

## FREIGHT AND LOGISTICS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

Chief Executive Officer
City of Cockburn

Dear Sir

## **Local Profile Papers for Local Planning Strategy**

The Freight and Logistics Council of Western Australia Inc (FLCWA) comprises senior decision makers from industry and Government with the purpose of providing independent policy advice to the Minister for Transport on issues impacting the provision of freight and logistics services in this State.

A number of the issues of concern to FLCWA are of relevance to the City of Cockburn. They include port development, protection of freight activities and the provision of effective logistics services. Given this association, FLCWA welcomes the opportunity to make some general comments in the context of the City's current planning exercise.

Congestion and encroachment are two of the main challenges facing the freight and logistics sector in providing cost-effective and efficient services to industry and the broader community. Each should be to the forefront of the City's thinking as it develops future planning strategies given the vital role played by freight in the wellbeing of the State's economy and its people.

Central to the discussion on congestion would be the development of transit oriented residential and employment opportunities to reduce pressure on the road network. FLCWA has a view that it puts to the Government that much road congestion is wrongly portrayed as the result of truck activity, when in actual fact, the root cause is the growing number of private motor vehicles on our roads.

Planning strategies that are mindful of road congestion are supported by FLCWA. The point should be made, however, that notwithstanding such strategies, freight movements will continue to increase with population growth and Government policies such as urban infill. Additional freight activity will certainly be felt in and around the City of Cockburn. The protection of freight corridors from encroachment is essential in the face of this circumstance, not only to protect industry, but also the surrounding community.

In the short to medium term, a particular focus for the City of Cockburn should be on the protection of the rail freight corridor from encroachment by inappropriate land uses as train activity increases from the relatively low levels experienced at present. FLCWA continues to put considerable effort into advocating to the Government for stronger State land use planning policies in this respect and is mindful of the recent associated initiatives being progressed by the City of Cockburn that are most welcome.

Longer term, there are likely to be new port facilities further south in the Fremantle Outer Harbour. The City of Cockburn will have an important role in their development, not only in the protection of



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key corridors such as Rowley Road, but also in the provision of strategic industrial land to support the new port facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in your current planning exercise on behalf of the freight and logistics sector. FLCWA would be pleased to continue the discussion as you require and is available to do so at your convenience.

Yours sincerely

Mark Brownell Executive Officer

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