



## Notice of Special Council Meeting

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### **Purpose:**

To seek a commitment towards the investment of the infrastructure and road networks in the South West region of Western Australia.

TO:

**ALL COUNCILLORS**

To be held on

Monday, 25 February 2019

Commencing at 5.00pm

Shire of Donnybrook Balingup Council Chambers, Donnybrook.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BGR" followed by a flourish.

**Benjamin (Ben) Rose**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

**19 February 2019**

### **Disclaimer**

The advice and information contained herein is given by and to the Council without liability or responsibility for its accuracy. Before placing any reliance on this advice or information, a written inquiry should be made to the Council giving entire reasons for seeking the advice or information and how it is proposed to be used.

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## SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

To seek a commitment towards the investment of the infrastructure and road networks in the South West region of Western Australia.

25 February 2019

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# SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK BALINGUP SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

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**To be held at Shire of Donnybrook Balingup Council Chamber, Donnybrook  
Monday, 25 February 2019 at 5.00pm**

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## 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

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### Shire President – Acknowledgment of Country

The Shire President to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Noongar People, paying respects to Elders, past and present.

The Shire Present to declare the meeting open and welcome the public gallery

### Shire President - Public Notification of Recording of Meetings

The Shire President advises that the meeting is being digitally recorded to assist with minute taking in accordance with Council Policy 1.25. The Shire President further states the following:

*If you do not give permission for your participation to be recorded, please indicate this at the meeting. Members are reminded that no other visual or audio recording of this meeting by any other means is allowed without the permission of the Chairperson.*

### Shire President – Advice of purpose of Special Meeting of Council

Under Section 5.4(a)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Cr Tan, Cr Wringe and Cr Mills have called for a Special Council Meeting to be held for the purpose to 'seek a commitment towards the investment of the infrastructure and road networks in the South West region of Western Australia.'

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## 2. ATTENDANCE

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COUNCILLORS	STAFF
Cr Piesse (President)	Ben Rose – Chief Executive Officer
Cr Wringe (Deputy)	Steve Potter – Executive Manager Operations
Cr Atherton	Alan Thornton – Manager Corporate Services
Cr King	Damien Morgan – Manager Works and Services
Cr Lindemann	Bob Wallin – Principal Planner
Cr Mills	Leigh Guthridge – Manager Development and Environmental
Cr Mitchell	Service
Cr Tan	Kate O'Keeffe – Executive Assistant
Cr Van Der Heide	

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## PUBLIC GALLERY

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**2.1 APOLOGIES**

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Nil.

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**2.2 APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

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Nil.

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**2.3 APPLICATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

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Nil.

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**3 ANNOUNCEMENTS FOROM THE SHIRE PRESIDENT**

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Nil.

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**4 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL/IMPARTIALITY INTEREST**

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Division 6: Sub-Division 1 of the *Local Government Act 1995*. Care should be taken by all Councillors to ensure that a financial/impartiality interest is declared and that they refrain from voting on any matter, which is considered to come within the ambit of the Act.

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**5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

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**6 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

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**7 COUNFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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Nil.

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**8 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

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Nil.

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**9 REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

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Nil.

**10 ELECTED MEMBER MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

**10.1 COUNCILLOR TAN**

**10.1.1 ELECTED MEMBER REQUEST TO SEEK COMMITMENT TOWARDS THE INVESTMENT OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND ROAD NETWORKS IN THE SOUTH WEST REGION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

<b>Location</b>	Shire of Donnybrook Balingup
<b>Applicant</b>	Councillor Dawn Tan
<b>File Reference</b>	CNL 34K
<b>Author</b>	Councillor Dawn Tan
<b>Attachments</b>	10.1.1(1) Article from the West Australian dated 19 January 2019 - Rail Option to get Lithium-laden Trucks off South West Highways 10.1.1(2) Article from Australia Roads and Infrastructure dated 11 May 2018 – WA Spend \$3.2B on Roads 10.1.1(3) Article from Sydney Morning Herald dated 19 January 2019 - WA Government Claims BHP Owes up to \$300 Million in Underpaid Royalties 10.1.1(4) Email Communication from Shire President dated 17 February 2019
<b>Voting Requirements</b>	Simple Majority
<b>Executive Summary</b>	Summary of the Recommendation and dot-point summary of the Details

**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

The following outcomes from the Corporate Business Plan relate to this proposal:

