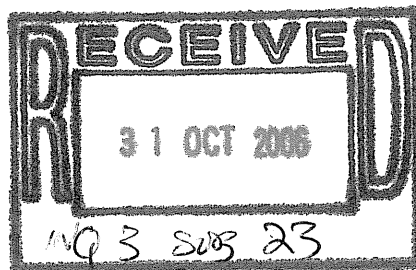


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25 October 2006

Mr Don Nardella, MP
Chair
Outer Suburban/Interface Services &
Development Committee
Level 3, 157 Spring Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dr Mr Nardella,

INTERFACE INPUT INTO THE INQUIRY INTO LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN OUTER SUBURBAN AREAS

The Interface Councils are extremely pleased that the Inquiry is underway for Local Economic Development in Outer Suburban Areas.

We believe that the most important issues to be uncovered in this Inquiry are:

- The barriers to local economic development and how they could be addressed.
- How opportunities for new and emerging sectors and export based operations could be encouraged to assist local economic development.
- How all tiers of government and industry can work together to encourage and enhance local employment and investment opportunities.

The Interface Councils understand that submissions to the Inquiry were to be made to the Parliamentary Committee by the 29th September. The Interface Councils wish to make a submission to this Inquiry. However, given the importance of the Inquiry to our communities, we would like the opportunity to give substantial input at the Inquiry.

The Interface Councils are in the process of commissioning some modelling research into sustainable local employment in the Interface. We envisage that this research will collect and model data to provide a snapshot of employment and economic patterns across the Interface local government areas. This would be useful in identifying opportunities and barriers to local economic development.

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This data could then be used to model scenarios that quantify the benefits of local employment on a social, environmental and economic indicators. For example, a scenario might illustrate how x% of workers remaining in their local government to work may reduce the traffic on local roads by y% and therefore reduce greenhouse emissions by a certain amount per year. Such scenarios may be useful in identifying ways to encourage all sectors to work together to enhance local employment opportunities.

We believe this research would be extremely valuable to the Inquiry. We would therefore like to work with the Committee in developing and delivering this research as part of the Inquiry into Local Economic Development in Outer Suburban Areas.

To develop this idea further, we would welcome an opportunity to meet and discuss how this research can be utilised by the Inquiry.

If you have any further questions, please contact me on 9742 0708 or the Interface Council's secretariat Shannon Bakker on 8317 0111.

Kind Regards



IAN ROBINS
CEO
WYNDHAM CITY COUNCIL
On behalf of Interface Councils