

# EMRC Newsletter

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**1. Acting CEO's message**

The EMRC strives for excellence in all of our work every day. This autumn has been filled with events, seminars and workshops around Perth's Eastern Region, benefiting both residents and businesses. From Bike Week to Harmony Week, the community continues to benefit from everything that the region has to offer.

The EMRC has been working alongside both State and Federal governments to help secure funding for major projects identified in the Perth's Extended Eastern Region City Deal proposal. The State Government's recent announcement of a \$1.7bn package adds to the many road projects across the metropolitan region which are underway or just about to commence. We will be reporting regularly on progress with our City Deal proposal, so watch this space.

I hope that everyone enjoys spending time with family and friends during the upcoming Western Australia Day long weekend.



**WENDY HARRIS**  
**Acting Chief Executive Officer**

## 2. Federal infrastructure boost for Perth's Eastern Region

A planned \$1.7bn investment in major road infrastructure for Perth's Eastern Region has been warmly welcomed by the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC).

Eight new eastern corridor road projects aimed at unclogging notoriously busy intersections and roads are included in a 2019-2020 budget package. The proposal, unveiled by WA Premier Mark McGowan, will create an estimated 8,000 new jobs and represents a major commitment towards securing the future economic growth of Perth's Eastern Region.

EMRC Chairman David McDonnell described the planned investment as a massive vote of confidence in the region's future prosperity.

He commented: "By delivering major improvements to the region's transport infrastructure, this planned investment will help significantly enhance the reputation of Perth's Eastern Region as a great place to live, work, play and do business."

Supported by its six member Councils, plus the City of Canning, Town of Victoria Park and Perth Airport Pty Ltd, the EMRC is championing a City Deal proposal to future-proof the region by helping secure major infrastructure projects aimed at creating sustainable economic growth. The planned spending closely aligns to initiatives detailed in the EMRC's City Deal proposal.

Titled *Connect Perth's East*, the EMRC's City Deal covers an area labelled Perth's Extended Eastern Region (PEER). If endorsed by the state, *Connect Perth's East* will join seven similar City Deals across Australia, promoting productivity and liveability in their respective communities. Each City Deal aims to boost local growth by identifying and helping deliver major infrastructure improvements.

The EMRC has been working alongside both State and Federal governments to secure funding for major projects identified in the Perth's Extended Eastern Region City Deal proposal.

The 2019-2020 State budget will include \$1.52 billion for new road projects across the eastern suburbs of Perth, adding to a further \$156 million already committed for eastern suburban projects. These include completing the Reid Highway duplication and the Roe Highway-Kalamunda Road interchange. These two projects will commence in 2019, creating 1,000 jobs.

Cr McDonnell continued: "This recently announced investment by the State, backed by Commonwealth contributions, will have a profoundly positive effect on the entire region."



**The Tonkin/Reid intersection under construction: road infrastructure is a priority for Perth's Eastern Region**  
*Photo: Main Roads WA*

### 3. Lotterywest support for Avon Descent Family Fun Days

Lotterywest funding of \$180,000 has been secured by the EMRC to support three packed days of Avon Descent family fun on the banks of the Avon and Swan Rivers.

Ms Cassie Rowe MLA, member for Belmont, presented the grant certificate to EMRC Chairman David McDonnell on behalf of Lotterywest.

Cr David McDonnell said the grant will help promote and deliver six free family-orientated events alongside the iconic Avon Descent white water race. The grant also supports a collaborative regional marketing campaign, coordinated by the EMRC for the benefit of participating councils.

“The grant is a fantastic result achieved through the collaborative efforts of the EMRC and our participating member Councils: the Town of Bassendean, City of Bayswater, City of Belmont, City of Swan and our neighbouring councils the Shire of Northam and Shire of Toodyay,” Cr McDonnell added.



