



HON Donna Faragher JP MLC

Member for East Metropolitan Region
Shadow Minister for Education and Training; Women's Interests

21 October 2019

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Legislative Council Committee Office
Parliament House
4 Harvest Terrace
WEST PERTH WA 6005

By email: env@parliament.wa.gov.au

Dear Matthew

Re: Petition No. 129 – Araluen Residential Estate

Thank you for your letter dated 25 September 2019 regarding *Petition No. 129 – Araluen Residential Estate* which I tabled in the Legislative Council on 19 September 2019.

The petition, which contains 1 061 signatures, reflects the community's desire to establish an additional entrance to and exit point from the Araluen Residential Estate, specifically on Wymond Road, Roleystone. In this regard, the petitioners are requesting the Committee to look into their concerns in consultation with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

By way of background and as noted in the petition, residents would like to see an additional entrance and exit point opened as they believe the current access and egress to the Estate are insufficient during an emergency. I understand the current evacuation plan is to unlock the gates to enable access in the case of an emergency. As you can appreciate, however, residents believe this could cause an unnecessary delay at a time when leaving the area is immediately required for safety reasons.


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The petition notes that the City of Armadale has acknowledged that a residential development such as The Estate would not receive approval under the current planning requirements due to the lack of a second access/exit point. I understand however that the City has expressed a concern that opening the road would create a greater risk in allowing access on a road which does not comply with road standards and is known to not be a safe access route in its current configuration. Notwithstanding this, I have been informed that the City is currently preparing a concept design and cost estimate however no final decision on any upgrade of the road has been made at this stage.

The Estate is in a fire prone area and was in close proximity to the 2011 Roleystone – Kelmscott bushfire. Given this, the Committee's assistance in obtaining further clarification from the City of Armadale and the State Government, specifically the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, regarding the possibility of establishing an additional entrance and exit point from the Estate, would certainly be appreciated by the petitioners and the community generally.

Thank you again for providing me the opportunity to make a submission to the Committee in relation to this important matter. If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donna Faragher', written in a cursive style.

HON DONNA FARAGHER JP MLC
Member for East Metropolitan Region