

Mid West

Regional Infrastructure Priorities Project 2010 Workshop Paper

November 2011



Department of
Planning



140 William Street
Perth, Western Australia

Mid West

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Mid West Regional Infrastructure Priorities Project

2010 Workshop Paper

1 Introduction

The Mid West's regional infrastructure requirements have been considered and prioritised through a process involving consultation with relevant State Government agencies and other regional stakeholders. The need for this was identified through the preparation of the draft Mid West Regional Planning and Infrastructure Framework.

This paper outlines the proceedings and consolidates the outcomes of the Mid West Regional Infrastructure Priorities Workshop held on Wednesday 24 November 2010, in the Orelia Room at the Mercure Hotel, 10 Irwin Street, Perth.

The workshop was attended by members (or nominated representatives) of the Western Australian Planning Commission's Mid West Regional Planning Committee and Infrastructure Coordinating Committee.

The workshop agenda is provided on Attachment One and the list of participants is provided on Attachment Two.

2 Workshop purpose and process

Workshop facilitator Linton Pike outlined the process proposed for the workshop and its purpose in identifying the key regional infrastructure projects for the Mid West Region for a two–five year period and in a longer term context.

Three core documents provided to participants before the workshop for their information and consideration were:

- **Workshop agenda and participant list;**
- **Project summary list: Mid West Regional Infrastructure Project** – an executive summary that lists the suggested projects under broad infrastructure categories and proposes a level of prioritisation as the start point for discussion; and
- **Project description table: Mid West Regional Infrastructure Projects** – provides more comprehensive information in support of the executive summary list.

The project summary list identified the projects proposed by agencies into four categories of prioritisation as outlined in Figure 1.

Flagship	A project that is essential to the region and needs to be completed or be substantially progressed in the next five years
High priority	A project that will provide significant economic and social benefit to the region and is essential for regional growth
Medium priority	A project that will provide valuable economic and social benefit to the region and is important for regional growth
Low priority	A project that will provide some economic and social benefit to the region and will contribute to regional growth

Figure 1: Project prioritisation categories

To prepare for the workshop, participants were asked to:

- review the project summary list document to gain an understanding of the suggested projects and priorities and to refer to the more comprehensive project description table if they need more information;
- identify any suggested changes to the proposed priority lists with an emphasis on identifying 'flagship' and 'high priority' projects;
- limit the number of suggested flagship priorities to fewer than ten as a practical and achievable consideration to the five-year horizon;
- identify any gaps in the project list; and
- consider any critical actions or associated implications in realising these projects.

3 Chairman's introduction and scene setting

The Chairman of the Western Australian Planning Commission, Gary Prattley, welcomed workshop participants and set the scene for the workshop and noted that:

- an earlier Pilbara workshop set out to achieve similar outcomes for regional priorities;
- participants should take a broader regional perspective and not focus on projects of interest from their own point of view;
- the workshop was seeking to identify key projects for future regional development;
- the Pilbara Infrastructure Planning Workshop is a good model in developing priorities for review by Infrastructure Coordinating Committee and adoption by government;
- this workshop continued that approach to the planning process as a joint and collaborative planning exercise;
- this process will guide the future determination of state, federal, private or other funding; and
- the list is developmental as the start point for discussion with considerable input already.

4 Regional planning process

Department of Planning Director Central Regions, Sean Collingwood, presented the regional planning process and noted the following key points:

- Planning framework presented.
- Sub-regional plans are proposed for:
 - Batavia Coast
 - North Midlands
 - Murchison.
- Regional and sub-regional issues exist and have been identified.

He also outlined the Western Australian Planning Framework (Figure 2), noting the importance of integrating the various levels and roles of planning.

5 Mid West investment plan

Mid West Development Commission Chief Executive Officer, Steve Douglas, introduced the Mid West Investment Plan and noted the relationship between the Plan and the Department of Planning's proposed Regional Planning and Infrastructure Framework. Mr Douglas also noted the collaboration between Mid West Development Commission and the Department of Regional Development and Lands.

