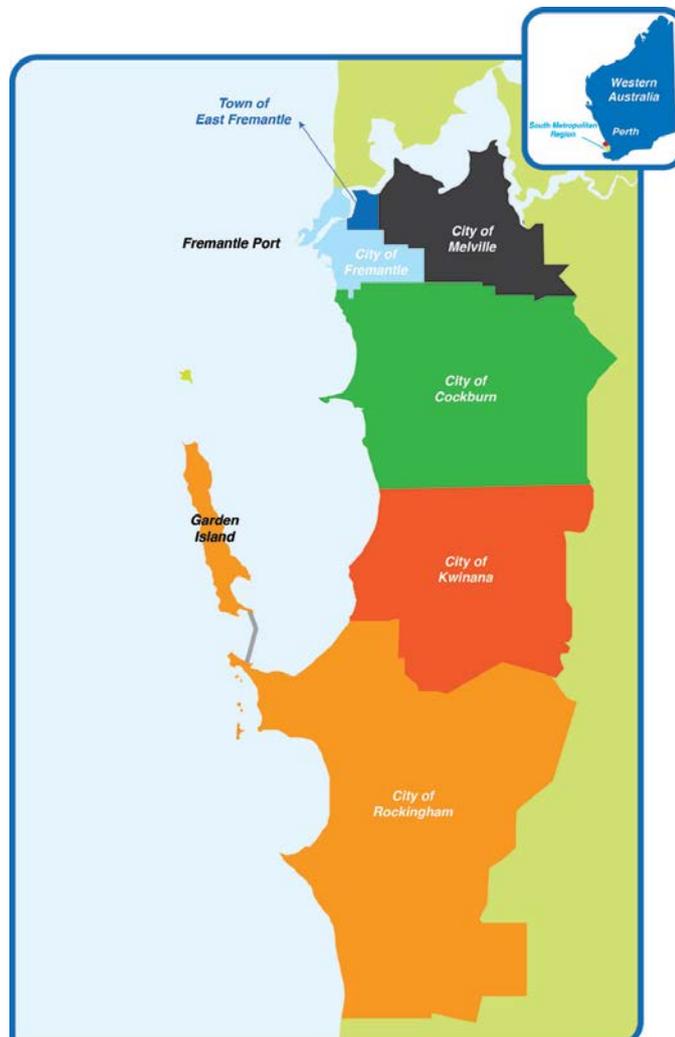


Hon Mark McGowan MLA  
Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management;  
State Development; Jobs & Trade; Federal-State  
Relations  
1 Parliament Place  
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Mark

### **STATE BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR THE SOUTH WEST METROPOLITAN REGION 2018 TO 2022**

The South West Group is a voluntary regional organisation of councils (VROC) comprised of the cities of Cockburn, Fremantle, Kwinana, Melville and Rockingham and the Town of East Fremantle.



The South West Group undertakes a pro-active advocacy role in lobbying the State and Federal Government for regional infrastructure projects that contribute to the economic and social prosperity of the South West Metropolitan Region.

The South West Group commended the Federal and State Government on commitments to invest in the following transport infrastructure projects across the region as announced as part of the Federal budget in May 2017:

- **Cockburn Central to Thornlie Rail line** (\$474 million, subject to business case)
- **Armadale Road/North Lake Road Bridge** (\$237 million)
- **Additional Lane on Kwinana Freeway North – Russell Road to Roe Highway** (\$49 million)
- **Manning Road On Ramp to Kwinana Freeway South** as part of the Canning Bridge Upgrades (\$35 million)
- **Southern access of the Murdoch Activity Centre** to the Kwinana Freeway and Roe Highway via Murdoch Drive (\$100 million)
- **Leach Highway (Carrington Street to Stirling Highway) Upgrade** (\$118 million) – options on the alignment and design are under investigation
- **Karel Avenue (Farrington Road to Berrigan Drive) Upgrades** (\$15 million)
- **Smart Freeways Kwinana Freeway - Roe Highway to Narrows Bridge** (\$47 million).

The South West Group advocated for many of these projects in the lead up to Federal and State elections and assumes that these will be implemented based on funding commitments announced and will therefore be included in the State 20 Year Infrastructure Strategy as required.

The State Government has also committed \$20 million toward the detailed planning and the development of a business case for the Kwinana Outer Harbour, with a taskforce established to oversee the development of the Westport: Port and Environs Strategy.

