces for cost increases

Rates to rise 6 per cent to help council meet challenges

**LUCY JARVIS**

lucyj@communitynews.com.au

WANNEROO councillors passed the 2011-12 budget without dispute last Friday, but had plenty to say about cost challenges the City faced and its spending priorities.

Councillor Ian Goode-nough, who moved to accept the budget, said the City expected to collect \$90 million in rates and \$50 million in other revenue next financial year.

However, Cr Goodenough also said the \$1.1 million operating surplus was needed to cover unexpected costs, such as the recent increase in Western Power's street light tariff.

He said utility costs had increased by 14.2 per cent, not including Western Power's 30 per cent street light tariff increase, and there were increases in employment and insurance costs.

Mayor Jon Kelly said people could expect the trend to continue.

"In 2007 the State Government charged us \$2.4 million for electricity. This year it was \$5.2 million," he said.

Rates themselves will increase by 5.9 per cent, which Cr Goodenough said aligned with the best strategy and accommodated a 5 per cent growth factor for the City.

"The strategy prescribes the sustainable level at which rates must be set for growth areas in order to maintain the

## Jon Kelly to step down as mayor

WANNEROO'S mayor is unlikely to seek another term after 12 years at the helm.

Jon Kelly said publicly for the first time on Friday night that this would be his last council budget.

His third term ends at this October's elections.

"This will be my 12th and I think final budget," he said.

Mr Kelly was the



**Jon Kelly.**

youngest mayor elected in WA in 1999, and was re-elected in 2003 and 2007.

He was the first mayor elected for the City of Wanneroo after the former Wanneroo was split to create the City of Joon-dalup in 1998.

existing level of service standards and allow capacity for population growth," he said.

Cr Alan Blencowe said the City had played its part in reducing rates comparatively from triple CPI to double the current CPI figure, and in limiting employment costs.

"We've had roughly a 50 per cent increase in staffing where we've had a doubling of population," he said.

Cr Goodenough said the budget included \$37 million for new capital works, as well as \$34 million for projects carried forward from the last financial year, which he blamed on bureaucracy.

"They have not been able to be completed within the year, and in some cases not even started due to bureaucracy in obtaining approvals from government agencies," he said.

Key capital works projects include \$3.7 million for stage five works at the Kingsway Regional Sporting Complex,

\$1.2 million on Pinjar Road, \$1 million for Yanchep District playing fields, \$1 million to start redeveloping Yanchep Lagoon and about \$600,000 to rehabilitate Badgerup and Gngangara lakes.

Cr Brett Treby, who seconded the motion, said immense population growth pressures required Wanneroo to spend money on new roads and infrastructure which may not be needed in other, established local government areas.

Looking ahead, Cr Goode-nough said the City expected to have more than \$1 billion in assets under their management within the next 18 months.

He said it also needed to focus on broadening its rates base in the future.

"A strong commercial rate base will provide the City with the necessary financial strength to be less reliant on the residential sector for rates," he said.



Ian Britza



Jessica Simunovich & Lisa Parker



David Christison & Troy Buswell



Marisha & Johnny Young, Lionel Yorke & Ellie Devaney



Jacqui Boydell & Brendon Grylls

## IAN BRITZA & FRIENDS

Baptist pastor, politician and pianist Ian Britza showed off his many talents on Saturday night at An Evening with Ian Britza and Friends at His Majesty's Theatre.

The grand piano, which he occasionally plays for constituents in his Morley electoral office, was transported to the more sumptuous surrounds of The Maj where Britza tinkled the ivories in between Parkinson-style interviews with four guests — Ken Wyatt, Terry Mills, Dr Casta Tugaraza and Brendon Grylls.



Steve Lieblich, Peter Abetz & Ian Goodenough



Janine Fisher, Greg Poland & Stretton Joel



Michele Driberg, Jack Garber, May McGuire, Violet Garlett & Greg Cream

PICTURES CHEYNE TILLIER-DALY

## New faces welcomed at business brekky

SEVERAL newcomers attended Wanneroo Business Association's last breakfast of the year, joining older members to hear Treasurer Christian Porter. The November 30 event began with new members introducing their

businesses, and president John Denton talking about recent business awards. The next event will be a festive sundowner on December 14, at Leap Frogs Cafe, and business breakfasts will resume in February.



