



Wilson Residents and Ratepayers' Association

Website: <http://wrra.org.au>

E-Mail: secretary@wrra.org.au

Send all correspondence to: 11 Surrey Road, Wilson, WA 6107

Summer Edition 2012

WRRRA represents you in Wilson by working co-operatively with:

- *City of Canning*
- *Mason Ward Councillors*
- *Canning River Regional Park Community Advisory Committee*
- *WA Government Depts.*
- *Neighbourhood Watch program & WA Police*
- *State & Federal Government Politicians*
- *Wilson Wetlands Action Group Inc. and other community groups*
- *Community Newspapers*

The WRRRA Committee currently meets on the first Monday night of every 2nd Month.

Meetings are held at the Wilson Community Hall at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting: 4 Feb. 2013

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Editorial

WRRRA was started by a small group of Wilson residents concerned over the ever increasing volume and speed of the through traffic using Fern Road as a bypass to avoid delays on Leach Hwy. The efforts of these few resulted in major redesign / upgrade of Fern Road to limit and control traffic speeds. Whilst some local residents today may still question whether they are any better off today, because of the actions of those few, we must stop and consider what may have happened if WRRRA had not committed to this task and many others over the years.

The Objectives of our Association are:

1. To bring about civic improvement throughout Wilson.
2. Promote the construction of Public areas and a walk trail / dual use path network connecting public and recreational areas along the northern side of the Canning River from Riverton Bridge to the existing dual use path system at the Kent Street Weir.
3. Where endorsed by the committee, the association will support Wilson residents and ratepayers where they may need assistance on matters of concern, to liaise with our Ward Councillors, our Local Government and the State's elected representative
4. To co-operate with any other Association or body whose purpose and constitution of that organisation are similar to the those of this Association

During recent years your committee continued its active role in preparing submissions, lobbying and follow up on issues that have a direct impact on our community and residents of Wilson.

These included formal Submissions to State government bodies or the City of Canning on:

- Swan River Trust, Draft Report for the Swan and Canning Rivers Aquatic Use.

- WA Planning Commission, Residential Design Codes of WA
- WA Planning Commission, Central Perth Metropolitan Development Strategy 2011- 31
- Roe Highway Stage 8, which is ongoing due to the increase of heavy vehicles on Leach Hwy.
- Widening of Shelley Bridge to alleviate through traffic on Fern Road.
- Development of Riverton Bridge Kiosk and adjacent parklands.
- Canning City Budget Planning for the future.
- Improved broadband access for Wilson.
- Underground Power for West Wilson and the East Wilson project, which is due to commence mid 2013.
- Commencement of the Dual use Path within the CRRP from Riverton Bridge to connect with the existing Path network to Kent Weir / Eco Education Centre.
- Options for a Walk trail around the southern end of Surrey Road from Watts Rd to Canning River Gardens / Bywater Way.
- Commitment from City of Canning to enforce limited time use of street verges for storage of building materials and rubbish, together with a substantial increase in Builders Street Damage deposits.
- Shade sails in our Parks for Children's Playground areas.
- Assessment by City / DEC of .Canning River Regional Park Bushfire Hazard
- Acquisition of the remaining privately owned land within the defined boundaries of the CRRP (Incl. Castledare Wetlands).

WRRRA is financially sound, has a healthy membership and an active committee, however, due to the absence of nominations for Office Bearers at our past AGM's, serious consideration must be given by our ongoing future. We therefore need new members who are willing step up and take an active role on our committee and fill executive positions. Please complete the membership form on Page 3 if you are interested in joining and/or nominating for the committee.

Together the Ratepayers and Residents of Wilson can make a difference!

POTENTIAL BUSHFIRE DANGER

WRRRA over the past 18 months has received several complaints from residents living close to potential bushfire risk areas on the boundaries of the Canning River Regional Park and have sought to obtain assurance from the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) that appropriate and timely fire mitigation measures will be undertaken in all of the fire risk areas. This includes the Queens Park Road area, where a limited number of residents were evacuated due to a fire within the Park in early 2011. As yet our request of DEC have not been acknowledged.

It is, however, our understanding that DEC has, for the past 18+ months, been undertaking an assessment of the fuel loadings within all Parklands throughout the State and have yet to release any information on the results or status of their studies, including public information on guidelines that should, or is being done, within our Park to alleviate public concern over this very pressing issue.

For further information, contact Ms Kathleen Ridgwall from the City on 9231 0628, or Mr Tony Eddleston from DEC on 0418 904 454.

KENT ST WEIR PRECINCT

A study to plan for the future of Kent Street Weir and adjacent parklands is being conducted by the City of Canning, in cooperation with the Swan River Trust and the Department of Environment and Conservation.

