

WILSON EAST UNDERGROUND POWER UPDATE

WRRRA is pleased to report the Wilson East project area has been selected for inclusion in the next round of the State Government's Underground Power Conversion Programme. Pending final assessment of costs, and the availability of contracting personnel, it is expected the final nod for this project will be given during the third quarter of 2011. Work is due to be undertaken from late 2012 through to 2014. Further details can be obtained from the City of Canning, Office of Energy or Western Power.

The estimated cost of the project is \$8,478,289. As per the State Government's guidelines and changes in the charge out formula recently endorsed by the Canning City Council, we understand property owners within the project area will be asked to contribute 50% of the overall project costs, approximately \$4,200 per single residence, with a 50% discount for pensioners and a 25% discount for seniors.

A charge of 15% (\$450 - \$640) will also be levied on properties whose street already have underground power. This is a vast improvement from the City's original funding model. This policy change came about as a direct result of strong lobbying and representations to local Councillors by a number of local Wilson and Parkwood residents. The additional funds will go towards the cost of burying the existing high voltage feeder lines within the designated project area, which Western Power estimates to be 30% of the overall project cost.

These policy changes will also apply to Bentley East / Wilson West project areas.

WRRRA would like to thank Wilson East residents for their participation in **WRRRA**'s original survey, dating back to December 2009. This was an important factor in getting the City to nominate the Wilson East project area, despite strong interest from other suburbs in the City of Canning.

We look forward to your ongoing support for other major initiatives in the Wilson area, including the completion of the Dual Use Path network around the Canning River Regional Park (CRRP) and the Centenary Park upgrades. We also urge you to seriously consider joining our Association, as there is definitely strength in numbers when it comes to lobbying, whether for or against a particular issue.

Our annual membership fee is still only \$5 per household. **WRRRA** currently has its highest membership in many years and is in a sound financial position.

We are also actively seeking additional Committee members. People who can give a little of their time to assist the community. Meetings are only every two months and duties would not be onerous, so if you feel able, please come along to our AGM and/or any of our regular meetings and join us.

DUAL USE PATH EXTENSION

In response to a request from **WRRRA** for the progressive extension of the Dual Use Path along the Wilson side of the Canning River, the City together with the Department of Environment & Conservation (DEC) will consider the continuation of the existing path network from Bywater Way through to Bow St. The path would be constructed on the southern side of Bywater Way, starting at the corner of Canning River Gardens, and continue through the Canning River Regional Park through to Bow St. **WRRRA** have also requested a connecting path to the Bywater Landing (Main Drain Outlet).

This would allow for the future extension of the Dual Use Path (through Castledare) to meet up with the path along Fern Road, thus completing the long awaited connection from Riverton Bridge to Kent Street Weir. This plan, however, is subject to the State Government honouring its long standing commitment to acquire a portion of the privately owned land at Castledare. DEC and the City of Canning will be consulting with community groups and local residents over the next 12 months.

WRRRA has asked that consideration also be given to constructing a walk trail, designed to cater for fire vehicle access, around the back of the Canning River Gardens Estate, together with an elevated boardwalk from the southern end of Surrey Road through to the Watts Road Park, via the Canning River Regional Park. This route is already designated as a walk trail in the Canning River Regional Park Management Plan 1997 and its amendments.