Department of Regional Development and Lands Senior Project Officer, Andrew Beer, presented a more detailed overview of the Mid West Investment Plan and noted the following key points:

- The emphasis of the Mid West Investment Plan is on sub-regional and local infrastructure projects, distinguishing it from the Mid West Regional Infrastructure Priorities Project, which exclusively considers regional infrastructure projects;
- In addition to hard infrastructure (road, rail, power, communications), the Mid West Investment Plan considers a substantial number of social infrastructure projects, including health, education, housing, recreation facilities and tourism; and

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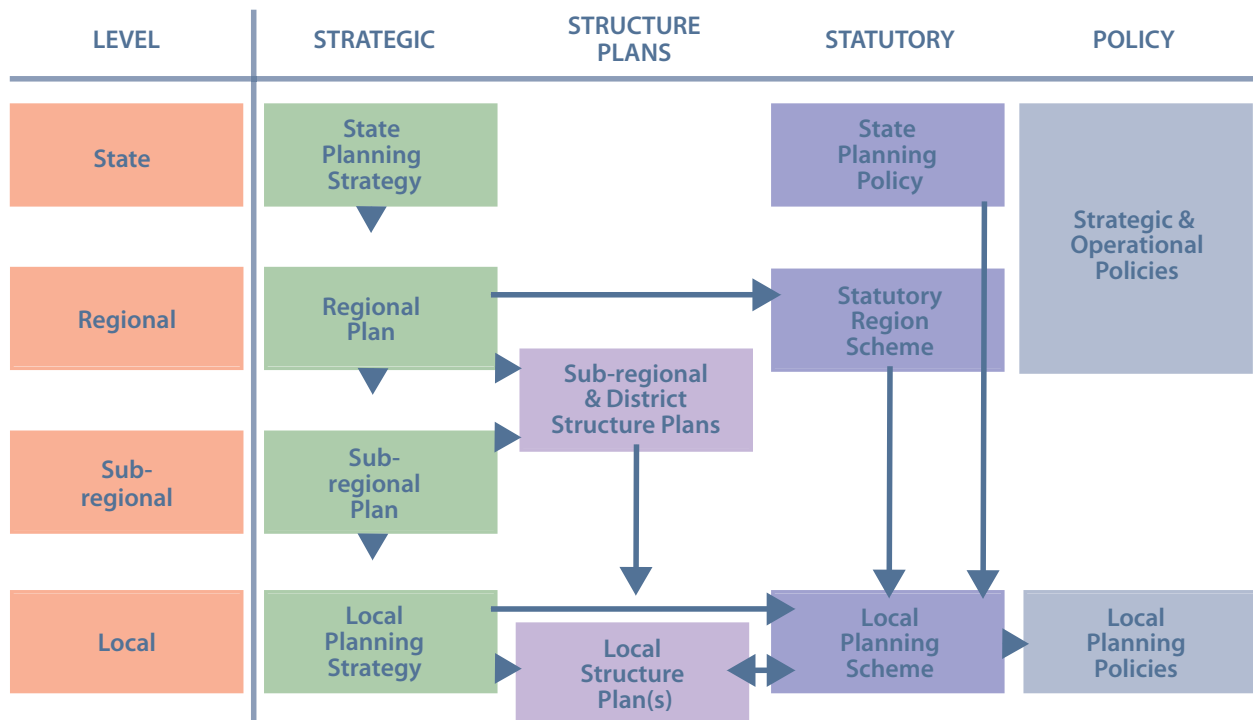


Figure 2: Western Australian Planning Framework

- As projects of a local or sub regional scale are typically focussed on in the Mid West Investment Plan, input has been provided by communities at a local government level and other local stakeholders, in addition to government agencies.

