



## Minister for Transport; Planning; Lands

Our Ref: 72-03318  
Your Ref: Petition No. 4



Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
Parliament House  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr Swinbourn

### **PETITION NO. 4 - OPPOSE DEVELOPMENT OF WETLANDS AND LAKE IN HELENA VALLEY**

Thank you for your letter of 28 June 2017 regarding the above matter.

I am advised that the Western Australian Planning Commission, after considering the site's constraints, environmental features and community views, approved Structure Plan No.71 over Lots 2, 3 and 6 Midland Road, Helena Valley on 3 November 2016 and determined not to require the retention of the existing water body, referred to by Ms McCann, on the land.

I understand the decision was made on the basis that the water body is not a protected wetland and was artificially formed by extensive site disturbances and excavation activities taking place over previous decades. This was confirmed in advice from the then Department of Parks and Wildlife and a review of historic aerial photography of the site. However, priority was given to the rehabilitation and improvement of the Kadina Brook, which is classed as a Resource Enhancement Wetland and identified for retention due to its natural and cultural values during the zoning of the land to Urban under the Metropolitan Region Scheme.

Consideration was also given to the significant amount of local and regional open space (a total of approximately 49 per cent of the site area) already being provided on the structure plan.

The structure plan provides the framework for the future consideration of subdivision proposals and specifically requires a vegetation survey to be undertaken to identify vegetation to be retained (to the satisfaction of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions [DBCA]) prior to the lodgement of applications for subdivision. I am advised that no subdivision applications have as yet been lodged.

The structure plan protects Kadina Brook and its associated wetland buffer and will require, as a condition of subdivision, the preparation of a foreshore management plan to ensure the protection and management of the site's environmental assets.

The appropriateness of relocating wildlife from the watercourse to Kadina Book can be investigated and considered through this mechanism in consultation with the DBCA.

I trust the above information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a vertical line on the left side.

**HON RITA SAFFIOTI MLA  
MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT; PLANNING; LANDS**

4 AUG 2017