The consultation process has included workshops on 3rd November for residents, and previously 11th October for other stakeholders. The events were coordinated by Jayne Bryant, the City of Canning's Strategic Projects Officer. The purpose of the study is to examine how best to develop the area in the future so that it's social and environmental values are protected and enhanced ensuring that the area remains a valuable community asset.

Consultation has focused on impact for residents, environmental issues and the passive recreation opportunities.

Issues of interest for residents included:

- The necessity for provision of safe traffic flow and discrete, yet ample parking.
- Underground power for safety and to enhance the landscaping assets.
- Provision of light recreation facilities such as fitness stations along pathways.
- Maintain the peaceful and tranquil setting of the area.
- Taking advantage of the environmental asset as improved viewing access to Wilson Lake.
- Construct dual use pathways along the river to access Castledare Miniature Railway and access to Bywater Way.
- Demolish the old buildings on the recreation park to create a visually pleasing park entrance and to provide to additional area for picnics.
- Develop landscaping to minimise risk of bush fire for residents and reduce dust levels.
- Re-locate the City of Canning Works Depot to utilise the land for extending the park or use for residential development.

When consultants Blackwell & Associates (www.blackwell.net.au) complete the development plan, an opportunity will be available for residents and other stakeholders to comment further.

WRRRA welcomes any further comments from all Wilson residents regarding the Kent Street Weir precinct. Please E-Mail your comments to secretary@wrra.net.au. We also encourage local residents to join our association to keep informed on further developments (See next page).

AIRCRAFT NOISE

Are you disturbed by the sound of airplanes at night, or during the early morning, when often a number of planes seem to queue up one after the other and fly south from the airports swinging to the west and over Wilson. This problem is not unique to our area but it is important our voices are heard and considered when the decision makers are weighing up options for changing the flight paths and related operational procedures (such as taking off further up the runway) to reduce the level of aircraft noise over residential areas.

If the aircraft noise is causing you distress, then it is time to act!

You have some options to voice your concerns. While it may seem fruitless at times, you should not dismiss the opportunity to lodge your complaint, as they are taken in account as part of the planning process.

Problem flights can be easily identified using the website: <http://www331.webtrak-lochard.com/webtrak/per3>

There is a form on this website to lodge a formal complaint with AirServices Australia for a given flight. Alternatively, you can call their information line on 1800 802 584.

FERN PARK (RIVERTON BRIDGE) PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT

During WRRAs October 2012 meeting, Mr Terry Thompson, a senior landscape architect from the City of Canning, gave a presentation on the City’s preliminary plans for future development of the Fern Road (Riverton Bridge) Park area.

The City’s first priority is to upgrade the children’s playground, which would be based on an indigenous theme and include expansion of the existing play area / sand pit and more challenging play/climbing devices, complete with large shade sails over the main playground. The location of the children’s playground would remain in its current position so adults visiting the adjacent kiosk can sit and observe their children at play. Also, area permitting, future long term plans may see the development a designated area for junior and teenager activities.

Access from the road to the playground area will be gated and the existing fencing extended. At the car park entrance a new elongated raised speed hump, incorporating two pedestrian crossing points, will be installed.

Whilst ultimately WRRRA would like to see development at this very popular site to support a variety of activities for various age groups, such as gardens, picnic areas along the river foreshore and additional BBQ plates, complete with shaded seating areas at the eastern end of the park. These options are limited due partly to the erosion of the Parks



northern river foreshore over time and the very large drainage structured recently installed to the west of the revitalised Café area.

Thus much of the Riverton Bridge public parklands, including that recently gained by closure of the western end of Bridge Street, has been lost, and in WRRRA’s opinion were this existing park land area to be developed as per City’s current landscape / playground Concept Plan, then it would be necessary to reclaim much of the Parks northern river foreshore that has been lost through erosion over past years. See photo.

Note: This Photo, which was obtained from the Willetton Library historical records, clearly shows a wide sandy beach, once existed along the northern foreshore of this park, where one of our Committee members can remember having swum a few years (decades?) ago.

NEW MEMBERS ARE MOST WELCOME !!!

Remember, the more active members we have, the more power the Association has to lobby the City of Canning and State Government Departments to improve services within Wilson.

WRRRA Membership Subscription Form 2012/13

To join the Association, simply complete the following details, enclose your Annual Membership Fee of \$5 per household and return it to us (as per the instructions below). Receipts will not normally be issued unless requested.

ADDRESS.....

PHONE.....E-MAIL.....

Please contact me to discuss WRRRA Committee Nomination

Post form to WRRRA Treasurer, 40 Queens Park Road, Wilson. Payment by cash (note only) or cheque. Mark cheques payable to the “Wilson Residents and Ratepayers Association”.

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