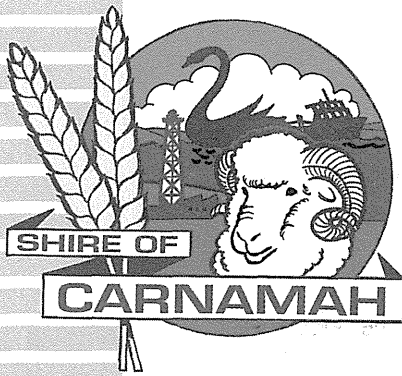


SHIRE OF CARNAMAH



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Our Ref: KH:C13/1.1, 13.3.3.
Enquiries: Kim Hastie

17th April 2009

The Principal Research Officer
Economics and Industry Standing Committee
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Dr. Abernethie

Parliamentary Inquiry - Provision, Use And Regulation Of Caravan Parks (And Camping Grounds) In Western Australia

The Shire of Carnamah is keen to make a general observation and comment to this inquiry particularly in regard to the provision of sufficient crown land for use by the caravan park industry.

Traditionally coastal caravan parks have been utilised by the not-so-wealthy sector of society for family vacation purposes.

Of recent times many privately owned coastal caravan parks have been closed to the traditional user and upgraded to a higher standard of accommodation and/or converted to "townhouse" type accommodation. No doubt this phenomenon will continue as the value of coastal land continues to escalate.

Caravan parks and camping grounds are an integral part of the tourism industry and hence there needs to be a consistent supply of land available for this type of facility, particularly along the coast. Given that the Shire of Carnamah has considerable mid to longer term coastal development potential the Shire is keen to ensure that such is the case.

Accordingly the Shire is of the view that there needs to be a mechanism that provides for Reserve land to be available on long term lease to encourage developers to build caravan parks/camping grounds, have security of tenure and be able to recoup the investment.

The longer-term value of the Reserve leasing arrangement is that as the value of the land increases it is not subject to market pressures for sale/redevelopment and hence a repeat of the circumstances that currently exist.

If government was to make available parcels of Reserve land along the coast for caravan parks with long term lease capacity and a development condition that x% of the site is available for caravan and camping then the future of the industry and the demand for the traditional holiday format could be satisfied.

If you require further comment regarding the above please contact the undersigned on 9951 7000.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kim Hastie".

Kim Hastie
Acting Chief Executive Officer