

Hon Colin Holt MLC

Member for South West Region

Our Ref: CH1248

8th June, 2020

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
The Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Legislative Council Committee Office
18-32 Parliament Place
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Chair

Petition No. 149 - Noise barriers along Yalinda Drive, Gelorup

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Committee in relation to the Petition on noise mitigation for Yalinda Drive in Gelorup related to the southern area of the Bunbury Outer Ring Road (BORR).

The southern corridor of the BORR was originally planned as a two-lane highway and it has now become a four lane freeway with large interchanges, allowing no natural buffers along the edge of the road within the corridor. The new road plan takes up the majority of the corridor which makes it much closer to residents than previously anticipated.

This petition has similar wording to a petition presented to the Legislative Council on 31st October 2020 by The Hon Alanna Clohesy campaigning for noise mitigation in relation to the expansion of the Tonkin Highway. Also the Member for Maylands presented a 'grievance' on that same issue to the Minister for Transport in Parliament on 31st October 2019. In response the Minister for Transport, Rita Saffioti advised that 'a key part of all new projects, particularly when increasing the capacity of highways such as Tonkin Highway, are noise walls and noise abatement measures'. Ms Saffioti committed to 'discussions with the local community about the style and nature of those noise walls'.

Many properties adjacent to the BORR route have been acquired by Main Roads WA. However many properties remain and many will be impacted by the construction and the increased traffic on the BORR. Yalinda Drive in Gelorup is especially impacted in this regard.

The concerns of the residents on Yalinda Drive, in fact, all properties along the route of the BORR, have not been adequately addressed and so residents are pushing for appropriate and effective sound barriers to be installed. They are asking for the Minister to ensure that the noise abatement measures built into this project manage noise levels

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sufficiently to allow them to continue to live comfortably in their homes.

I will be pleased to offer any assistance I can to the Committee as it enquires into this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CH', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon Colin Holt MLC

MEMBER FOR SOUTH WEST REGION