**Ms Cassie Rowe MLA (centre) presents the \$180,000 Lotterywest grant certificate to (left) EMRC project officer Tarnika Brewer and (right) EMRC Chairman Cr David McDonnell.**

The 2019 Avon Descent Family Fun Days are free events hosted by participating councils, including:

- Shire of Northam Avon River Festival - Friday, 2 August, Minson Avenue, Northam
- Toodyay International Food Festival - Saturday, 3 August, Duidgee and Stirling Parks, Toodyay
- City of Swan Avon Descent Festival - Sunday, 4 August, Lilac Hill Park, Caversham
- Basso's Avon Descent Community Gathering - Sunday, 4 August, Point Reserve, Bassendean
- City of Belmont's Family Fun Day - Sunday, 4 August, Garvey Park, Ascot
- City of Bayswater's Finish Line Family Fun Day - Sunday, 4 August, Riverside Gardens, Bayswater

For more information on the 2019 Avon Descent Family Fun Days, please visit [www.perthseasternregion.com.au/events/avondescentfamilyfunday-.aspx](http://www.perthseasternregion.com.au/events/avondescentfamilyfunday-.aspx)

### 4. EMRC hosts free Tendering Workshop for Perth's Eastern Region small and medium-sized businesses

Following the success of events in 2016 and 2018, the EMRC again collaborated with WALGA to host the *How to do Business with Local Government Workshop*.

Promoted for the first time through Eventbrite, the 2019 forum sold out soon after it was advertised.

Presented by WALGA's Strategic Sourcing Manager, Alison Maggs, small and medium-sized businesses in Perth's Eastern Region were given valuable insights into winning local government tenders.

EMRC Acting CEO Wendy Harris said: "I'm very pleased with the continued popularity of these events over the years. The



**Alison Maggs talks her audience through Local Government tendering process**

EMRC can take pride in its role in providing extensive economic development opportunities for local businesses in Perth's Eastern Region."

## 5. EMRC member Councils recognised as Gold Waterwise by Water Corporation

Member Councils participating in the EMRC's Water Quality and Conservation Program (WQCP) have been formally recognised for demonstrating leadership in sustainable water management.

At the Water Corporation's *Waterwise Recognition Event* on 1 May, the majority of councils participating in the WQCP achieved Gold recognition, and all councils were re-endorsed as Waterwise.

The Shire of Mundaring was recognised as a Gold Waterwise council for the first time, with the City of Swan and Town of Victoria Park being recognised again as Gold Waterwise Councils. The City of Belmont was re-endorsed as a Waterwise Council.

While not part of the EMRC's WQCP, the City of Bayswater is a Gold Waterwise council and City of Kalamunda is an endorsed Waterwise Council. The City of Bayswater was awarded the inaugural Waterwise Council Community Choice Award for its Living Stream and Ninja Park project. Chosen by a public vote, this project was among nine innovative finalists showcasing waterwise thinking.

Announcing the winners, Water Minister Dave Kelly said: "The Waterwise Council Program is a great example of different areas of government working together for a common goal - to create more waterwise, sustainable communities.

"This year marks a decade of the Waterwise Councils Program. I am encouraged to see councils' continued focus on saving water to ensure we have liveable and sustainable communities into the future."

The Waterwise Council Gold Recognition Scheme was introduced in 2016 and, since then, the majority of the EMRC's member Councils have achieved Gold Waterwise Status, with some councils achieving the status multiple times as part of EMRC's program. The EMRC encourages councils to participate in Water Corporation's Waterwise Council program to reduce water use and provide sustainable water solutions for Perth's Eastern Region as part of the WQCP.

To achieve Gold Waterwise Status, councils report on specific criteria aligned with the Water Sensitive Cities Index, including actions on creating resilient, sustainable, productive and liveable communities that influence a balanced water cycle. For some local governments, this includes actions including:

- Demonstration waterwise verges
- Education trailers
- Water sensitive urban design projects
- Urban canopy plans, community engagement, and
- Improving irrigation controls within local parks and reserves.



