



FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Chief Executive Officer
City of Cockburn
9 Coleville Crescent
Spearwood WA 6163

Attention: Ms Donna Di Renzo

Dear Ms Di Renzo

Structure Plan Proposal – Lot 14 (No 325) Rockingham Road, Spearwood

The Freight and Logistics Council of Western Australia (FLCWA) comprises senior decision-makers from both private and public sectors and was established to provide a forum for industry consultation and for independent strategic policy advice from industry to the State Government on developments impacting the delivery of freight and logistics services throughout Western Australia.

FLCWA would like to make comment on the above proposal and does so on behalf of its industry members, consistent with the group's charter.

An increasing focus of FLCWA has been on freight rail operations in the metropolitan area and establishing a better balance between the needs of industry and the needs of those living in the vicinity of freight rail corridors. The discussion has two distinct aspects. In the brownfields situation where the impacted residences are long-standing, operational solutions to address rail noise at source will be most effective. In the greenfields situation of new residential developments (such as the proposal being considered here), land-use policy planning solutions are the best primary response, backed up as necessary by other measures.

You would be aware that the relevant land-use planning policy is State Planning Policy 5.4, *Road and Rail Transport Noise and Freight Considerations in Land Use Planning*, and that this policy is presently being reviewed by the State Government. In responding to the Review, FLCWA has conducted substantial research into appropriate land use planning policy responses to growing activity on the metropolitan freight rail network. The research, together with detail of the appropriate responses, is described in the attached FLCWA Bulletin.

This research suggests that a more stringent noise metric for freight rail is required in State Planning Policy 5.4 to ensure the future protection of residences adjacent to rail corridors. A more stringent noise metric for freight rail in State Planning Policy 5.4 would lead to slightly greater set-backs from the rail corridor for sensitive land uses such as residential and the use of better noise-insulating construction materials in affected buildings.

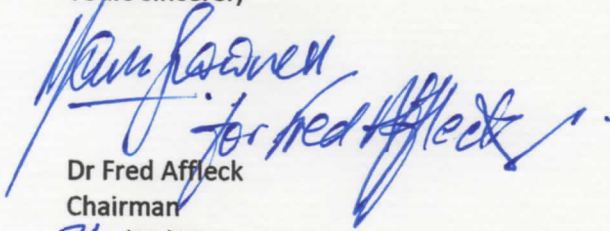
The proposal under discussion here is for a new residential development immediately adjacent to the freight rail corridor used by trains serving the Port of Fremantle. Use of that corridor by freight trains will continue to grow as Port trade increases and consistent with Government policy to contain the number of trucks serving the Port. A significant part of the freight rail growth will be during evening hours when sleep disturbance could become a problem. Constraining freight rail operations by measures such as curfews is not the appropriate response. That would only damage

the viability of the freight rail services at considerable cost to the State's economy and its community. Moreover, freight rail constraints would risk pushing freight back onto the road system, with all of the negative impacts associated with growing numbers of heavy vehicles. The appropriate response is one that offers protection to future residents through stronger land use planning policy.

While FLCWA acknowledges that the new residential development under discussion will no doubt proceed, it would ask the City of Cockburn to place requirements on the proposal consistent with those outlined in the attached bulletin. That would provide a higher level of protection for future residents on the developed land and lessen future conflict between their amenity needs and increasing activity on the adjacent freight rail corridor.

FLCWA would be pleased to discuss the matter further with the City of Cockburn.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fred Affleck', is written over a printed name and title.

Dr Fred Affleck
Chairman

24/06/2016