

# MEDIA STATEMENT



Tuesday, 7 February 2017

## **Residents urged to help shape the future of Withers**

Community members are being urged to have their say on the future of Withers by becoming part of a reference group that will help the City of Bunbury, South West Development Commission and Housing Authority work on a shared vision for the suburb.

The Withers Urban Renewal Strategy Withers will focus on reshaping the suburb through the Withers Local Area Plan, with goals including increased private investment and improved housing choice and diversity; upgrading under-utilised public open space; increased internal and external connectivity; creating a gateway to Withers by strengthening commercial and civic areas; and enhancing amenities.

Reducing social housing to an appropriate mix over time, facilitating the provision of affordable housing and rectifying inefficiencies in the layout of the suburb will be key drivers of the renewal program.

An inter-agency working group is being established to coordinate the Withers Urban Renewal Strategy, while a Community Reference Group and Industry Reference Group will provide advice on relevant issues.

The aim of the strategy is to support and grow a diverse population in Withers with access to a range of employment opportunities, public transport and civic amenity.

To nominate for a place on the Community Reference Group, download a nomination form from [www.bunbury.wa.gov.au](http://www.bunbury.wa.gov.au) and return to the City of Bunbury by Wednesday, 15 February 2017.

**ENDS**

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