Other considerations in the development of the Mid West Investment Plan include:

- The process should successfully identify the infrastructure priorities for three sub-regions;
- The need to go beyond the infrastructure needs and also consider sub- regional and community needs;
- The Mid West Investment Plan projects will be reflected in regional priorities through this document and the Infrastructure Coordination Committee processes;
- First pass identified over 300 potential projects;
- Sub-regional workshops underway to rank projects:
 - Murchison (complete)
 - North Midlands
 - Batavia Coast.

Future direction of the Mid West Investment Plan:

- Going to Mid West Development Commission Board and the Investment Plan in early 2011;
- Submission for funding of priority projects in the 2011–12 budget papers;
- Routine re-evaluation of the progress of projects and how well they fit the current needs within the region; and
- Working on partnerships to attract leveraged funding opportunities.

6 Workshop sessions

Four workshop sessions were held to review, modify and prioritise the draft list of infrastructure projects. Participants were divided into four groups for each session. The participants in each of these groups are listed in Attachment 3.

6.1 Workshop session 1 - to confirm or amend suggested flagship projects

- Participants formed small groups (see Attachment 3) and were encouraged to provide comment on the projects in the four categories.
- Participants were asked to confirm or amend suggested flagship projects.
- Each participant was provided with a project summary list – Mid West Regional Infrastructure Projects and a document that lists the suggested projects beneath broad infrastructure categories.
- Participants were asked to focus only on suggested flagship projects for all infrastructure asset categories.
- Participants were reminded to keep the number of flagship projects to around 10 in total.

6.2 Workshop session 2 - to confirm or amend suggested high priority projects

- Participants were asked to identify suggested high priority projects.

6.3 Workshop session 3 - to confirm or amend suggested medium priority projects

- Participants were asked to identify suggested medium priority projects.

6.4 Workshop session 4 - to confirm or amend suggested low priority projects

- Participants were asked to identify suggested low priority projects.
 - Groups one and two: rail, road, ports, airports, water and energy

- Groups three and four: science and communications, social infrastructure, tourism, infrastructure planning

7 Present back and recommend regional priorities

Participants initially discussed a short suite of key suggestions for consideration when further developing and finalising the priority list. These included:

- To provide some project development coding to identify the stage the project is currently at.
- To recognise that most relate to Oakajee with a high level of co-dependence or inter-dependence. It may be appropriate or even essential to package some of these projects.
- To recognise that there is a focus on Oakajee and confirm that there aren't other critical regional infrastructure projects for the region. Eg. tourism, Indigenous training and education, tertiary training, social, environment or community-based. There is a need to follow up with other agencies.
- The focus should be on key future currently unfunded projects.
- There is a group of water-based projects that may be suited to a regional plan and catchment plan as part of an Integrated Water Management Plan.
- Most of the infrastructure planning work identified is a precursor to major capital works and should be independently progressed.

8 Summary of Mid West regional infrastructure priorities

The groups summarised and presented the outcomes of their discussions which are consolidated in the following summary. This constitutes the agreed list of regional infrastructure priorities for the Mid West region.

8.1 Flagship priority projects

Flagship priority projects	
Rail	
1	New rail lines from northern Mid West mines to Oakajee
2	New and upgraded rail lines from southern Mid West mines to Geraldton – new railway from Tilley to Karara Hill and upgrade existing rail line Morawa to Mullewa
Road	
3	Oakajee Narngulu Infrastructure Corridor Regional Road Stage 1 (Northern Section) – construct from Morrell Road to North West Coastal Highway
Ports, airports and other transport	
4	Oakajee deepwater port (Stage 1) – export facility to service foundation iron ore customers ¹
Energy	
5	Mid West Energy Project Stage 1 (Southern Section) – 330kV transmission line from Neerabup - Eneabba and a new 330/132kV terminal substation at Three Springs
6	Mid West Energy Project Stage 2 (Northern Section) – extension of Stage 1 330 kV transmission line from Eneabba – Moonyoonooka
7	Chapman - Oakajee – new double circuit 132kV transmission line
Infrastructure planning	
8	Oakajee Narngulu Infrastructure Corridor – definition of a road, rail and utility services corridor
9	Mid West Energy Strategy – to facilitate the delivery of regional energy infrastructure (including transmission and generation) to meet demand and support regional development. Potential renewable and alternative energy projects may be considered
10	Mid West Regional Water Planning; including: ² <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid West Regional Water Plan; • Allanooka-Casuarinas Groundwater Drilling Investigation; • Jurien and Arrowsmith groundwater allocation plans; and • status report on the capacity of the Mid West’s water resources to meet future mining and industrial growth demands