Bev Letton, Ruth Bell and Gail Workman at the Wanneroo Business Association breakfast.

Picture: Bruce Hunt

www.communitypix.com.au d365598



Ros Coe, Suza Todorovska and Janet Giacomini.



Mayor Tracey Roberts, Ian Goodenough, Peter Newbound and Albert Jacob.

# North Coast Times

Community

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TUESDAY

JANUARY 17, 2012

NEWS: P3  
**TOP STUDENT**  
HISTORY OF SUCCESS



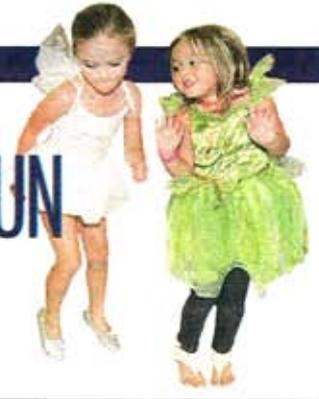
BUSINESS: P11  
**ON BALL**

BRAZILIAN SKILLS CLINICS



NEWS: P8  
**HOLIDAY FUN**

OFF WITH THE FAIRIES



## Red tape road rage

By CAROLINE FRANK

RESIDENTS are outraged that the State Government spent eight months surveying a three-metre strip of land needed to improve safety at a dangerous intersection in Neerabup.

The City of Wanneroo first applied for funding to install traffic signals at the intersection of Hester Avenue and Wanneroo Road in 2008, and the Federal Government allocated \$530,000 towards the project in 2009.

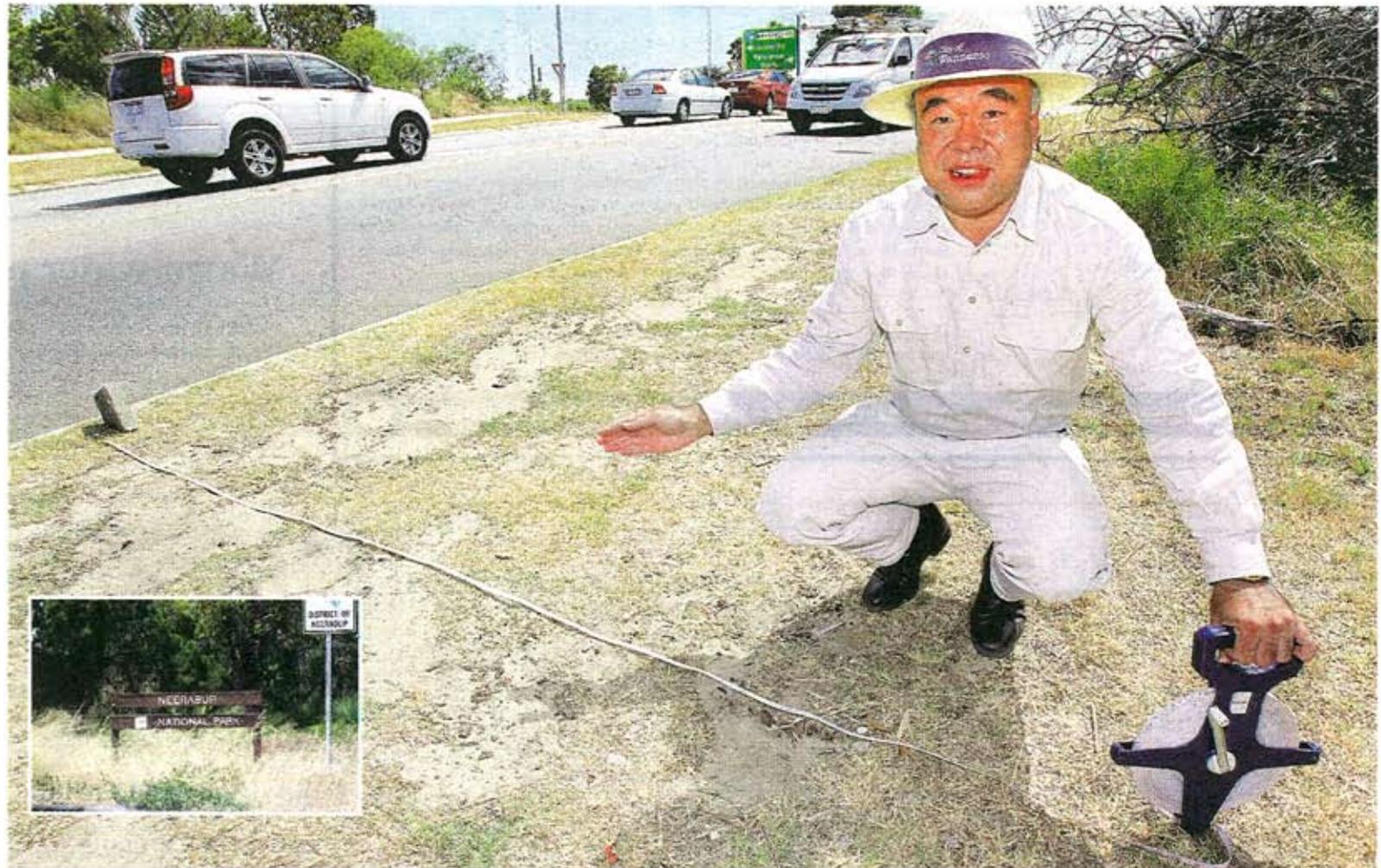
In May the *Times* reported Planning Minister John Day had endorsed the land being excised from Neerabup National Park to road reserve and expected the same outcome with Lands Minister Brendon Grylls by August.

