

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR SWAN

15 January 2014

COPY

Hon. Simon O'Brien MLC
Chairman
Environment and Public Affairs Committee
GPO Box A11
PERTH WA 6837

Dear Chairman, *Simon,*

I understand your committee is considering a request for an inquiry into possible local government boundary changes along the Swan River, made by the Mayor of the Town of Victoria Park Mr Trevor Vaughan.

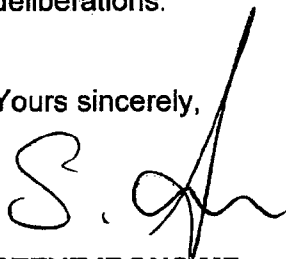
Mr Vaughan has approached me to seek my support for such an Inquiry.

While local government reform is not a federal matter, my view is that the impact of any amalgamations on ratepayers should be modelled before any decision is made on new boundaries. This transparency would give the public more confidence in the process and ensure rate decreases occur following any amalgamation, as is the aim.

As such I would support an Inquiry that provides a cost-benefit analysis of any potential amalgamations along the Swan River. Such an Inquiry could consider scenarios put into the public domain by various agencies to this point.

I wish your committee the all the best in your important deliberations in 2014 and would be interested in being informed of the outcome of this petition and your deliberations.

Yours sincerely,



STEVE IRONS MP
Federal Member for Swan

Phone (08) 9355 0099

Office Suite G3 59 Albany Highway, Victoria Park, WA 6100

Email steve.ironson@aph.gov.au

Fax (08) 9355 0199

Post P.O. Box 1060, East Victoria Park, WA 6981

Web www.steveirons.com.au



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BEN WYATT, MLA

Member for Victoria Park
Shop 2, 896 Albany Hwy
EAST VICTORIA PARK WA 6101

Phone: 9361 1777

Fax: 9470 2875

PO Box 4373, VICTORIA PARK WA 6979

Email: victoriapark@mp.wa.gov.au



TOWN OF VICTORIA PARK

Hon Tony Simpson
Minister for Local Government
8th Floor, Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
WEST PERTH WA 6005

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15 January 2014

Dear Minister,

I write to you regarding the Governments plans to amalgamate the City of South Perth (The City) and the Town of Victoria Park (The Town).

Minister, I believe that it is the board view of my constituents that the Town and the City should amalgamate to become one local government authority. The Town and the City have recognised this, and have been working collaboratively towards amalgamating in 2015.

However, if this amalgamation is to take place, I am of the view that these two councils should be merged in their entirety, and in particular, should retain the Burswood Peninsula. This is a significant financial asset for the Town, and would play an important role in the financial security of the new local government. An amalgamated South Perth and Victoria Park would not be financially sustainable in the long term without the entirety of the Peninsula being included in the merged entity

Minister, I would ask that you seriously consider reversing the Governments position in respect of the Burswood Peninsula.

Yours sincerely,

BEN WYATT, MLA
Member for Victoria Park