



Further Special Meeting of Council

Minutes

8 July 2014

MINUTES OF FURTHER SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON 8 JULY 2014

Preface

When the Chief Executive Officer approves these Minutes for distribution they are in essence "Unconfirmed" until the following Ordinary Meeting of Council, where the Minutes will be confirmed subject to any amendments made by the Council.

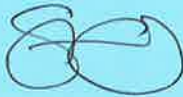
The "Confirmed" Minutes are then signed off by the Presiding Person.

Attachments that formed part of the Agenda, in addition to those tabled at the Council Meeting are put together as an addendum to these Minutes with the exception of Confidential Items.

Confidential Items or attachments that are confidential are compiled as separate Confidential Minuted Agenda Items.

Unconfirmed Minutes

These minutes were approved for distribution on 14 July 2014.



Stan Scott
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Confirmed Minutes

These minutes were confirmed at a meeting held on 22 July 2014.

Signed: *David L. Das*

Note: The Presiding Member at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed is the person who signs above.

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There is **NO ADDENDUM**

Shire of Toodyay

FURTHER SPECIAL MEETING – 8 JULY 2014

MINUTES

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Cr David Dow, Shire President, declared the meeting open at 7.07 pm.

2. RECORDS OF ATTENDANCE

Members

Cr D Dow	Shire President
Cr B Lloyd	Deputy Shire President
Cr P Greenway	
Cr T Chitty	
Cr C Firms	
Cr S Craddock	
Cr R Madacsi	

Staff

Mr S Scott	Chief Executive Officer
Ms A Bell	Manager Community Development
Ms C Delmage	Manager Corporate Services
Mr G Bissett	Manager Planning & Development
Mr L Vidovich	Manager Works and Services
Mrs M Rebane	Executive Assistant

2.1 APOLOGIES

Cr B Rayner

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

The Chairperson advised that no disclosures of interest in the form of a written notice prior to the commencement of the meeting had been received.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (relating to the purpose of the meeting)

There were no public questions.

**5. PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / SUBMISSIONS
(relating to the purpose of the meeting)**

5.1 Petitions

Nil

5.2 Deputations

Nil

5.3 Presentations

Nil

5.4 Submissions

Nil

6. PURPOSE OF MEETING

This meeting was called by Councillor Firms, Councillor McCann and Councillor Madacsi for the purpose of considering the Wheatbelt Blueprint.

6.1 Wheatbelt Blue Print Feedback

Date of Report:	18 June 2014
Proponent:	Shire of Toodyay
File Ref:	CSD5, ORG3/ICR27448
Author:	Stan Scott – Chief Executive Officer
Responsible Officer:	Stan Scott – Chief Executive Officer
Officer's Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Nil.
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider proposed input to the Wheatbelt Blue Print.

BACKGROUND

Since the advent of Royalties for Regions 4 years ago there has been much debate how fund should be distributed and what investments offer the best value for regions. Significant funds have been directed to the Kimberley and Pilbara in the first years, and more recently to the Midwest. In this year's state budget there were a number of announcements in relation to the future direction of R4R funding including:

- Growing our South - \$600 million over five years: A new program designed to deliver funding for our major infrastructure projects and initiatives across Wheatbelt, South West, Great Southern and Peel regions.
- Regional Blueprint Initiatives - \$292 million over five years (new money): Each of the nine Regional Development Commissions are preparing a Regional Investment Blueprint which will outline the region's growth and development aspirations and articulate the transformative development strategy.
- Regional Telecommunications Project Stage 2 - \$45 million (new money): \$45 million to build on the \$40 million RMCP Stage 1 that is currently rolling out 113 new or upgraded telecommunications towers. Stage 2 will provide more towers, and move toward broadband accessibility.
- Seizing the Opportunity in Agriculture - \$300 million over five years (continuation of program): Funding is continuing to be rolled out to ensure the sector can undergo transformation, creating growth and prosperity in regional communities.

