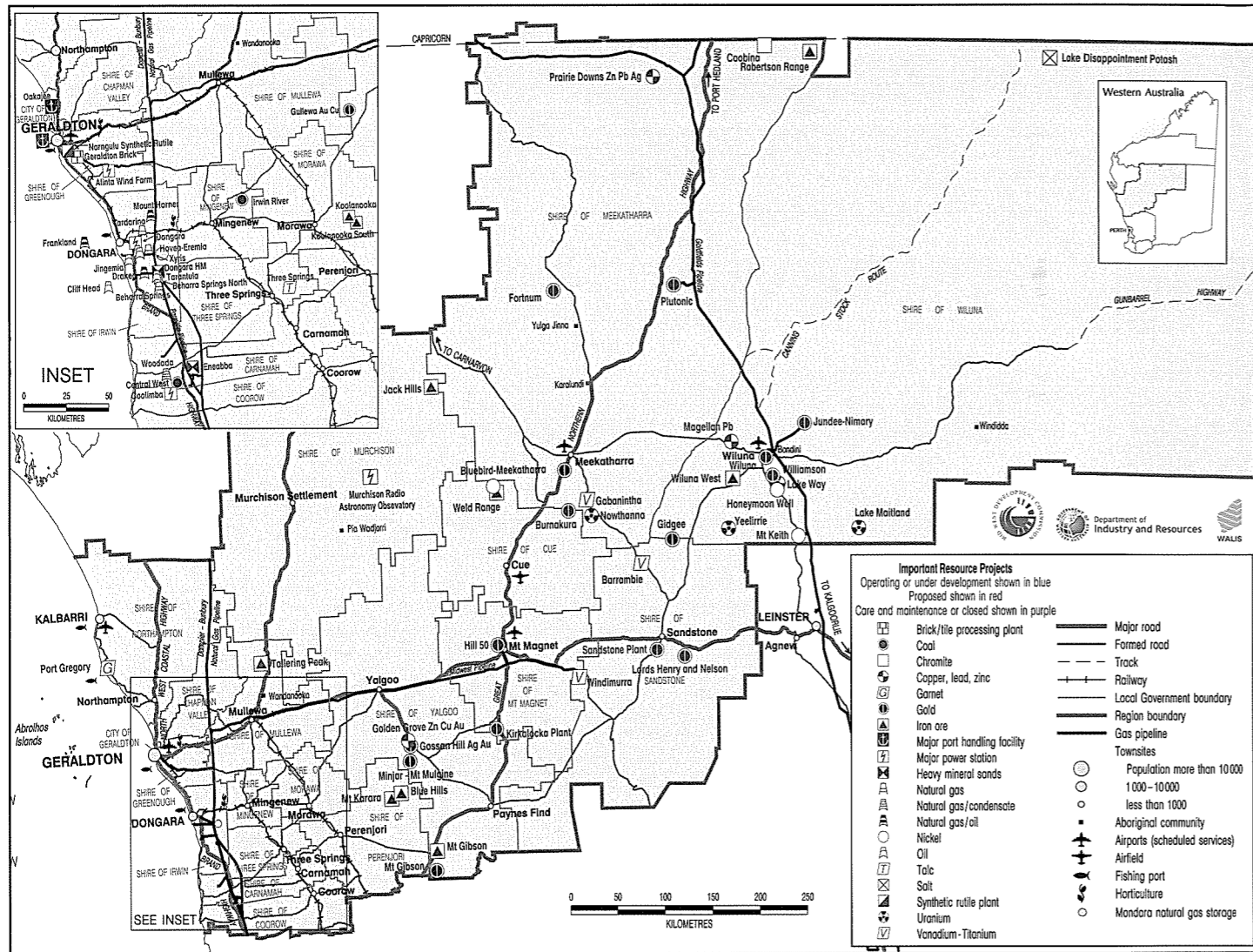


MID WEST REGION



Mid West Development Commission Strategic Directions 2008-2010 CAPTURING OPPORTUNITY

Vision

To have the Mid West region recognised as a preferred region in which to live, work and invest.