The Kwinana Outer Harbour represents the most significant project in the region and has the potential to deliver the following economic and social benefits to the wider Western Trade Coast area:

- \$42 billion in annual revenue when fully developed
- 37,000 direct jobs and almost 50,000 indirect jobs
- Improved efficiency of port operations
- Industrial and business development opportunities along the Western Trade Coast

The South West Group supports the Kwinana Outer Harbour proposal and recognises that the timeframes for its development are dependent upon the outcomes of the study and the recommendations of the taskforce.

The South West Group understands that the State Government will be approaching the Federal Government through Infrastructure Australia seeking funding for the development of a detailed business case for the Westport strategy. The South West Group has identified a need for a \$5 million allocation as the State Government's contribution toward the preparation of a business case as part of a submission to Infrastructure Australia.

The establishment of Defence West also highlights the importance of the Australian Marine Complex (AMC) as a critical facility in securing a greater share of the Defence contracts to be built here in WA.

As well as the establishment of the AMC Technology Precinct with its Defence focus, there is a need to expand marine infrastructure at the AMC to meet increased demand as an essential wharf facility in the Western Trade Coast. It is understood that the State Government will be preparing a budget submission to the Federal Government covering the AMC Wharf Upgrades and Technology Precinct development.

The South West Group trusts that the State Government will be successful in securing Federal Government for the AMC as important investments to support the regional economy and Defence capability.

The South West Group strongly supports investment in the South West Metropolitan Region and provides justification for budget expenditure for regional infrastructure and facilities to meet the pressures and demands associated with population growth, congestion and its impacts on productivity.

The infrastructure projects included in the South West Group's submission to the State Budget for 2018/19 and forward estimates to 2021/22 are largely based on the projects identified for consideration in the development of the WA State Government's 20 Year State Infrastructure Strategy.

The projects seeking funding support from the State Government for the 2018/19 to 2021/22 period are listed below under key infrastructure headings.

## **PORTS**

### **South Quay and Victoria Quay (\$60M)**

The redevelopment of South Quay and the Fremantle Passenger Terminal as a world class tourism precinct and cruise ship terminus. Although the contribution from the State Government required from the State Government to support the project over the next decade is estimated at \$500M, a contribution of \$60M over the forward estimates is requested to support planning, design and approvals as a partnership project with the Federal Government.

#### Victoria Quay / Fremantle Train Station

Working with the Port of Fremantle, Public Transport Authority and State Heritage Office, Federal Government and private sector, it is planned to develop an Implementation Plan for Victoria Quay and Fremantle Station Precinct Plans which were approved by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) in August 2015. Redevelopment of the Fremantle Train Station forecourt as the new city square is a critical element for the City centre revitalisation.

#### South Quay

The key to activating this redevelopment is to shift the existing car and bulk goods trade away from South Quay, with opportunities for these trade functions to be relocated to the Kwinana Outer Harbour or alternatively the car trade being shifted to North Quay.

## **Westport Business Case Development (\$10M)**

The State Government's contribution to secure funding from the Federal Government to develop a business case for the Westport: Port and Environs Strategy.

### **ROADS**

#### **Additional Lanes on Kwinana Freeway – Russell Road to Millar Road (\$100M)**

The rapid development of residential land along the Kwinana Freeway from Baldivis in the City of Rockingham through to Success in the City of Cockburn has significantly increased population and is a major contributor to traffic congestion as residents access the freeway.

The additional lane on the Kwinana Freeway south from Roe Highway to Russell Road has increased capacity and reduced congestion to acceptable levels. The State Government is planning to complete the additional lane north on the Kwinana Freeway from Russell Road to Roe Highway.

The section of Kwinana Freeway south of Russell Road to Millar Road experiences high levels of traffic congestion daily during peak periods. This section is also heavily congested as a result of school holiday traffic, leading to long delays for commuters heading north and south.

The additional lanes north and south on the Kwinana Freeway from Russell Road to Millar Road will provide much needed capacity and reduce congestion delays during peak periods, thereby improving travel times and productivity.