The Wheatbelt Blueprint will be the strategic document that underpins the distribution of these funds within the Wheatbelt Region, and it is important that it reflect the needs of Toodyay.

CONSULTATION

This is the formal consultation process for the document, though there have been a range of consultations which have fed in to the development of the document.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

This proposal does not contain any notable statutory implications.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This proposal does not contain any notable policy implications.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Blue Print will help guide R4R expenditure in the region.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Toodyay 2023 identifies the Shire of Toodyay major capital investments, most of which will require some co-funding from other levels of government.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

This proposal does not contain any notable environmental implications.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This proposal does not contain any notable social implications.

OFFICER'S COMMENT

The CEO has reviewed the document and has identified arrange of specific areas on which some comment would be appropriate.

AVON CITY

Under the section *Vibrant Economy 2050* (Page 21) the plan makes the following statement:

Avon City will be a successfully functioning city that is home to 75,000 people (just over 42% of the Wheatbelt's population) spread across multiple interconnected communities. Agricultural production and processing will form a strong economic base, while transport and logistics, niche manufacturing and population services become the dominant industries. Adventure, heritage and events tourism will continue to attract visitors to the Sub-region.

At the recent AROC meeting there was a general disquiet with the concept of an Avon City, particularly as the concept has not been adequately or accurately defined. Further it is seen as a forerunner for amalgamation of Local Governments.

The CEO takes a different view. The Wheatbelt is competing for funds with other regions. In the recent budget Royalties for regionals funds have been identified for southern WA. Rather than a specific funding pool has been applied in the Kimberley, Pilbara and the Mid-West this looks like a contestable pool across the Goldfields, South West, Great Southern, Peel and Wheatbelt. Every other region has a regional city to attract funding.

By representing the group of Local Governments in the Avon sub-region as Avon City it allows us to compete for funding far more successfully. It is also reflective of how the economy works. If the Avon region thrives, Toodyay as the premier lifestyle community in the region also thrives.

While this concept is laid out in the 2050 vision, in the rest of the document we go back to being the Avon until page 87 When one of the actions is:

Develop Avon Cities Investment Plan by December 2015.

ECONOMICS

The plan (Page 22) goes on to recognise the importance of events and experiential tourism. It also recognises proximity to Perth and lifestyle as important drivers.

SOCIAL AND POPULATION TRENDS

The report (Page 28) highlights migration and workforce attraction. It also notes the attractive lifestyle options offered, and the consequent increase in demand for population services health, wellness, recreation, tourism and aged care services.

CAPACITY FOR GROWTH

Mining (Page 37)

The report fails to recognise the extent of basic raw material extraction (Clay and Gravel) in Toodyay. Nor does it recognise the possible impact of bauxite mining. While this is a relatively recent development, with timelines unknown, it is reasonable to expect an impact in the 35 year planning horizon of this document. This will include, probably somewhere east of Toodyay, a possible alumina refinery.

Tourism (Page 38)

The report does not seem to reference the Avon Sub Regional Economic Development Strategy that identified the importance of tourism to the Avon Arc. While this is in the early stages, it will be a significant future driver and deserves more prominence in the document.

Health and Aged Care (Page 40)

The report recognises the aging of the population as a significant driver for population based services. Toodyay has the opportunity to provide excellent independent living facilities, but there is at this stage no residential care option. There is no specific provision in the plan for how higher care services will be extended outside existing hubs.

Geographic Location (Page 41)

The report recognises the spillage from metropolitan growth as a driver for peri-urban growth. The report identifies the need for packages of light industrial land. There is no mention of residential enterprise zones which could be a real opportunity for peri-urban locations.

Residential Land (Page 42)

The report promotes: *The establishment of a Wheatbelt Infrastructure Co-ordinating Group creates opportunities for collaboration with the aim of reducing cost of land assembly for both residential and industrial developments.* Streamlining processes for dealing state gatekeeper agencies is supported.