¹ The development of Oakajee deepwater port and associated road, rail, power and water infrastructure is considered to be the driving flagship initiative for the region. It is noted that contingency planning is needed in the event that Oakajee is not functional in a timely way or at full capacity. This would minimise any interruption to the development of the Mid West’s resource industry by improving access and facilities at Geraldton Port. For example, the current priority rankings assigned to Projects 11, 13, 17 (currently ‘high’) and Projects 36, 37 (currently ‘medium’) may need to escalate if these scenarios were to eventuate.

² The Department of Water has advised that the completion of technical and operational plans is required in order to progress the Mid West Regional Water Plan. As they provide the necessary technical information to guide planning developments, they should be prioritised over the Mid West Regional Water Plan.

8.2 High priority projects

High priority projects	
Rail	
11	Rail upgrade at Geraldton Port ¹
12	New and upgraded rail lines from southern Mid West mines to Geraldton – upgrade existing rail line Mullewa to Geraldton
13	Oakajee Narngulu Infrastructure Corridor railway – construct new rail line from Oakajee Port to existing Narngulu-Mullewa railway ¹
Road	
14	Realignment of North West Coastal Highway for access at Oakajee Port, including grade separation at Oakajee Port and Rail railway (to be privately funded and constructed)
15	Geraldton North South Highway Stage 1 – construct southern section from Brand Highway to Geraldton Southern Transport Corridor
16	Wubin - Mullewa Road upgrade – widen seal and improve alignment (section Perenjori to Morawa) ²
Energy	
17	Geraldton Port Authority power requirements – to expand existing supply capacity to port operations ¹
18	New transmission lines to other magnetite mines; incorporating Mid West Energy Project Stage 1 (Southern Section) 330KV transmission line from Eneabba to Karara mine site (via Three Springs)
19	Capacity increase for Dampier Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline and other pipelines and feeder lines
20	Extend Dampier Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline to Oakajee
Science and Communications	
21	National Broadband Network – optical fibre rollout and next generation wireless coverage to Mid West towns.
22	Square Kilometre Array – the world's largest radio telescope ³
Social infrastructure	
23	Geraldton hospital/health service Stage 2 – including bed expansion, emergency department treatment bays, labour delivery room, cancer centre, renal dialysis and high dependency unit
24	Mental health inpatient unit and co-located community health mental health service at Geraldton Health Campus
Tourism	
25	Kalbarri National Park visitor amenity enhancement – including sealing of roads to major attractions, provision of parking spaces, areas of shade and signage
Infrastructure planning	
26	Mid West Infrastructure and Services Corridor study – to investigate options for coordinated regional infrastructure provision
27	Study to examine needs for developing Mid West resource projects
28	Western Australia Regional Freight Plan – to lead the future development of the regional freight network to respond to growing economic needs
29	Mid West Rail Network Strategy – develop a strategy for an integrated rail network
30	Review Mid West Regional Road Network Plan
31	Greater Geraldton Traffic Modelling – prepare a regional traffic analysis

¹ Priority ranking may escalate as a result of contingency planning for Oakajee Port.

² This assumes that grain freight is shifted to road. Subject to review if this is not the case.

³ May escalate to 'flagship' if Australia's bid for the Square Kilometre Array is successful.

