

Speech by Jim O'Neill
Mayor of the Town of East Fremantle
Monday 27 July 2020

Community Cabinet
East Fremantle Town Hall



GOOD MORNING EVERYONE.

I WELCOME YOU TO BOYAL WALYALUP BOODJA/ EAST FREMANTLE, THE ANCESTRAL LANDS OF THE NOONGAR WHADJUK PEOPLES. WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THE ORIGINAL CUSTODIANS OF THIS LAND AND TO THEIR LEADERS PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING.

FIRSTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE OUTSTANDING EFFORTS OF THE PREMIER & GOVERNMENT IN ITS HANDLING OF COVID-19 – THANK YOU.

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING OUR HISTORIC AND PROGRESSIVE TOWN FOR HOSTING COMMUNITY CABINET, IT IS OUR GREAT PLEASURE TO HOST YOU TODAY.

WITH US TODAY IS LISA O'MALLEY MLA, MEMBER FOR BICTON, OUR VERY ACTIVE AND ENTHUSIASTIC LOCAL MEMBER. LISA HAS DONE SO MUCH TO RAISE THE PROFILE OF LOCAL ISSUES AND WE ARE THANKFUL TO HAVE SUCH A PRODUCTIVE, POSITIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIP.

LISA HAS GONE IN TO BAT FOR OUR TOWN, ADVANCING LOCAL INTERESTS, INCLUDING:

- PRESTON POINT ROAD/CANNING HIGHWAY PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
- IMPORTANT LOCAL PLANNING MATTERS SUCH AS THE ROOFING 2000 BUILDING AND THE ROYAL GEORGE HOTEL.

LISA REALLY CARES ABOUT HER CONSTITUENTS AND SHE CAN BE SEEN REGULARLY POPPING IN TO SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES, CLUBS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS. SHE IS A



REGULAR ATTENDEE AT EVENTS INCLUDING THE VERY SUCCESSFUL HIGHWAY TO HELL EVENT AND MANY OTHERS.

SHE ASSISTED THE TOWN TO ACCESS THE SEED FUNDING WE NEEDED TO COMMENCE PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF THE EAST FREMANTLE OVAL.

IT IS A VERY EXCITING PROJECT THAT WE WILL DISCUSS WITH YOU ALL IN GREATER DETAIL IN A MOMENT, BUT WE COULD NOT HAVE GOT TO THIS STAGE WITHOUT HER SUPPORT. THANK YOU LISA.

AS WE HAVE YOU HERE WITH US I WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOU A LITTLE ABOUT OUR TOWN. ALTHOUGH WE ARE THE SECOND SMALLEST MUNICIPALITY IN THE STATE, AT 3.2 SQUARE KILOMETRES, AND FEWER THAN 8,000 RESIDENTS, WE CERTAINLY PUNCH ABOVE OUR WEIGHT.

OURS IS A PROSPEROUS AND PROGRESSIVE TOWN, ONE THAT IS VISUALLY ICONIC DUE TO THE ECLECTIC MIX OF STUNNING HISTORICAL BUILDINGS, A THRIVING COMMERCIAL AND HOSPITALITY SECTOR AND WE ARE HOME TO SOME INNOVATIVE AND ULTRA MODERN HOMES.

IF YOU NEEDED A VISUAL CUE AS A REMINDER OF THIS HARMONIOUS BALANCE, ON EITHER SIDE OF US HERE AT OUR HISTORIC TOWN HALL ARE A MODERN MULTI-STOREY BUILDING WITH A MIX OF COMMERCIAL TENANTS AND HIGH END APARTMENTS WITH A ROOFTOP BAR, AND ON THE OTHER SIDE, THE PLYMPTON POST OFFICE WHICH IS NOW BEING LOVINGLY RESTORED BY ITS NEW COMMERCIAL OWNERS, WHO HAVE DONE A BEAUTIFUL JOB IN BRINGING IT BACK TO ITS FORMER GLORY.



THIS IS SUCH A DESIRABLE PLACE TO LIVE, OUR BIGGEST CHALLENGE IS MEETING THE DEMAND FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO LIVE HERE.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT BY 2031, OUR POPULATION WILL GROW TO 9,480 AN INCREASE OF 1,480 (EXCLUDING THE LEEUWIN REDEVELOPMENT).

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 3,300 PRIVATE DWELLINGS CURRENTLY WITHIN THE TOWN – A MIX OF RESIDENTIAL DENSITIES AND HOUSING TYPES.

DEVELOPERS AS WELL AS HOME OWNERS SEE THE VALUE IN INVESTING HERE. THE TOWN PROCESSED APPLICATIONS WITH A GROSS DEVELOPMENT VALUE OF APPROXIMATELY \$120 MILLION OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS.

FOR A TOWN OF OUR SIZE, WE HAVE AN EXCITING LIST OF NEW PROJECTS ALL COMING ON STREAM, INCLUDING:

- THE ROYAL GEORGE HOTEL (20-25 APARTMENT DWELLINGS AND MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT);
- ROOFING 2000 (80+ APARTMENT DWELLINGS AND MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT);
- THE FORMER WOODSIDE MATERNITY HOSPITAL (150+ AGED PERSONS' ACCOMMODATION UNITS).
- LEEUWIN BARRACKS REDEVELOPMENT (POTENTIALLY IN EXCESS OF 1500 DWELLING UNITS OF A MIXED VARIETY WITH ASSOCIATED LOCAL COMMUNITY AND COMMERCIAL USES).

IN THE PIPELINE, OTHER PROJECTS INCLUDE

- CANNING AND EAST STREET (POTENTIAL 30-50 APARTMENT DWELLINGS).