Waste Management (Page 44)

The report recognises the attractiveness of the Wheatbelt for managing metropolitan waste, and acknowledges the possibility of land use conflict, but should be much stronger in demanding sound state level planning.

Climate (Page 48)

The climate section is very weak. Response requires more than town planning response, it requires an infrastructure response so that roads and bridges and culverts can cope with more extreme events. Further some of the extreme weather will include heatwave, and the resultant increased demand on volunteer fire services and planning and mitigation works.

Land Transport (page 49)

There is not sufficient emphasis on the road safety task. The fatality rate for the Wheatbelt is almost 50 deaths per 100,000 people, more than twice the rate for the Midwest Gascoyne (the next highest) and almost 10 times the rate for the metropolitan area.

The report mentions an outer metropolitan ring road, but no other detail is provided.

Communications and the digital economy (page 52)

There should be greater emphasis on trying to leverage NBN fixed wireless towers for improved mobile telephone coverage.

Early Education and Child Care (Page 55)

Toodyay is listed as the highest level of vulnerability on the Australian Early Development Index. Investment in recreation facilities adjacent to the school should help. Shire land adjacent to the high school could help in developing facilities to overcome this disadvantage.

Secondary Schooling (Page 56)

The report acknowledges the significant loss of secondary students to metro high schools. The investment in co-located recreation facilities should go some way towards fixing this. Co-investment by the State is essential.

Labour Force (Page 59)

The report recognises that a number of locations, including Toodyay, are less reliant on agriculture, and that retail now plays a significant role. It does not recognise that, with 85% of visitors day trip tourists, much of the tourism spent would be counted as retail.

Sport and Recreation (Page 70)

The report correctly notes that most Wheatbelt communities have excellent sporting facilities, but does not recognise the importance of bringing the others, including Toodyay, up to that standard.

Public Transport (Page 72)

Please reinstate the Avon Link in this section.

Opportunities for Wheatbelt Growth (Page 73)

This section does not acknowledge except obliquely the importance of sporting and recreation facilities to attracting the target demographic (younger families).

TRANSFORMING THE WHEATBELT

Community Amenity (page 77)

The report says: *There exists an opportunity to determine amenity gaps across communities, particularly those experiencing population growth. Consideration needs to be given to quality housing, heritage assets, culture and the arts and sport and recreation, including public open spaces.* Given the significant gap that exists in Toodyay's recreation facilities it would be good to have more detail about how this is expected to play out.

Emerging Industries (Page 78)

- Basic Raw Materials requires a more consolidated approach to managing the transport task.
- Appropriately located solution for Perth's Waste?
- What about Bauxite and Alumina as an emerging industry

Workforce Attraction (Page 80)

The report says one of the actions is to: *Complete Avon Workforce Attraction strategy by August 2014.* What is the Avon Workforce Attraction Plan?

Access to markets – Transport (Page 81)

- Link Avon to the North? How?
- Outer Metropolitan Ring Road? Where?
- The quality and safety of major roads is a significant issue, and perhaps should be recognised in this section.

Housing (Page 82)

The Report mentions medium density housing and aged care cluster housing across 20 communities. Which 20 Communities?

Governance and Civic Leadership (Page 84)

Continued support for joint Local Government strategies is welcome.

Participation and Achievement (Page 85)

- Mentions a whole series of specific developments in specific locations, but no mention of Toodyay recreation facilities adjacent to District High School.
- K-12 Replicate Merredin Model – is Toodyay a target for this approach?
- No mention of Early Childhood Development which should be the biggest investment in the next 10 years.

Strong and Connected Sub Regional Centres (Page 87)

Need more detail of the proposed Avon Cities Investment Plan, and how it might impact on our highest priority investments.

Heritage (Page 90)

The Report says *Heritage Tourism forms part of the Wheatbelt Tourism Strategy* – Toodyay has already done significant work in this area. There is no mention of a tourism strategy anywhere else in the entire document. This is a significant gap, especially considering the recent review of Visitor Centres by the Tourism Council.