Mission

To be a focussed and efficient agency delivering real outcomes for Mid West communities.

Mid West Development Commission
 Building the Mid West by:

- Facilitating Investment
- Facilitating opportunities for local business
- Improving the level of government services
- Promoting infrastructure development
- Developing export opportunities
- Providing information and advice

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Mid West Development Commission
 Government of Western Australia

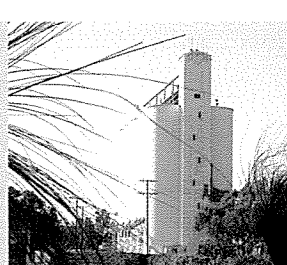


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Community

Cohesive, healthy and educated communities

Increased range of tertiary courses / student numbers

- Advocate for changes to better reflect the true cost of delivering tertiary education in regional areas.
- Work to establish additional courses at Geraldton Universities Centre (GUC) eg accounting, science.

Establishment of the Mid West as a science and technology based region

- Support the establishment in the MW of ASKAP and SKA related computers, infrastructure and other facilities.
- Partner CW TAFE, Department of Fisheries, GUC and others to promote the Separation Point Marine Precinct as a world class marine education, training and research facility.
- Identify and grasp opportunities to enhance the MW's broadband network capacity.
- Investigate opportunities provided by the availability of high speed broadband and high speed data processing eg technology precinct in Geraldton.
- Host a MW Science Summit.

Enhanced models for community service delivery

- Through the Mid West Gascoyne Human Services Group:
 - Support the development of community service plans, particularly for the Murchison.
 - Assist agency coordination to more efficiently and effectively deliver essential services to hinterland communities.

Increased Indigenous education, training and employment outcomes

- Support the development of initiatives (eg Regional Partnership Agreement) to enhance Indigenous employment opportunities in the resources and other industry sectors.
- Implement the MW Indigenous Art Strategy.
- Progress Indigenous tourism development opportunities.
- Promote early childhood development initiatives.
- Secure funding to deliver Indigenous economic development services in the MW.

Effective community engagement and community development through the arts

- Complete MWDC's 4 year collaboration with Country Arts WA (2005 - 09) and develop collaborative initiatives beyond this time frame.

Economy

A strong, resilient and diversified economy

Sustainable communities

- Work with the Batavia Regional Organisation of Councils, MW Regional Council and Murchison Zone of WALGA to identify and capture opportunities from resources and other major projects.
- Support the establishment of alternative and viable production systems in the north east agricultural area.
- Develop a Geraldton-Greenough Tourism Strategy.
- Facilitate local government and business participation in future Main Roads road maintenance contracts.

Vibrant, viable regional businesses

- Work with the MW Regional Buying Centre to further encourage state agency expenditure in the MW.
- Promote local business capability through the MW Business Capability and Services Directory.
- Inform local businesses and communities of major projects.
- Liaise with MWCCI, Small Business Centre MW and othes to identify and address impediments to business.
- Establish a Client Management System to better support the operations of key regional stakeholders.
- Continue to develop the export readiness of MW businesses.
- Explore and support initiatives aimed at enhancing the sustainability and viability of the rock lobster industry.

A labour force appropriate for industry needs

- Continue to provide Skilled Migration services.
- Work to attract and retain skilled workers to the MW.
- Partner Department of Education and Training, CW TAFE and other key stakeholders to develop and implement a ten year Mid West Workforce Development Strategy.

Establishment of strategically important facilities

- Work with industry to establish the Geraldton Marine Services Precinct including a 200t heavy boat lifter.
- Support enhancements to the Kalbarri commercial fishing jetty.

Increased awareness of the Mid West's lifestyle, business, work and investment opportunities

- Grasp opportunities to raise awareness of the MW.

Efficient and effective air services

- With DPI and others, work to:
 - Enhance air services in the MW; and
 - Secure a second airline to Geraldton.