- PRESTON POINT JUNIPER DEVELOPMENT (20+ GROUPED DWELLINGS WITH OVER 55 RESIDENCE OPTIONS)
- BREAMAR HOUSE AGED CARE DEVELOPMENT SITE (POTENTIAL 30-50 APARTMENT DWELLINGS)

WE HAVE AN ENVIED AND ENVIABLE POSITION FOR LIFESTYLE REASONS INCLUDING ACCESS TO THE RIVER AND GREAT TRANSPORT LINKAGES. RECENTLY WE MADE A MAJOR INVESTMENT TO DELIVER A MASSIVE UPGRADE TO RIVERSIDE ROAD. THIS HAS IMPROVED ACCESS FOR CYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS AND WILL MAKE THIS SHOWPIECE OF OUR TOWN MORE ATTRACTIVE AND ACCESSIBLE.

WE HAVE RIVER, HERITAGE, ECLECTIC HOUSING STYLES, GREAT LOCAL VENUES, RESTAURANTS, AND A THRIVING COMMUNITY, SPORTING AND RECREATIONAL SECTOR. THE ONE THING WE NEED MORE OF IS **PUBLIC OPEN SPACE**.

LIVEABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS PRODUCED A REPORT FOR THE TOWN IN 2013 RECOMMENDING 25.5 HECTARES OF OPEN SPACE FOR THE EAST FREMANTLE COMMUNITY OF 7,100 PEOPLE AND AN AREA OF 320 HECTARES. THE ACTUAL PROVISION OF OPEN SPACE IN THE TOWN IS 16.1 HECTARES.

TO ADDRESS THIS UNDERSUPPLY, THE TOWN HAS DEVELOPED A MASTERPLAN FOR A RECREATION PRECINCT AT PRESTON POINT ROAD NORTH THAT WILL DELIVER MAJOR UPGRADES FOR OUR SPORTING CLUBS.

THE JEWEL IN THE CROWN FOR US, OUR MOST EXCITING PROJECT AND ONE WE NEED YOUR HELP TO DELIVER, IS EAST FREMANTLE OVAL. I WILL HAND OVER NOW TO OUR C.E.O. GARY WHO WILL EXPLAIN THIS IN MORE DETAIL.



Speech by Gary Tuffin
CEO Town of East Fremantle
Monday 24 July 2020

Community Cabinet



THANK YOU MAYOR FOR YOUR PRESENTATION. IT IS AN EXCITING TIME TO BE IN EAST FREMANTLE, WHERE THINGS ARE MOVING AT A FAST PACE.

AS C.E.O. IT IS MY PRIVILEGE TO LEAD THIS ORGANISATION. WE ARE NOW EMERGING FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WHICH HAS HIT OUR COMMUNITY HARD.

I WAS PROUD TO LEAD OUR TEAM THROUGH THOSE CHALLENGING TIMES. WE WENT EARLY AMONG OUR SECTOR IN LOCKING DOWN AND SWITCHING TO DELIVERING ALL OF OUR SERVICES ONLINE.

THERE WAS NO DISRUPTION TO SERVICE DELIVERY AND WE RETAINED OUR ENTIRE STAFF COMPLEMENT. OUR BUDGET FOR THIS YEAR HAS KEPT COSTS LOW WHILE STILL DELIVERING THE QUALITY SERVICES OUR RESIDENTS EXPECT. WE ARE FINANCIAL VIABLE AND SUSTAINABLE.

AS WE EMERGE FROM THE PANDEMIC, WE ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HELPING OUR COMMUNITY TO LIFT, INCLUDING THROUGH PROVIDING HEALTHY LIFESTYLE CHOICES AND THROUGH OVERCOMING SOCIAL ISOLATION.

THE VIABILITY OF OUR LOCAL SPORTING CLUBS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS IS CRUCIAL TO THAT. WE ALSO NEED TO STIMULATE OUR LOCAL ECONOMY – AND AS YOU HAVE HEARD FROM THE MAYOR, THIS IS HAPPENING NOW. THE PACE IS IMPRESSIVE.

WE HAVE DEVELOPED A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF EAST FREMANTLE OVAL, AND TO DELIVER IT, WE NEED YOUR HELP.



THIS PROJECT DELIVERS AN ENTIRELY NEW MODEL FOR RECREATION AND LEISURE. IT HAS OUR LOCAL WAFL CLUB AT ITS HEART, BUT IT REDEFINES HOW COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACE CAN BE INTEGRATED SEAMLESSLY TOGETHER.

IT WILL DELIVER ON PRIORITIES THAT WE KNOW ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU, TO US, AND TO OUR COMMUNITY.

- IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY TO THE SITE AND OPENING IT UP TO EVERYONE
- ACTIVE AND PASSIVE RECREATION AND LEISURE INCLUDING CLUB SPORT
- ACTIVITIES AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES
- ECONOMIC STIMULUS BOTH THROUGH THE BUILDING OF THIS ASSET AND ITS OPERATION
- AND IMPORTANTLY, BUILDING A LOCAL HUB THAT WILL BRING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER WHERE THEY CAN PLAY, SOCIALISE, AND GATHER WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

A COMMUNITY ASSET DESIGNED BY THE PEOPLE, AND FOR THE PEOPLE.

THIS PROCESS HAS BEEN A TEAM EFFORT AND A GENUINE COLLABORATION WITH OUR COMMUNITY. THEY HAVE CO-DESIGNED THE PLAN WITH US FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, AND THE CONCEPT IS NOW AT A PIVOTAL STAGE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHOWING YOU THE PLAN FOR THIS AREA AND PARTNERING WITH TO MAKE THIS DREAM A REALITY FOR THE PEOPLE OF EAST FREQ.