Climate Change mitigation (Page 91)

Requires incremental upgrade of infrastructure to cope with more serious events; It is not just the increased number of severe weather events, but also the increased severity, and the need for greater emphasis on mitigation and greater support for volunteers.

Targeted Marketing (page 93)

Prospectuses for sub-regions are a good idea. Need more information on worker attraction strategy for the Avon.

General Comments

Toodyay is one of the 4 most populous local governments in the Wheatbelt with over 6% of the total population, and it would be appropriate for a regional blueprint to specifically reference Toodyay's needs and issues. While it is acknowledged that the Blueprint is not a shopping list, the \$25 Million investment required in sport and recreation facilities, would justify some reference somewhere in the Wheatbelt blueprint.

The only mentions of Toodyay specifically relate to statistics, where Toodyay features highly in some or other indicator. There is no mention of any specific investment or project or strategy in Toodyay.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council authorises the CEO to provide feedback to the Wheatbelt Development Commission on the Wheatbelt Blue Print in line with that set out in the Officer's Comments above.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 167/07/14

MOVED Cr McCann

That Standing Order 7.9 be suspended to the extent that it will allow free and open discussion on this matter and for Members to address the Council more than once

MOTION CARRIED 8/0

Standing Order 7.9 was suspended at 7.09 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 168/07/14

MOVED Cr Craddock

That Council endorse the CEO's comments in relation to the following:

- Economics
- Social and Population Trends
- Health and Aged Care (Page 40)
- Geographic Location (Page 41)
- Residential Land (Page 42)
- Labour Force (Page 59)
- Sport and Recreation (Page 70)
- Public Transport (Page 72)
- Workforce Attraction (Page 80)
- Participation and Achievement (Page 85)
- Heritage (Page 90)
- Targeted Marketing (Page 93)

MOTION CARRIED 8/0

Manager Corporate Services departed Council Chambers at 8.02 pm.

Manager Planning and Development departed Council Chambers at 8.02 pm.

Manager Community Development departed Council Chambers at 8.02 pm.

Manager Works and Services departed Council Chambers at 8.02 pm.

AVON CITY

Under the section **Vibrant Economy 2050** (Page 21) the plan makes the following statement:

Avon City will be a successfully functioning city that is home to 75,000 people (just over 42% of the Wheatbelt's population) spread across multiple interconnected communities. Agricultural production and processing will form a strong economic base, while transport and logistics, niche manufacturing and population services become the dominant industries. Adventure, heritage and events tourism will continue to attract visitors to the Sub-region.

At the recent AROC meeting there was a general disquiet with the concept of an Avon City, particularly as the concept has not been adequately or accurately defined. Further it is seen as a forerunner for amalgamation of Local Governments.

The CEO takes a different view. The Wheatbelt is competing for funds with other regions. In the recent budget Royalties for regionals funds have been identified for southern WA. Rather than a specific funding pool has been applied in the Kimberley, Pilbara and the Mid-West this looks like a contestable pool across the Goldfields, South West, Great Southern, Peel and Wheatbelt. Every other region has a regional city to attract funding.

By representing the group of Local Governments in the Avon sub-region as Avon City it allows us to compete for funding far more successfully. It is also reflective of how the economy works. If the Avon region thrives, Toodyay as the premier lifestyle community in the region also thrives.

While this concept is laid out in the 2050 vision, in the rest of the document we go back to being the Avon until page 87 When one of the actions is:

Develop Avon Cities Investment Plan by December 2015.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 169/07/14

MOVED Cr Firms

That the submission under the section Vibrant Economy 2050 (page 21) state opposition to the use of the term "Avon City" and reference to the Avon sub region as a city.

