



**Shire of Busselton**  
*Geographe Bay*

## **Special Council Agenda**

*23 February 2009*

ALL INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS FORMATS ON REQUEST

SHIRE OF BUSSELTON

AGENDA FOR THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 23 FEBRUARY 2009

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**SHIRE OF BUSSELTON**

**MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA – 23 FEBRUARY 2009**

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**TO: THE SHIRE PRESIDENT AND COUNCILLORS**

**NOTICE** is given that a Special Meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chambers, Administration Building, Southern Drive, Busselton on Monday, 23 February 2009, commencing at 9:30 am.

Your attendance is respectfully requested.

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**ANDREW MACNISH**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

19 February 2009

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**A G E N D A**

1. **ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

2. **PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

To consider an important infrastructure funding opportunity (proposed Application for Federal Infrastructure Funding for the South West Services Network - Busselton to Augusta) that needs to be finalised as soon as possible.

3. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**6. DECLARATION OF DUE CONSIDERATION**

The Presiding Member will request Councillors to acknowledge, in accordance with Clause 8.1 of the Standing Orders, that they have given due consideration to the matters contained within the Agenda.

**5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS****6. PRESENTATIONS BY PARTIES WITH AN INTEREST****7. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING****7.1 SOUTH WEST SERVICES NETWORK**

FILE NO: GRT2  
ATTACHMENTS: Nil

**PRECIS**

This item seeks the Council's endorsement to make application for funding under the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP) co jointly with the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River for the South West Services Network.

**BACKGROUND**

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2009, the Australian Government increased funding for the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP) from \$50 million to \$550 million which bought the funding package to a total of \$800 million.

- \* \$550 million for Strategic Projects
- \* \$250 million allocated direct to local governments.

Of the original \$50 million Strategic Projects funding, the Council endorsed C0812/388 on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2008, that application be made for the Busselton Swimming Jetties and Associated Jetty Works project for funding of \$3,244,000 (total value of the project is \$4,571,000 and the Shire's budgeted contribution is \$1,327,000).

The Shire's allocation for the \$250 million was \$176,000 and was allocated to the Installation of Sports Lighting at Dunsborough Playing Fields and the balance towards the Busselton to Dunsborough Cycle Path.

With the extra \$500 million funding, Local Governments have the opportunity to submit new or revised applications and must advise the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government that they wish to continue with the existing applications or submit a new application for a

new project, or revise the existing application and resubmit within the deadline of the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

**Local Governments can submit one application each and in addition can apply once as a part of a group (two or more) Local Governments.**

### **CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive Officer of the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River has verbally agreed to partner with the Shire of Busselton for the South West Services Network Project and will make application to the AMRSC to jointly service this project.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

A Strategic Objective in the Shire of Busselton 2006/2011 Strategic Plan is:

"To develop and ensure the provision of universally accessible and socially inclusive services, facilities and functions for all people within the community".

### **OFFICER COMMENT**

The South West Services Network project is designed to create a broad reaching Local Government information network which is a platform upon which the Busselton Shire and Augusta Margaret River can co-jointly service their communities. An initial cost for the project is approximately \$4 million.

This project will provide shared services to participating Local Governments to provide community and business access to information and has the potential to allow other Government entities to participate on the network; ie Health, Education, Housing, Employment, Seniors, Tourism and others.

Services can be provided by either a commercial or private network and Telstra have no plans to develop the cable in the south west in the next 10 – 20 years. Therefore, the proposed project is to develop a dark fibre ie; closed network, not for public use network. The cable would be owned by the joint Shires and our cable effectively joins our own private network sites allowing for free data communication, free VOIP ie; telephone on the network, high speed, privacy and security and access to all software (licenses would need to be purchased). The service would be offered to selected compatible users as a fee paying service to offset costs. There will be no (or minimal) operational costs to the service provider.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council endorse that providing that the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River agrees in writing to a joint application the Shire of Busselton make a joint application for funding under the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP) for the South West Services Network.

**8. CLOSURE**