8.3 Medium priority projects

Medium priority projects	
Road	
32	Oakajee Narngulu Infrastructure Corridor Regional Road Stage 2 (Southern Section) – upgrade Morrell Road and Moonyoonooka-Narra Tarra Road
33	Access to Oakajee Industrial Estate from North West Coastal Highway and Oakajee Port – including highway intersections and grade separation at rail crossings
34	Indian Ocean Drive upgrades – improve road width and alignment (sections from Cervantes to Brand Highway)
35	Goldfields Highway – bituminise section Meekatharra to Wiluna
Ports, airports and other transport	
36	Geraldton Port – upgrade existing train unloader ¹
37	Geraldton Port – new berths and loading facilities ¹
38	Oakajee deepwater port (Stage 2) – new north breakwater/berths and land backed panamax berth to allow operation as a general purpose port
39	Geraldton airport upgrade (Stage 1) – extend existing runway or construct a full length parallel runway with associated taxiways, aprons and terminal aircraft handling capabilities to accommodate jet services
40	Magnetite slurry pipelines from mines to Geraldton Port
Water and wastewater	
41	Potable water supply for the Oakajee Port and Industrial Estate
42	Feedwater supply for the Oakajee Industrial Estate possibly sourced through groundwater or a desalination plant
43	New wastewater treatment plant located within the Oakajee Industrial Estate buffer
44	Sewerage service to Oakajee Industrial Estate lots
Energy	
45	Oakajee Industrial Estate power requirements – including a future sub-station and transmission line from the Geraldton region and a potential independent power plant
Social infrastructure	
46	Durack Institute of Technology engineering facilities
47	Indigenous development and tertiary education projects ²
Infrastructure planning	
48	Mid West Waste Water Provision investigations
49	Mid West Social Infrastructure Requirements Study – including undertaking of asset mapping and service industry projections to determine social infrastructure requirements to support major project developments
50	Mid West Future Health Facilities Study
51	Greater Geraldton Education Improvements investigation
52	Abrolhos Islands Management Plan – including investigation of tourism requirements

¹ Priority ranking may escalate as a result of contingency planning for Oakajee Port.

² Inclusion of project subject to obtaining a project scope from the nominating member.

8.4 Low priority projects

Low priority projects	
Road	
53	Geraldton Mt Magnet Road – upgrade sections including extending Wicherina passing lane
54	Brand Highway upgrades – including passing lanes between Badgingarra and Dongara, extension of existing passing lanes north of Indian Ocean Drive, realign Greenough Flats section and replace narrow Bridge No 796
55	North West Coastal Highway – dual carriageway from Utakarra Road to Green Street
56	Brand Highway – construct Dongara bypass
57	North West Coastal Highway – construct Northampton bypass
58	Geraldton Mt Magnet Road – construct Mullewa bypass
Ports, airports and other transport	
59	Geraldton airport upgrade (Stage 2) – establish instrument landing system capabilities
60	New bus/coach depot in Geraldton
Energy	
61	Chapman – Northampton – new transmission line (extension of proposed Chapman - Oakajee line)
62	Greenough River 10MW solar farm
63	Centauri 1 – 168MW gas fired power station (near Dongara)
64	Sustainable Energy Project for Square Kilometre Array – provision of renewable energy for Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory (to support Square Kilometre Array bid)
Social infrastructure	
65	Student/staff accommodation for Health Education precinct in Geraldton
66	Geraldton Senior College – upgrade visual arts building and marine science facilities
67	Geraldton Regional Art Gallery Upgrade – refurbish gallery to ensure it maintains its Class 1 rating
Tourism	
68	Geraldton Regional Visitor Information Centre – provision of large scale regional visitor information and tourism centre to cater for Australia's Coral Coast
69	Central Greenough Redevelopment – including critical restoration and preservation works to heritage buildings
Infrastructure planning	
70	Oakajee Industrial Estate District Water Management Strategy
71	Midwest Groundwater Dependant Ecosystems Vulnerability project
72	Planned update of HG 17 series report Mid West minerals province: groundwater resource appraisal
73	Geoscience Australia/Department of Water paeleochannel and alluvial aquifer project investigations in the East Murchison and Gascoyne groundwater areas
74	Civic Precinct Planning Study – to investigate the development of a significant integrated regional government precinct at the City of Geraldton-Greenough, including possible expanded convention facilities and the establishment of a significant office complex
75	Geraldton Regional Airport Technology Park – development of a high technology (broadband access) park to cater for specialised learning, industry and technology