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1.1 A diverse, prosperous economy, supporting local business and population growth	1.1.2 Provide appropriate infrastructure to support and enhance business	1.1.2.3 Lobby State Government to upgrade and improve key/regional transport infrastructure

**DETAILS**

**A. WA LITHIUM INDUSTRY AND SOUTH WEST HIGHWAY**

In the past decade, the South Western Highway has seen an increase in heavy vehicle haulage and this is expected to increase significantly in the future from various commercial industries such as the agricultural hub from the Manjimup and Pemberton regions; the expansion of mining and processing of lithium products (to three times the present production) from the Talison Mine at Greenbushes; as well as other commercial transportation from businesses located in the South West region.

The South Western Highway represents the main route from the South West region to Bunbury and beyond. There has also been an increase in light vehicles using the South Western

Highway commuting between towns and cities for either work or leisure. With the increase in numbers, there is competition in the use of roads between heavy commercial vehicles and light vehicles on a highway which is predominantly a single lane highway, with some double overtaking lane sections strategically placed along the South West Highway.

With the proposed expansion of the Talison Mine there is great benefit for the whole of WA's economy, not only to the towns immediately surrounding the Talison mine in Greenbushes. As a result of the Talison expansion there have been discussions to consider the re-opening of the Bunbury to Greenbushes section of the railway line, and upgrading of other sections of the line north of Bunbury, in order to haul the Greenbushes products by rail, thus removing some of the trucks from the South Western Highway. The capital cost of this rail project has been estimated at \$150 million. **See Attachment 10.1.1(1).**

### **B. WA STATE GOVERNMENT**

The WA State Government has allocated \$3.2 billion into the State's roads and infrastructure specifically for the freeways, highways as well as bridges around the Perth city as well as a further 18 projects which were included in the 2018-19 WA Budget, plus a further \$1.8 billion to be devoted to road maintenance expenditure between 2018-19 and 2021-22. **See Attachment 10.1.1(2).**

However, no funds have been allocated to address the increase in traffic on the South Western Highway, nor any future improvement and/or expansion to accommodate the increase of heavy vehicle haulage from the expansion of the Talison Mines, or the increased agricultural and forest product haulage originating south of Greenbushes. It may be time to consider an alternate proposal to facilitate the movement of vehicles to and from the South West of Western Australia presently serviced by SW Highway.

Further, it is noted that the WA State Government is seeking to recover \$300 million in under-paid royalties due and owing by BHP in the past decade to the State. **See Attachment 10.1.1(3).** A portion of the under-paid royalties recovered could be ear-marked towards the future development of a plan to fund the improvement and development of the railway or South Western Highway routes to and from Greenbushes and its surrounding towns.

### **C. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

This year, we expect the Federal Government Election on or about May 2019. There is not much time between now and the Federal Election to lock in pre-election commitments from the Federal Government for our railways or roads in the South West of Western Australia, which appears to have been overlooked in our State's 2018-2019 Budget.

Further, at last year's WALGA 2018 AGM, by majority, the Local Governments supported that more of WA's GST needed to be re-distributed by the Federal Government back into WA and the economy.

### **CONSULTATION**

Nil.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

## **POLICY COMPLIANCE**

Nil.

## **STATUTORY COMPLIANCE**

Nil.

## **ELECTED MEMBERS CONCLUSION**

This motion reinforces last year's motion presented at the WALGA's AGM and is aimed at obtaining a commitment from the Federal Government and the State Government to ensure future investment into the WA's infrastructure, in particular the railways and highways servicing the South West of Western Australia. If any other stakeholders have been identified and could be engaged towards this funding, we support the discussions with such stakeholders.

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT**

In considering the Councillor recommended motion, Council will need to be clear as to what action it wishes to be taken as an outcome of the decision.

With regard to the Councillor recommended resolution (2), the format of WALGA South West zone meetings makes provision for both 'Items for Noting' and 'Items for Decision'. As currently proposed, the matter would be presented as an 'Item for Noting'; that is, simply advising the South West Zone of Council's decision.

If Council is of the position that it wishes to seek the endorsement and support of the South West Zone for its decision, then it is recommended a modification be made to resolution (2) as follows:

2. *Instructs the Chief Executive Officer to present a report to the WALGA South West Zone meeting to be held at the Shire of Collie on 22 March 2019 seeking the formal support of the SW Zone partners for Resolution (1) and recommending the matter be presented for consideration at WALGA's Annual General Meeting to be held in August 2019.*

## **EXECUTIVE CONCLUSION**

The Shire of Donnybrook Balingup fully supports the expansion of the lithium industry, however it must be underpinned by Government and private funding towards essential rail infrastructure and road networks. This is critical to minimise the growing impact of heavy haulage on the community and to ensure the safety of all road users.