MOTION CARRIED 8/0

CAPACITY FOR GROWTH

Mining (Page 37)

The report fails to recognise the extent of basic raw material extraction (Clay and Gravel) in Toodyay. Nor does it recognise the possible impact of bauxite mining. While this is a relatively recent development, with timelines unknown, it

is reasonable to expect an impact in the 35 year planning horizon of this document. This will include, probably somewhere east of Toodyay, a possible alumina refinery.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 170/07/14

MOVED Cr Madacsi

That the submission (page 47) under the heading Capacity for Growth include the following comments:

1. Extractive Mining while an economic boon, impacts on changing groundwater flows and dramatically reducing moisture retention by removal of the water retention component of the soil profile. Consequently post remediation sites will increasing conflict with agriculture practises, bush land regeneration, local natural amenity and tourism (as climate change progresses (described above) due to reducing water availability; and
2. Reference to comments in the submission made in relation to "Water"

MOTION CARRIED 8/0

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 171/07/14

MOVED Cr Craddock

That the submission (page 38) include the following comments:

Tourism (Page 38)

The report does not seem to reference the Avon Sub Regional Economic Development Strategy that identified the importance of tourism to the Avon Arc. While this is in the early stages, it will be a significant future driver and deserves more prominence in the document.

The preservation of the natural environment, landscape and heritage are under-represented in the Tourism section.

MOTION CARRIED 8/0

Waste Management (Page 44)

The report recognises the attractiveness of the Wheatbelt for managing metropolitan waste, and acknowledges the possibility of land use conflict, but should be much stronger in demanding sound state level planning.

Cr Craddock departed Council Chambers at 8.21 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 172/07/14

MOVED Cr Madacsi

That the submission (page 44) include the following comments:

1. That a regional Rural Waste Management Strategy is needed that plans beyond waste recycling and co-operative agreements by including landfill siting. That siting must never be where groundwater is accessible from leachate. The Strategy needs to recognise the significance of contamination of groundwater resources and soil contamination. It also needs to understand that any groundwater has future potential as technology improves but is a finite and declining resource; and
2. There should be no implied link between extractive industries and future landfill;

MOTION CARRIED 7/0

Cr Craddock returned to Council Chambers at 8.22 pm.

The Shire President read aloud the resolution 172/07/14 for the benefit of Cr Craddock.

Cr Lloyd departed Council Chambers at 8.24 pm.

Climate (Page 48)

The climate section is very weak. Response requires more than town planning response, it requires an infrastructure response so that roads and bridges and culverts can cope with more extreme events. Further some of the extreme weather will include heatwave, and the resultant increased demand on volunteer fire services and planning and mitigation works.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 173/07/14

MOVED Cr Dow

That the submission (page 48) include the following comments:

That after the words "fire services" the words "ambulance and health services" be included.

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

Land Transport (page 49)

There is not sufficient emphasis on the road safety task. The fatality rate for the Wheatbelt is almost 50 deaths per 100,000 people, more than twice the rate for the Midwest Gascoyne (the next highest) and almost 10 times the rate for the metropolitan area.

The report mentions an outer metropolitan ring road, but no other detail is provided.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 174/07/14

MOVED Cr Dow

That the submission (page 49) include the following comments:

“Needs greater emphasis on funding for local roads and keeping and increasing freight on rail.”

MOTION CARRIED 7/0

Communications and the digital economy (page 52)

There should be greater emphasis on trying to leverage NBN fixed wireless towers for improved mobile telephone coverage.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 175/07/14

MOVED Cr McCann

That the submission (page 52) include the following comments:

1. There should be greater emphasis on trying to leverage NBN fixed wireless towers for improved mobile telephone coverage; and
2. There should be greater emphasis to be placed on more than one carrier of mobile phones.”

MOTION CARRIED 7/0

Early Education and Child Care (Page 55)

Toodyay is listed as the highest level of vulnerability on the Australian Early Development Index. Investment in recreation facilities adjacent to the school should help. Shire land adjacent to the high school could help in developing facilities to overcome this disadvantage.

Cr Greenway departed Council Chambers at 8.38 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 176/07/14

MOVED Cr Craddock

That the submission (page 55) include the following comment:

Toodyay is listed as the highest level of vulnerability on the Australian Early Development Index. Investment in recreation facilities adjacent to the school should help. Shire land adjacent to the high school could help in developing facilities to overcome this disadvantage.

