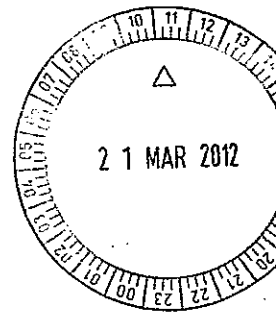


Enquiries
Our reference

Mayor Hipkins (08) 9273 3500
M12/6406



City of Nedlands

ABN 92 614 728 214

19 March 2012

Hon Brian Ellis, Chairman
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Sir,

Petition No 148 – Perth Waterfront Project

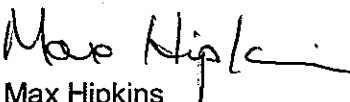
Thank you for your letter dated 8 March 2012, inviting a written submission regarding the issues raised in the petition.

The State Government's Perth Waterfront project is about to commence construction without, I believe, adequate understanding of the implications. From the Western Suburbs point of view, the greatest impacts arise from the cutting of Riverside Drive in order to construct the inlet. The severing of this important east-west arterial road will have significant flow-on traffic effects, the most important of which will be to direct more traffic to the only other east-west arterial road, the Graham Farmer Freeway Tunnel. The tunnel has been designed to take three lanes in each direction and in the short term it could be widened. However the constraints are the merging traffic at each end of the tunnel. This congestion is already apparent at peak periods and additional traffic will obviously make it worse. In the medium to longer term three lanes each way in the tunnel will not provide sufficient capacity to meet demand.

Redirection of traffic from Riverside Drive and Mounts Bay Road to the Graham Farmer Freeway will obviously put more pressure on Thomas Street/Winthrop Ave for motorists going to and from the Western Suburbs. Already this arterial road is bumper to bumper for extended periods outside peak travel times. This congestion will increase and extend for longer periods throughout the day, interfering with Western Suburbs residents' access to the City of Perth and Perth Airport via the Graham farmer Freeway Tunnel. Traffic on Thomas Street/Winthrop Ave is already scheduled to worsen with the opening of the new Children's Hospital and other build-up at QEII and UWA. We don't need cutting Riverside Drive to make it even worse.

I believe no proper economic, environmental or social feasibility of the project has been undertaken. I have taken my complaint to the Parliamentary Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely


Max Hipkins
Mayor

PUBLIC