

THREATENED LIBRARY CLOSURE

By Paul Duncan

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WRRRA has since written to the Council opposing the planned closure (without proper community consultation).

If you too are concerned about the closure, we encourage you to write to the Executive Officer, City of Canning, Locked Bag 80, Welshpool WA 6986 to oppose the closure of the Bentley Library.

Breaking News: The Council has acknowledged the concerns raised and has agreed to undertake a review of the original Development Plan, including the investigation of alternative options. [12-Oct-04]

FERN ROAD UPDATE

By Lester Durbin

Final plans for the Fern Road improvements have been issued and the budget is approved.

WRRRA is pleased to report that the final plans for the Fern Road and Riverton Bridge improvements have been approved with a budget of \$1.6 million. With one exception, all of WRRRA's suggestions were incorporated in the design and we are pleased with the result.

The final plans include:

- Traffic calming features such as a median strip in coloured bitumen and traffic roundabout/chicane redesign.
- Riverton Bridge repairs and repaving with a redesign of the footpath/cycleway to 1.8m. width. [Which is still well short of the Dual-Use Path Standards] [Editor]
- Construction of a new traffic

roundabout on the Riverton Drive/ Barbican St. East junction to smooth traffic flow.

Present indications are that works will commence in January 2005 and will involve the Riverton Bridge being closed to traffic but not pedestrian access for approximately 6 weeks.

The one outstanding issue concerns safety on the short stretch of Fern Road from Surrey Road and Upnor Street roundabout which has a pronounced brow. WRRRA has requested that a small number of planter boxes or trees be sited in the median strip to prevent overtaking and emphasize that extreme driver discipline be exercised in that area.

This request has been rejected on the grounds that in view of the amount of traffic, flow could be restricted by stop/start vehicles such as buses or

garbage trucks if no overtaking were allowed. [This response ignores the fact that it is both illegal and unsafe to overtake on this stretch of Fern Road] [Editor]

WRRRA strongly feels that such features are successfully incorporated into other roads in the metro area and that the safety and comfort of the increasing number of residents with properties fronting onto this length of Fern Road should come before the occasional and minimal inconvenience to the through traffic much of which is still unaware that it is a 50 kph designated road.

Safety and traffic flow are always a compromise and we are presently re-submitting our case through the Mason Ward councillors in the hope of additional modifications to better address our concerns and will continue to lobby on behalf of our members to this end.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE

By Maria Valli

Hello everyone!

Currently, Wilson has 124 registered NHW participants and we are fortunate to have 10 active and enthusiastic Street Reps who contribute their time and energy to developing and supporting NHW within the suburb.

It's comforting to know that many residents and neighbours do get together and 'look out' for each other. However, if you would like to be a NHW participant or even better a Street Rep for your street it takes only a small amount of time and it's a great way to get to know your neighbours and be part of a positive and proactive program.

For information or registration forms please contact Suburb Manager-Maria Valli 9458 3041 or Victoria Park Policing 9472 1874.

The success of NHW depends upon your active participation!