Attachment 1

Agenda

**Mid West Regional Planning Committee and
Infrastructure Coordinating Committee
Joint Mid West Regional Infrastructure Priorities Workshop**

10:15am, Wednesday 24th November 2010

Venue: Orelia Room, Mercure Hotel, 10 Irwin Street Perth

Purpose

To identify key regional infrastructure projects for the mid west region during a two to five year horizon.

Workshop agenda

Start at	Item	By
10:15	Tea and coffee on arrival	
10:30	Workshop purpose and process	Linton Pike
10:40	Chairman's introduction and scene setting	Gary Prattley
10:50	Regional planning process	Sean Collingwood
11:00	Mid West Investment Plan	Andrew Beer
11:10	Workshop session #1 – Confirm or amend suggested "Flagship" projects	Small groups
11:35	Workshop session #2 – Confirm or amend suggested "High Priority" projects	Small groups
12:00	Workshop session #3 – Confirm or amend suggested "Medium Priority" projects	Small groups
12:20	Short break	
12:40	Workshop session #4 – Confirm or amend suggested "Low Priority" projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups 1 to 3 (Rail, road, ports, airports, water) • Groups 4 to 6 (Energy, science and communications, tourism, infrastructure) 	Small groups
1:15	Present back and agree up to 10 "Flagship" regional priorities	All
1:45	Associated agency or other implications	All
1:55	Next steps	All
2:00	Close	

Attachment 2

Workshop participants

Infrastructure Coordinating Committee members and agency representatives
Mr Gary Prattley* (Chairman, Western Australian Planning Commission; also on Mid West Regional Planning Committee)
Mr James Thom* (Department of Education)
Mr Phil Hinton (Department of Housing, on behalf of Mr Anthony de Barro*)
Mr Paul White (Department of Housing, on behalf of Mr Anthony de Barro*)
Dr Ivor Roberts (Department of Mines and Petroleum, on behalf of Mr Richard Sellers*; also on Mid West Regional Planning Committee)
Mr Eric Lumsden* (Department of Planning)
Mr Colin Slattery (Department of Regional Development and Lands, on behalf of Mr Paul Rosair*)
Ms Gail McGowan* (Department of State Development; also on Mid West Regional Planning Committee)
Mr Tony McCann (Department of Transport, on behalf of Mr Reece Waldock*)
Mr Gary Player (Department of Transport, on behalf of Mr Reece Waldock*)
Mr Hew Mortlock (Department of Treasury and Finance, on behalf of Mr Anthony Kannis*)
Ms Maree De Lacey* (Department of Water)
Ms Sue Woolhouse (LandCorp, on behalf of Mr Ross Holt*)
Ms Anne Hill* (Office of Energy)
Mr Paul Biggs (Office of Energy)
Ms Melinda MacLeod (Office of the Environmental Protection Authority, on behalf of Mr Mark Jefferies*, Department of Environment and Conservation)
Mr Steve Hiller (Water Corporation, on behalf of Ms Sue Murphy*)
Mr Peter Cartwright (Main Roads WA, on behalf of Mr Menno Henneveld #)
Mr Kevin Smith (Main Roads WA, on behalf of Mr Menno Henneveld #)
Mr Neil Chivers (Western Power, on behalf of Mr Mark de Laeter #)
Mr Raphael Ozsvath (Western Power, on behalf of Mr Mark de Laeter #)

