



# MINUTES

## **Special Meeting of Electors**

Thursday, 24 November 2022 at 6:00 PM

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# MINUTES

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 135 CANNING HIGHWAY, EAST FREMANTLE ON THURSDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2022

### 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting at 6.00pm

#### Present

Mayor J O'Neill Presiding Member

Cr C Collinson

Cr K Donovan

Cr A McPhail

Cr D Nardi

Cr A Natale

Cr A White

Mr A Malone Acting Chief Executive Officer (A/CEO)

Mr N King Executive Manager Technical Services (EMTS)

Ms J May Executive Assistant/Governance Coordinator (EA/GC)

There were 127 East Fremantle electors and 8 other attendees recorded in the attendance register.

### 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

*"On behalf of the Council I would like to acknowledge the Whadjuk Nyoongar people as the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting is taking place and pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging."*

### 3 WELCOME TO GALLERY

Mayor O'Neill welcomed and thanked all attendees for coming along to the Special Electors' Meeting.

### 4 INTRODUCTION OF ELECTED MEMBERS AND STAFF

Mayor O'Neill introduced elected members and staff present to the gallery.

### 5 APOLOGIES

Cr Mark Wilson

Cr Laura Mascaro

Gary Tuffin CEO

Bron Sibree, 41 Dalgety Street

## 6 MAYOR TO PROVIDE OVERVIEW OF PROCEEDINGS

Mayor O'Neill drew attention to Regulation 18 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* states as follows:

***Procedure at meeting (Act s. 5.31)***

*Subject to regulations 15 and 17, the procedure to be followed at a general or special meeting of electors is to be determined by the person presiding at the meeting.*

## 7 BUSINESS OF MEETING - SWAN RIVER CROSSINGS, CANNING HIGHWAY REALIGNMENT

Mayor O'Neill advised that this Special Meeting of Electors has been called in accordance with section 5.28 of the *Local Government Act 1995* in respect to the following questions. Responses had been prepared by the Administration which were read to the meeting attendees by the Mayor.

**Question 1**

Have the Town of East Fremantle (T of EF) been advised of the realignment of Canning Hwy to the riverside and the termination of Beach Street?

**Answer**

*Council became aware of the proposed realignment of Canning Highway at a briefing provided by Main Roads WA on 23 June 2022.*

**Question 2**

Have the T of EF been advised of the expected traffic movements into the Plympton ward as a result of this?

**Answer**

*No.*

**Question 3**

If T of EF are aware of two items above, did the T of EF agree to this realignment and accept the increased traffic through Plympton ward due to the reduction of eastern access to Fremantle ie 6 lane to 2 lanes?

**Answer**

*No.*

**Question 4**

Does the T of EF agree to publicly oppose the realignment of Canning Hwy as currently proposed by MRWA?

**Answer**

*The Town of East Fremantle has raised various concerns:*

- *Canning Highway pedestrian crossing*
- *New Bridge entry and exit connection to Town of East Fremantle*
- *New developments and traffic movement requirements*
- *Naval store and surrounds*
- *Environmental and social impact*
- *Traffic management during and post construction*

*to Main Roads WA in regard to the current proposal, via letter dated 6 July 2022.*

### Question 5

What course of action does T of EF propose to effectively oppose the current Swan River Crossings project and have these actions been implemented to date?

### Answer

*The Town will continue to engage with MRWA to seek a balanced outcome that acknowledges the concerns of its residents.*

#### 7.1 DAMIEN FLYNN, 62 ALLEN STREET

Has the Main Roads Department assessed the projected future traffic flow to justify a rebuild of the old wooden traffic bridge?

Would an adjoining bridge to the existing Stirling Bridge and a redesign of approaches be a simpler less invasive option? This was successfully implemented with the Narrows Bridge duplication.

Mayor O'Neill advised that Mr Flynn's first question would be referred to Main Roads WA for a response and his second question would be taken on notice, however, personally he would not be in favour of duplicating Stirling Bridge as it would result in a spaghetti junction with a far greater impact on East Fremantle residents.