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

Cr Greenway returned to Council Chambers at 8.44 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 177/07/14

MOVED Cr Craddock

That the submission (page 56) include the following comment:

1. The report acknowledges the significant loss of secondary students to metro high schools. The investment in co-located recreation facilities should go some way towards fixing this. Co-investment by the State is essential.
2. That improvement of secondary education offering should help reduce leakage of students to the metropolitan area, particularly in view of the unacceptable road safety statistics relative to the Perth-Toodyay Road;
3. Council is seriously concerned at the withdrawal of proposed funding for improvements to the TDHS in the last State budget.

MOTION CARRIED 7/0

Cr Firns departed Council Chambers at 8.45 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 178/07/14

MOVED Cr Craddock

That the submission (page 73) include the following comments:

Opportunities for Wheatbelt Growth (Page 73)

1. This section does not acknowledge except obliquely the importance of sporting and recreation facilities to attracting the target demographic (younger families).
2. "Training and higher education offerings in the area to retain the 15-29 age cohort"

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

TRANSFORMING THE WHEATBELT

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 179/07/14

MOVED Cr Craddock

That the submission (page 77) include the following comments:

Community Amenity (page 77)

1. The report says: *There exists an opportunity to determine amenity gaps across communities, particularly those experiencing population growth. Consideration needs to be given to quality housing, heritage assets, culture and the arts and sport and recreation, including public open spaces.* Given the significant gap that exists in Toodyay's recreation facilities it would be good to have more detail about how this is expected to play out.
2. Wider contribution to heritage assets than just the local government.

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

Cr Firms returned to Council Chambers at 8.50 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 180/07/14

MOVED Cr Madacsi

That the submission (page 78) include the following comments:

Emerging Industries (Page 78)

- There should be no link, real nor implied, between basic raw materials and landfill and their location in the same table should be separated;
- Basic Raw Materials requires a more consolidated approach to managing the transport task;
- Appropriately located solution for Perth's Waste?;
- What about Bauxite and Alumina as an emerging industry?

MOTION CARRIED 7/0

The CEO departed Council Chambers at 9.06 pm.

The CEO returned to Council Chambers at 9.11 pm.

Cr Craddock moved a motion as follows:

That the submission (page 81) include the following comments:

Access to markets – Transport (Page 81)

- **Link Avon to the North? How?**
- **Outer Metropolitan Ring Road? Where?**
- **The quality and safety of major roads is a significant issue, and perhaps should be recognised in this section;**
- **Conflicting road use between heavy vehicles competing with passenger and tourism vehicles. What is the future with increasing industry and grain freight movements?;**
- **More investment in rail and promotion to increase use of rail; and**
- **More investment required for road infrastructure.**

Cr Firms moved an amendment to the motion as follows:

That the first two dot points be removed.

Cr Craddock did not accept the amendment.

Clarification was sought in relation to the amendment.

The amendment was lost for want of a seconder.

MINUTES OF FURTHER SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
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Cr Firms objected to the motion.

Cr Madacsi seconded the motion.

Debate commenced.

The motion was put.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 181/07/14

MOVED Cr Craddock

SECONDED Cr Madacsi

That the submission (page 81) include the following comments:

Access to markets – Transport (Page 81)

- Link Avon to the North? How?
- Outer Metropolitan Ring Road? Where?
- The quality and safety of major roads is a significant issue, and perhaps should be recognised in this section;
- Conflicting road use between heavy vehicles competing with passenger and tourism vehicles. What is the future with increasing industry and grain freight movements?;
- More investment in rail and promotion to increase use of rail; and
- More investment required for road infrastructure.

MOTION CARRIED 6/1

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 182/07/14

MOVED Cr Dow

That the submission (page 82) include the following comments:

Housing (Page 82)

1. The Report mentions medium density housing and aged care cluster housing across 20 communities. Which 20 Communities?

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

The Shire President adjourned the meeting at 9.25 pm.