Mid West Regional Planning Committee members and agency representatives
Mr Gary Prattley* (Chairman, Western Australian Planning Commission; also on Infrastructure Coordination Committee)
Mr Greg Kaeding* (Chamber of Minerals and Energy)
Ms Sue Hancock* (Department of Environment and Conservation)
Mr Sean Collingwood* (Department of Planning)
Dr Ivor Roberts* (Department of Mines and Petroleum; also attended on behalf of Mr Richard Sellers on the Infrastructure Coordination Committee)
Mr Phil Mirabella (Department of Mines and Petroleum)
Mr Mike Rowe* (Department of Regional Development and Lands)
Mr Andrew Beer (Department of Regional Development and Lands)
Ms Gail McGowan* (Department of State Development; also on Infrastructure Coordination Committee)
Cr John Sewell* (Local government representative – City of Geraldton-Greenough)
Cr Antonio Messina* (Local government representative – Shire of Mullewa)
Cr Simon Broad* (Local government representative – Shire of Murchison)
Mr Steve Douglas* (Mid West Development Commission)
Mr Murray Criddle (Chair, Mid West Development Commission)
Mr Russell Simpson* (Yamatji Land and Sea Council)
Other participants
Mr Tristram French (Department of Planning)
Ms Robin McAlinden (Department of Planning)
Mr Andrew Moore (Department of Planning)
Ms Katerina Neve (Department of Planning)
Ms Lisa Saraceni (Department of Planning)
Mr David Saunders (Department of Planning)

Note: Names of members of the respective committees are denoted with an asterisk (*)

Names of those who sit on the respective committees as observers are denoted with a hash (#)

Apologies

Infrastructure Coordinating Committee members and agency representatives
Ms Jodie South (Department of Health, Infrastructure Coordinating Committee member)
Mr John Chortis (Department of Planning)
Mr Martin Mileham (Department of Planning)
Ms Mala Dharmananda (Department of Premier and Cabinet on behalf of Mr Stephen Wood, Infrastructure Coordinating Committee member)
Mr Dean Davidson (professional representative; Infrastructure Coordinating Committee member)
Mr Mark de Laeter (Western Power, Infrastructure Coordination Committee observer)

Attachment 3

Workshop session table plan

Table 1	<p>Kevin Smith – Main Roads WA Peter Cartwright – Main Roads WA Steve Hiller - Water Corporation Phil Mirabella - Department of Mines and Petroleum Gail McGowan - Department of State Development Colin Slattery - Department of Regional Development Gary Player - Department of Transport Neil Chivers - Western Power Raphael Ozsvath - Western Power Suzanne Woolhouse - LandCorp</p>
Table 2	<p>Murray Criddle - Mid West Development Commission Steve Douglas - Mid West Development Commission Andrew Beer - Department Regional Development and Lands Cr John Sewell - City of Geraldton-Greenough Cr Antonio Messina - Shire of Mullewa James Thom - Department of Education Hew Mortlock - Department of Treasury and Finance Melinda Macleod - Office of the Environmental Protection Authority</p>
Table 3	<p>Greg Kaeding - Chamber of Minerals and Energy Ivor Roberts - Department of Mines and Petroleum Paul Biggs - Office of Energy David Saunders - Department of Planning Katerina Neve - Department of Planning Andrew Moore - Department of Planning Russell Simpson - Yamatji Land and Sea Council Tony McCann - Department of Transport Sue Hancock - Department Environment and Conservation</p>
Table 4	<p>Gary Prattley - WAPC Lisa Saraceni - Department of Planning Tristram French - Department of Planning Robin McAlinden - Department of Planning Sean Collingwood - Department of Planning Phil Hinton - Department of Housing Simon Broad - Shire of Murchison Maree De Lacey - Department of Water Anne Hill - Office of Energy Mike Rowe - Department of Regional Development and Lands</p>

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