

29 June 2017

Freight and Supply Chain Priorities
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development
GPO Box 594
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Email: freightstrategy@infrastructure.gov.au

Dear Sir

RE: BUNBURY OUTER RING ROAD – SOUTH WEST WA FREIGHT AND SUPPLY CHAIN PRIORITY

The Shire of Dardanup is located on the west coast of Western Australia, adjoining the City of Bunbury, in a region recognised as Bunbury Geographe. The region encompasses the City of Bunbury and the Shire's of Capel, Dardanup and Harvey.

The collective population of Bunbury Geographe is 93,000 and continues to grow at the rate of 4% per annum.

Bunbury Outer Ring Road (BORR) has been on the infrastructure agenda for state and federal governments for over 25 years. In 2013 stage one of the project was completed with the construction of the Bunbury Port Access Road.

Population growth in the south west has resulted in growth in commercial and commuter traffic that moves produce north and south and east and west, through the port and to Kwinana and the metropolitan area generally. Increased traffic has resulted in over a dozen traffic control lights being installed on all of the major transport routes around the Port of Bunbury. The mix of commercial vehicles, commuters and travellers has increased exponentially over the last 20 years.

The Shire of Dardanup district is in the central corridor for access from the north and west of the City of Bunbury and the Port of Bunbury. The Bunbury Outer Ring Road is a vital infrastructure investment that will vastly improve the movement of heavy freight vehicles away from commuter and visitor traffic, resulting in a safer and more efficient transport network for all users.

Dardanup is also home to the famous Ferguson Valley wine region and the international icon Gnomesville. The BORR will enhance the safer flow of traffic to and from these special features of our Shire.

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Supporting Facts

- BORR is a priority recognised in the Bunbury Geographe Growth Plan adopted in 2017, showing an employment multiplier of 11, creating 200 jobs during construction
- BORR is a high priority in the South West Blueprint endorsed by the Bunbury Wellington Group of Councils in 2015 and supported by the South West Development Commission
- BORR stages 2 & 3 are acknowledged by Infrastructure Australia as priority projects, December 2013
- BORR will complement the new Busselton Margaret River Airport
- BORR will enhance the development of the new Wanju City (50,000 population, 1,245ha) and the Waterloo Industrial Park (1,345ha)
- BORR will reduce congestion and reduce environmental impacts that are generated by heavy haulage trucks that are forced to stop and start throughout the existing traffic lights, this will speed up delivery of produce to the Ports and the airport and metropolitan markets
- BORR will generate an opportunity for applying value capture to recoup construction costs over a number of years as the land adjoining the corridor is developed
- BORR will make the southwest more competitive in world markets by reducing the time produce is on trucks, getting to the Asian and eastern states markets far quicker than is possible today, incremental improvements will pay dividends as the momentum increases
- BORR will add value to the productivity of the Dardanup Timber Precinct as this cluster of timber related enterprises gain access to faster delivery to their customers on the east coast and overseas

The Bunbury Outer Ring Road is a serious investment for the future economic growth of the Bunbury Geographe area. There will be immediate jobs growth and ongoing economic growth as the road creates opportunities for more efficient and effective use of transport links to domestic and world markets.

If the opportunity arises the Shire of Dardanup will be very pleased to provide a fact finding tour of the region for the Freight Logistics Committee and Infrastructure Australia to explain firsthand the Bunbury Geographe Strategy and the value of the BORR to this region.

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Please contact my Manager Governance Services & HR, Mrs Cathy Lee on 9724 0306 or via email cathy.lee@dardanup.wa.gov.au to obtain further information or arrange a meeting at your convenience.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark L Chester".

MR MARK L CHESTER
Chief Executive Officer