#### **Spearwood Ave Bridge Duplication Across the Freight Rail (\$3M)**

Bibra Lake is a regionally significant industrial area which creates significant value added wealth for the broader State economy. At its southern end there is a need to widen the Spearwood Avenue freight rail overpass bridge, in order to provide better regional connectivity in to the area. Current utilisation of Spearwood Avenue in the industrial area is 23,200 vehicles, with 9% of these being freight. The trigger for a dual carriageway is usually held at between 15,000 to 17,000.

The delivery of the widened bridge is crucial to maintaining an efficient and low cost business environment for the regional industrial area of Bibra Lake.

### **FREIGHT**

#### **Freight Rail Grade Separation – North Lake Road (\$25M)**

This project has been identified previously as a short term priority in order to improve the productivity and efficiency of freight rail and road traffic movements, and importantly address safety concerns for the current at grade intersection of North Lake Road and the freight rail line

North Lake Road is a major north south distributor road equidistant between Kwinana Freeway and the highway of Stock Road, and provides a regional road distribution function. Grade separation will assist both freight movement and traffic movement, and safety.

The proposal involves the vertical grade separation of the freight rail and North Lake Road, with the likely geometry being North Lake Road passing under the freight rail.

## **PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

### **Rockingham City Centre Transit System (\$100M)**

The City of Rockingham has been developing their proposal over the last decade to introduce light rail into the city centre to connect the Rockingham Train Station and Rockingham foreshore, which is under redevelopment.

The Rockingham City Centre Transit System (RCCTS) is based on residential density requirements (R120) within the walkable catchment of the RCCTS alignment and is forecast that the light rail infrastructure would result in an additional 24,000 people living within the Rockingham Strategic Metropolitan Centre.

The total cost of the RCCTS is estimated at \$300M, with additional funding from the State Government (approximately \$50M) required beyond the forward estimates to complete the project.

The priority projects above are eligible for shared funding between the Federal and State Government through a 50:50 arrangement.

### **Multi-Storey Car Park Project – Murdoch Activity Centre (\$80M)**

The development of the Murdoch Health and Knowledge Precinct (MHKP) is a priority for the establishment and activation of commercial and residential uses for both LandCorp and the City of Melville, with the Fini Group the preferred proponent to develop the Stage 1 of the MHKP including the Medihotel.

The existing PTA car park west of the Kwinana Freeway servicing the Murdoch Train station is sited where Stage 2 of the MKHP is planned and it is now necessary to find an alternative location for the car park.

The preferred option is for the PTA car park to be relocated and a multi-storey car park built on the eastern side of the freeway or an alternative location more suited to car and ride facilities (e.g. Bullcreek Train Station)

### **Relocation of the Canning Bridge Bus Station (\$85M)**

The relocation of existing bus interchange on bridge over Kwinana Freeway and Canning Bridge Rail Station to a newly constructed Bus Station on the eastern foreshore immediately north of Canning Highway is required in accordance with approved Canning Bridge Activity Centre Plan.

This will significantly reduce congestion on the bridge allowing better traffic movement and reducing the number of traffic light movements. Better pedestrian access. Improve access to and upgrade of river foreshore.

## OTHER

### **Rockingham Beach Foreshore Master Plan – Stage 2 Implementation (\$20M)**

In mid-2015, the City of Rockingham adopted the *Rockingham Beach Foreshore Master Plan* to provide direction to the evolution of this regional foreshore asset.

The *Master Plan* seeks to improve the public spaces, including the foreshore itself and some adjacent roads within the Rockingham Beach townsite, to move from a car focussed to a pedestrian orientated destination.

Stage 1 of the *Master Plan*, comprising an upgrade to Railway Terrace, the creation of a sophisticated public meeting/events space (the 'Beach Plaza') and an upgraded boardwalk that connects a row of restaurants to the beach, will commence in April 2018 at a cost of \$12.5M.

Stage 2 involves implementing the balance of the *Master Plan* and includes a major upgrade of Rockingham Beach Road, the creation of a regional water play facility, a new town jetty, improvements to existing building/fixtures and coastal protection

### **Fremantle Oval Redevelopment (\$10M)**

Fremantle Oval has been a major sporting venue in the heart of the city since its opening in 1897. With the Fremantle Dockers football club re-locating to Cockburn, the opportunity now arises to reintegrate the oval into the heart of the city.