**The Town of Bassendean's irrigation control system enables staff, at the touch of a button, to reset irrigation schedules and turn off sprinklers when rain is due**  
**Photo: Town of Bassendean**



Some of these actions are now on display on Water Corporation's [Waterwise Council website](#) for the community and other councils to view.

The EMRC wishes to congratulate all councils involved in the Waterwise Program in 2018/2019 with special acknowledgement for the councils who received Gold Status as part of the EMRC's Water Quality and Conservation Program.

## 6. Funding sought for FOGO strategy implementation

The EMRC has submitted an application under the Waste Authority's Community and Industry Engagement (CIE) Program for grant funding to support the implementation of the FOGO strategy both at the Town of Bassendean and at the EMRC's Red Hill Waste Management Facility. This program covers two streams, the infrastructure costs and the research and education costs associated with the project.

Pending the outcome of the funding application, likely to be known soon, the Town of Bassendean and the EMRC will proceed with the various aspects of the project.

The next task for the EMRC is to commence a tender process for composting equipment and support services required at Red Hill Waste Management Facility.

The EMRC will simultaneously seek a licence amendment from the Department of Water and Environment Regulation for approval to compost FOGO waste at the EMRC's existing green waste composting area at Red Hill.

EMRC Director Waste Services Steve Fitzpatrick said: "The Town of Bassendean has indicated that from November 2019, they wish to roll out FOGO bins to their residents. This will involve a community education and information program starting in August 2019. The EMRC Waste Education team will play a key role in supporting the Town of Bassendean in the community education space."

## 7. Bike Week takes over the EMRC

This year's annual Bike Week saw EMRC staff participating in a week full of activities, classes and fun.

Bike Week is Western Australia's annual celebration of people riding bikes for transport, fun and healthier lifestyles.

Throughout the week EMRC staff took part in morning bike rides, wellbeing classes and quizzes to promote a healthier lifestyle. The week also included a staff bonding morning tea where healthy snacks and a 'pin the seat on the bike' competition was enjoyed by all.

The week concluded with the announcement of Waste Environmental Officer Matt Emeny as Bike Week winner. Matt participated in all bike week activities with great enthusiasm. The EMRC takes pride in the promotion of these healthy initiatives and encourages all to join in with us next year.



**Fun and games: EMRC staff participated enthusiastically in the Pin the Seat on the Bike contest**

## 8. EMRC celebrates culture and diversity with Harmony Week

Perth's Eastern Region is filled with a rich community of various cultures and the EMRC is no different. With staff from a huge variety of backgrounds and nationalities, the EMRC has always been a strong supporter of Harmony Week.

Hosted by the Heathy Promotion Group (HPG), EMRC staff came together and celebrated our differences. Staff brought in home-made national dishes and wore traditional national dress.

Harmony Week promotes and celebrates cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home, from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from the many countries around the world.



**EMRC staff sample each others' national dishes**

## 9. Council and committee meeting dates

EMRC Council and committee meeting dates for the rest of 2019 are as follows:

### EMRC COUNCIL MEETING

Commencing at 6:00pm

Thursday	20 June	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	18 July (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	22 August (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	19 September	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	5 December	EMRC Administration Office

### AUDIT COMMITTEE (AC) MEETING

Commencing at 6:30pm

Thursday	6 June	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	4 July (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	8 August (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	5 September	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	10 October (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	21 November (if required)	EMRC Administration Office

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CEOAC) MEETING

Commencing at 12:30pm

Tuesday	4 June	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	2 July (informal)	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	6 August	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	3 September (informal)	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	8 October (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Tuesday	19 November	EMRC Administration Office

### WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WAC) MEETING

Commencing at 5:00pm

Thursday	6 June (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	4 July (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	8 August (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	5 September (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	10 October (if required)	EMRC Administration Office
Thursday	21 November (if required)	EMRC Administration Office