#### 7.2 SALLY MATTHEWS, 58A PIER STREET

Ms Sally Matthews addressed the meeting expressing her concerns with the current design of the Swan River crossings proposal, particularly the realignment of Canning Highway with the resulting safety and accessibility impacts for motorists and pedestrians and the significant environmental impacts through loss of the escarpment and trees because of the realignment of Canning Highway where it connects with Beach Street.

#### 7.3 IAN KER – POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Mr Ian Ker now retired Principal of a transport consulting firm with over 45 years in transport planning experience and a Councillor for City of Vincent from 1995-2009 gave a brief presentation on the machinations of the Swan River Crossings project to date.

#### 7.4 RESOLUTIONS CARRIED AT THE MEETING

##### Resolution 1

**Moved Sally Matthews, seconded John Donovan**

**That the Town of East Fremantle publicly reject the Swan River Crossings proposal as currently presented by Main Roads WA.**

**(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)**

##### Resolution 2

**Moved Sally Matthews, seconded Jennifer Kluken**

**That the Town of East Fremantle request immediate and ongoing consultation with Main Roads enabling the East Fremantle community to have active and meaningful input into the design process and outcomes.**

**(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)**

**Resolution 3**

**Moved Sally Matthews, seconded Corrine Gepp**

**That the Town of East Fremantle request Main Roads prioritise best practice environmental considerations with a focus to retain the foreshore and local Fremantle inter-community connections east/west, north/south in the future design proposals for the Swan River Crossings project.**

**(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)**

**Resolution 4**

**Moved Sally Matthews, seconded Andrew Ogilvie**

**That the Town of East Fremantle request all works cease on the project until the issues identified through the meaningful community consultation have been resolved to the satisfaction of the East Fremantle community.**

**(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)**

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

**Moved Brian Putland, seconded Neil Dusik**

**That the meeting be adjourned for 10 minutes at 6.57pm.**

**CARRIED**

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

**Moved Ros Bell, seconded Peter Curnow**

**That the meeting be reconvened at 7.11pm**

**(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)**

It was noted that a number of attendees left the meeting during the adjournment. The meeting reconvened with approximately 75 attendees present in the gallery.

**Resolution 5**

**Moved Melissa Henson, seconded Julie Amor**

**That all actions prioritise the preservation (and potential restoration) of the foreshore and cliff areas.**

**(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)**

**Resolution 6**

**Moved Brian Putland, seconded Moggy McIntyre**

**That Council reject closure of Beach Street shared access into and out of Fremantle because of the negative impact on traffic flow in and out of East Fremantle.**

**(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)**

**Resolution 7**

**Moved Neil Huck, seconded Julie Craig**

**That the Town of East Fremantle engages with Main Roads WA to attempt to secure a river crossing design that does not increase traffic along Riverside Road through to Beach Street.**

**(CARRIED)**

**Resolution 8**

**Moved Phil Nolan, seconded Peter Curnow**

**That the Town of East Fremantle request that the Minister for Transport, respective local members (Hon Lisa O'Malley MLA and Simone McGurk MLA) and senior representatives from the Fremantle Bridge Alliance and Main Roads WA attend a community consultation event to discuss the proposal. (CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)**

**Resolution 9**

**Moved Andrew Ogilvie, seconded Jill Birt**

**That Council reject the removal of the easterly turn at the end of the bridge because the use of alternative routes by residents and visitors will most likely reduce road safety in the back streets of this part of East Fremantle, and negatively impact local businesses in Canning Highway between East Street and Stirling Highway as well as in George Street. (CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)**

Ms Jenny Harrison (146 Preston Point Road) addressed the meeting expressing concern about any solutions that redirect further traffic to Preston Point Road which is already very congested.

Ms Elaine George (1/45 Windsor Road) addressed the meeting expressing concern about the need for everyone to be able to move around safely in the community. She considered that the current MRWA proposal takes away this safety.

## 8 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting was closed at 7.55pm