Governance

Strong partnerships that add value to the social and economic development of the Mid West

Agreed understanding on the region's key challenges, opportunities and priorities

- Prepare a MW Regional Strategic Plan based on the MW's three sub regions - Batavia Coast, North Midlands and Murchison.
- Work with the Batavia Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC), MW Regional Council and Murchison Zone of WALGA to implement the Plan and assist them to achieve their key objectives.
- Assist the preparation and implementation of an MoU between the State Government and BROC.

Improved social capacity for regional communities

- Develop partnerships to deliver leadership and capacity building programs throughout the region.
- Continue to support the MW Community Foundation.

Enhanced regional coordination

- Explore options to enhance regional coordination and decision making.

Effective input into State Government policy on regional development issues

- Work with the Regional Development Council to provide timely policy advice to the State Government.
- Host biennial Heads of Government Agency Forums to assist government coordination in the MW region.

Our Values

Balance

We seek to balance economic, social and environmental outcomes

Client focussed

Our clients can expect consistent, timely, accurate and reliable services

Ethical

We act with integrity, honesty and loyalty

Partnership

We work with others to achieve common goals

Pro-active

We are innovative, forward thinking, resourceful and creative

Infrastructure

Timely provision of strategic infrastructure

Timely provision of strategic infrastructure including:

- Oakajee port, rail and industrial estate
- Geraldton Port Authority – upgraded train unloader
- Southern Transport Corridor Stage 2
- 330 kV dual circuit power line (Pinjar to Moonyoonooka)
- Indian Ocean Drive
- Geraldton North-South bypass
- Wiluna to Meekatharra Road
- Broadband infrastructure
- Tourism infrastructure

Through the MW Strategic Infrastructure Group:

- Support DPI to complete a MW Infrastructure Analysis to identify the socio-economic infrastructure implications of proposed resources projects.
- Identify and support planning to facilitate major projects, infrastructure development and transport and services corridors.
- Advocate for infrastructure development in line with community priorities and values.

Timely provision of social infrastructure

- Support rapidly growing communities (eg. Dongara, Kalbarri, Geraldton, Chapman Valley, Leeman etc) plan for and manage rapid growth including that associated with the completion of Indian Ocean Drive in 2011.

Affordable land and housing

- With all levels of government and others, develop initiatives to ensure provision of affordable land (industrial, commercial and residential) and housing.

Successful establishment of Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory (MRO)

- Facilitate MW community support for the MRO and Australia's international bid for the SKA project.
- Identify synergies with and opportunities from the MRO to enhance the MW's telecommunications capability.

Vibrant community town/city centres

- Work with the Foreshore Redevelopment Advisory Committee and the City of Geraldton-Greenough to successfully complete the Geraldton Foreshore and CBD Revitalisation project by mid 2009.
- Facilitate the development of undeveloped lots in Batavia Coast Marina Stage 1 including the keystone hotel development.
- Progress the development of Batavia Coast Marina Stage 2.

Sustainability

A balanced approach to development which recognises the importance of the environment alongside social and economic benefits

Sustainable and efficient energy systems

- Support investigation into renewable energy options for the MW including the adequacy of current and planned power infrastructure to facilitate its development.
- Encourage third party power generation within the MW to reduce transmission losses, increase reliability and enhance competitiveness in the energy market.
- Prepare to take advantage of the introduction of carbon trading and related policy changes.

Effective regional response to climate change

- As part of the MW Regional Strategic Plan, develop strategies to address the projected impacts of climate change.

Enduring social outcomes from mining

- Provide (social) input into future reviews into the MW's banded iron formations.
- Work with communities, industry and all levels of government to identify and capture lasting social outcomes from mining.

Sustainable new developments

- Encourage new developments to adopt sustainability principles by raising awareness of relevant assessment frameworks available to them.

Management of resources for current and future generations

- Support the development of a MW Regional Water Plan to quantify and qualify the region's water resources and inform future water allocation policy.
- Assist establishment of major recycling industries and capacity in the MW eg waste oil, materials.
- Support the preparation of the Coorow Carnamah Coastal Management Strategy.
- Work with the Natural Heritage Trust, Northern Agricultural Catchment Council, Department of Agriculture, Department of Conservation and Environment, industry and others to develop initiatives to protect biodiversity whilst also delivering socio economic outcomes.