## **COUNCILLOR TAN'S NOTICE OF MOTION**

**That Council:**

- 1) **Adopts the position to seek a commitment to funding from:**
  - a. **Western Australian State Government; and/or**



- b. Australian Federal Government; and/or**
- c. Private industry**

to undertake a review of the South Western Highway traffic and consider the options available to accommodate the ever increasing numbers of heavy vehicle haulage and light vehicle users of the South Western Highway including the possibility of re-instating and re-opening the disused South West Railway as well as the future expansion and improvements of our road networks for the WA South West region as part of the investment of our future infrastructure and road networks in the South West region of Western Australia;

- 2) Presents Point 1 of this motion at the next WALGA South West Zone meeting at the Shire of Collie, 22 March 2019 and further, that point 1 of this motion be presented before WALGA's next AGM meeting in August 2019;**
- 3) Instructs and authorises the CEO to make such presentations and enter into discussions as necessary with the relevant ministers in State and Federal governments with respect to the future planning and investment into the railway and/or road networks located in the South West region of Western Australia; and**
- 4) Instructs and authorises the CEO to engage with community consultation and feedback, at the appropriate time.**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDED MODIFICATION TO COUNCILLOR TAN'S NOTICE OF MOTION**

**That Council:**

- 1) Adopts the position to seek a commitment to funding from:**
  - a. Western Australian State Government; and/or**
  - b. Australian Federal Government; and/or**
  - c. Private industry**

to undertake a review of the South Western Highway traffic and consider the options available to accommodate the ever increasing numbers of heavy vehicle haulage and light vehicle users of the South Western Highway including the possibility of re-instating and re-opening the disused South West Railway as well as the future expansion and improvements of our road networks for the WA South West region as part of the investment of our future infrastructure and road networks in the South West region of Western Australia;

- 2) Instructs the Chief Executive Officer to present a report to the WALGA South West Zone meeting to be held at the Shire of Collie on 22 March 2019 seeking the formal support of the SW Zone partners for Resolution (1) and recommending the matter be presented for consideration at WALGA's Annual General Meeting to be held in August 2019;**
- 3) Instructs and authorises the CEO to make such presentations and enter into discussions as necessary with the relevant ministers in State and Federal**

**governments with respect to the future planning and investment into the railway and/or road networks located in the South West region of Western Australia; and**

- 4) Instructs and authorises the CEO to engage with community consultation and feedback, at the appropriate time.**

#### **COUNCILLOR PIESSE'S ALTERNATE MOTION**

**That Council seeks the support of SWALGA and WALGA to have the State Government direct a significant tranche of the GST windfall from the Federal Government towards infrastructure (road and/or rail) in the South West of the State to underpin planned industry (mining) and tourism growth, including although not limited to the South West Highway to address the impact of a massive estimated increase in heavy haulage movements over the next 3-10 years, and the ongoing traffic congestion along Bussell Highway between Capel and Busselton.**

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDED MODIFICATION TO COUNCILLOR PIESSE'S NOTICE OF MOTION**

**That Council seeks the support of WALGA, inclusive of the South West Zone of WALGA, to have the State Government direct a significant tranche of the redistributed GST revenue from the Federal Government towards infrastructure (road and/or rail) in the South West of the State to underpin planned industry (mining) and tourism growth, including, although not limited to, the South Western Highway to address the impact of a massive estimated increase in heavy haulage movements over the next 3-10 years, and the ongoing traffic congestion along Bussell Highway between Capel and Busselton.**

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#### **11 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY DECISION OF THE MEETING**

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Nil.

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#### **12 MEETINGS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

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##### **12.1 MATTERS FOR WHICH MEETINGS MAY BE CLOSED**

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Nil.

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##### **12.2 PUBLIC READING OF RESOLUTIONS THAT MAY BE MADE PUBLIC**

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Nil.

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**13 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

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The Shire President to advise that the date of the next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 27 March 2019, commencing at 5.00pm at the Council Chamber.

The Shire President to declare the meeting closed at \_\_\_\_\_.