The project involves:

- re-establishing strong pedestrian links across Parry Street, which is an effective barrier at present
- re-developing the Stan Riley site as part of a wider activation of the street edge along South Terrace from the Fremantle Markets to the Fremantle Hospital
- examining, and activating, the development potential of the hospital now that emergency services have moved to Fiona Stanley Hospital
- establishing more intimate links between the Fremantle Prison Heritage Precinct and the central business district
- establishing better connectivity between the Prison and Alma Street and Hampton Road
- implementing an integrated process with the hospital to identify development opportunities on the hospital site and bring these to market

The total contribution being sought for the project is \$90M, with \$10M for design and approvals within the forward estimates timeframe.

A summary of regional projects put forward by the South West Group for consideration of the State Budget 2018/19 to 2012/22 is summarised in the table below, including budget splits.

**SUMMARY OF SOUTH WEST GROUP STATE GOVERNMENT BUDGET PRIORITIES  
FOR 2018 - 2022**

PROJECT	TIMING				COMMENTS
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	
1. South Quay and Victoria Quay (\$60M)			\$10	\$50M	To undertake planning , design and approvals for major redevelopment of the Fremantle Harbour
2 Westport Business Case Development (\$10M)			\$5M	\$5M	Business case to support the long term planning and development of the Fremantle Outer Harbour and proposed Outer Harbour in Kwinana
3. Additional Lanes on Kwinana Freeway – Russell Road to Millar Road (\$100M)			\$50M	\$50M	To address congestion on Kwinana Freeway south of Russell Road through to Millar Road
4. Spearwood Ave Bridge Duplication Across the Freight Rail (\$3M)				\$3M	Freight rail overpass required to address congestion, improve productivity and support economic activity for the Bibra Lake Industrial Area
5. Freight Rail Grade Separation – North Lake Road (\$25M)		\$10M	\$15M		The proposal involves the vertical grade separation of the freight rail and North Lake Road,
6. Rockingham City Centre Transit System (\$100M)			\$20M	\$80M	Planning and residential densities along the light rail route to facilitate development
7. Multi-Storey Car Park Project – Murdoch Activity Centre (\$80M)			\$40M	\$40M	Relocation of car park and construction of multi-storey car park required to facilitate Stage 2 of the Murdoch Health and Knowledge precinct
8. Relocation of the Canning Bridge Bus Station (\$85M)		\$45M	\$40M		Relocation of bus interchange will improve congestion and facilitate development of Canning Bridge north in Como
9. Rockingham Beach Foreshore Master Plan – Stage 2 Implementation (\$20M)			\$10M	\$10M	Completion of foreshore redevelopment project along Rockingham Beach Roads including regional water play facility and new town jetty
10. Fremantle Oval Redevelopment (\$10M)				\$10M	The redevelopment of an iconic recreational facility into a regional community asset
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$55M</b>	<b>\$190M</b>	<b>\$248M</b>	<b>\$493M</b>

*\* Assumes additional shared funding from the Federal Government for eligible projects totalling \$295M*

The South West Group has continued to consult with State and Federal Members of Parliament and relevant agencies over the last twelve months, with a view of further developing productive working relationships and identifying opportunities to align regional, State and Federal priorities

The combined total value of these regional priorities is over \$4 Billion, with the funding sought from the State Government being \$493 Million based on contributions commencing in 2019/20 and extending over the forward estimates to 2021/22.

Although these projects form the primary focus in the short term, the South West Group continues to advocate and support investment for ongoing State Government funding in the region across a range of portfolios such as:

- Integrated transport and land use planning;
- Health and related services;
- Energy and continued investment in underground power program and energy efficiency schemes;
- Water supply, wastewater treatment and infill sewerage program
- Education and training;
- Law and order, including police stations;
- Recreation and sporting facilities;
- Waste management and greater allocation of the landfill levy directly towards local government waste management and recycling activities.

I trust that you will consider this budget submission favourably and the South West Group looks forward to working together with the State Government on projects and initiatives that benefit the South West Metropolitan Region.

Should you have any queries regarding this submission, please do not hesitate to contact Mick McCarthy, Director South West Group, on phone 9364 0631, mob 0478 325 469 or email [director@southwestgroup.com.au](mailto:director@southwestgroup.com.au)

Yours sincerely



**Mayor Carol Adams**  
**South West Group Chair**

*cc State Members of Parliament with an interest in the South West Metropolitan Region*