Mr Grylls said survey of the parcels of land took nearly four months to complete and a further four months was taken to complete the Native Title process.

"The Acting Minister for Regional Development and Lands, Terry Redman, approved the excision on January 4, 2012, and it will now be advertised in the Public Notices section of *The West Australian* newspaper for 30 days before being tabled for 14 sitting days in both houses of Parliament," he said.

Mindarie resident Kevin Fairman, who uses the intersection regularly to get to Wangara and Wanneroo, said it was clear people's lives were not considered a high enough priority.

"The State Government seems to be able to get away with not worrying about people's safety at a place where there has clearly been fatalities and there's likely to be more if we don't act soon,"



Coastal Ward councillor Ian Goodenough wants the road reserve widened by 3.6 metres. Picture: Bruce Hunt

www.communitypix.com.au d371364

he said. "I would have thought there would be more importance put on people's lives and trying to reduce accidents than worrying about three metres of land.

"I find it absolutely incredible that we can have a life threatening situation stalled by that type of bureaucracy."

Coastal Ward councillor Ian Goodenough said residents had approached him with safety concerns at the intersection.

"This is the only east-west route north of Burns Beach Road so we've got this coastal population of about 50,000 people and this is their only link to travel

east to go down Wanneroo Road," he said.

"People get frustrated trying to turn right so when the opportunity arises they rush into the intersection to cross four lanes of traffic.

"The reserve needs to be widened by one car width, about

3.6 metres, so they can install the traffic lights and have a turning lane as well.

"The red tape needs to be cut and these traffic lights installed without further delay."



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# THE EXCHANGE

## ECO-FX 'TURNING ON OF THE LIGHTS' LAUNCH

About 80 guests turned up to watch as the LED streetlights were turned on at the Kingsway City shopping centre carpark. The lure of big cost savings attracted local MPs, city councillors, engineers, architects and electrical consultants.

**PICTURES** MATT JELONEK



Gillian Mackay & Rob Macri



Nigel Mackay & Edwina Natrass



Erick van den Berg & Bill Marmion



Liz Behjat & Andrea Mitchell



Peter McIntosh & Shane Thompson



Ralf & Carol Boepple



Jey Shivakumar & James Hutton



Max Willrath & Eamonn Darcy



Nguyet-Ang Truong, Ian Goodenough & Tracey Roberts

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