The Shire President resumed the meeting at 9.35 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 183/07/14

MOVED Cr McCann

That the submission (page 84) include the following comments:

Governance and Civic Leadership (Page 84)

Continued support for joint Local Government strategies is welcome.

Thought Leader's Group continues to support implementation of sub-regional Economic Strategies – What is this group? Is Local Government included?

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 184/07/14

MOVED Cr Chitty

That the submission (page 87) include the following comments:

Strong and Connected Sub Regional Centres (Page 87)

- Need more detail of the proposed Avon Cities Investment Plan, and how it might impact on our highest priority investments.

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 185/07/14

MOVED Cr Dow

That the submission (page 91) include the following comments:

Climate Change mitigation (Page 91)

Requires incremental upgrade of infrastructure to cope with more serious events; It is not just the increased number of severe weather events, but also the increased severity, and the need for greater emphasis on mitigation and greater support for volunteers.

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 186/07/14

MOVED Cr Madacsi

That the submission include the following comments:

General Comments

Toodyay is one of the 4 most populous local governments in the Wheatbelt with over 6% of the total population, and it would be appropriate for a regional blueprint to specifically reference Toodyay's needs and issues. While it is acknowledged that the Blueprint is not a shopping list, the \$25 Million investment required in sport and recreation facilities, would justify some reference somewhere in the Wheatbelt blueprint.

The only mentions of Toodyay specifically relate to statistics, where Toodyay features highly in some or other indicator. There is no mention of any specific investment or project or strategy in Toodyay.

The CEO to pull out Key points from the balance of the document to be included in the general comments section.

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 187/07/14

MOVED Cr Dow

When drafting the submission on the Wheatbelt Blueprint the CEO be authorised to alter the wording contained in the motions herein but must retain the intent of those motions.

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO 188/07/14

MOVED Cr Madacsi

That the document fails to recognise the importance of groundwater to the Wheatbelt to the existing agriculture and population use. There is no mention of the impacts to this supply from climate change through reduced infiltration by the reducing rainfall, increase in evaporation and transpiration by flora in response to increasing temperatures.

Although mentioned (p.47) that groundwater aquifers exist of varying quality east of the Meckering line, there is no understanding of the critical nature of the mostly freshwater supplies to the west of the line to the Darling Scarp. These water sources are predominately fractured rock aquifers that mostly interconnect to varying degrees, with connections liable to change from constant seismic movement.

The groundwater is critical to climate change, waste management, mining and nature based tourism outcomes yet it is not recognised;

1. That there is a need to identify the types, qualities and location of local groundwater sources
2. That the protection of groundwater is the primary concern in planning as water underpins our future potential.
3. That groundwater underpins soil moisture and bore supplies critical for the natural environment, agriculture, and residential use.
4. That groundwater and its parameters must be factored into any 'harvesting, reuse and recycling'.
5. The need for location planning for ground contaminating industries including those that mobilise significant amounts of salts and minerals into groundwater.
6. That methods of BPM engineering containment methods for landfill sites are 'the best to date' but not proven long term to guarantee protection.
7. That Extractive Mining while an economic boon, impacts on changing groundwater flows and dramatically reducing moisture retention by removal of the water retention component of the soil profile. Consequently post remediation sites will increase conflict with agriculture practises, bush land regeneration, local natural amenity and tourism (as climate change progresses (described above) due to reducing water availability.
8. Or that a regional Rural Waste Management Strategy is needed that plans beyond waste recycling and co-operative agreements by including landfill siting. That siting must never be where groundwater is accessible from leachate. The Strategy needs to recognise the significance of contamination of groundwater resources and soil contamination. It also needs to understand that any groundwater has future potential as technology improves but is a finite and declining resource.

be included in the submission to the Wheatbelt Blueprint.

MOTION CARRIED 6/0

7. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Shire President declared the meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

