

MEDIA STATEMENT



Thursday, 8 September 2016

New planning scheme to drive future growth

A new Local Planning Scheme is expected to open Bunbury to more diverse development and drive growth over the next 20 years once adopted following a public consultation period.

Key elements of Local Planning Scheme 8 (LPS8), which has been formulated by the City over a period of several years, include greater opportunities for living and working within walking distance and expanding the city centre to engage with the “three waters” of the Leschenault Inlet, ocean and Koombana Bay.

Under the new Scheme, the development potential of Bunbury’s CBD will be unlocked by the ability to double floor space through the new Regional Centre Zone.

More mixed use, such as commercial space on a lower floor with residential above, is also being promoted through two new mixed use zones.

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan said LPS8 was crucial to the growth and overall social and economic prosperity of the city.

“For Bunbury to firmly grasp the title of Western Australia’s second capital city, Local Planning Scheme 8 is essential to achieving this,” Mr Brennan said.

“The adoption of this new Scheme will show that we are a progressive City with our sights set firmly on providing for people throughout the Greater Bunbury region now and into the future.

“This Scheme sends the message that Bunbury is well and truly open for business, and I am confident developers and investors will grab hold of these new opportunities.”

Mr Brennan said there were a range of new land uses designed to encourage innovative development based on sound planning and urban design principles.

An inaugural Local Planning Strategy is also an important tool that will guide the implementation of the new Scheme and the city’s development over the next 20 years.

Other key elements of the Scheme include:

- A new Light Industry Zone that promotes cleaner, high-tech industrial parks;

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- A new Tourism Zone that encourages opportunities for mixed use development along Ocean Drive and other key sites;
- A more sustainable future through the introduction of conservation initiatives such as a new Conservation Reserve and the Bushland Areas Special Control Area, which promotes the achievement of biodiversity targets in the city;
- New land use zones that set out robust architecture to deal more effectively with the challenges of emerging economic activities while better addressing land use conflict.

The Scheme will be available for comment from Wednesday, 14 September to Friday, 16 December with the public encouraged to have their say via a submission form. The draft Scheme can be viewed at the City of Bunbury administration building (4 Stephen Street) or on the city's website www.bunbury.wa.gov.au

ENDS

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