

Media release

For immediate release

Date: 21 January 2016

City of Subiaco united against City of Perth Bill's forced boundary change

The City of Subiaco strongly opposes the City of Perth Bill and the detrimental impact it will have on the whole Subiaco community. A key focus of the bill is the forced boundary change which leaves the City of Subiaco and its community severely disadvantaged.

The bill would force 3000 City of Subiaco residents south of Aberdare Road to become part of the City of Perth, causing a question mark for residents about a lack of representation and the level of confidence in their new council.

This move would also see a loss of \$44 million for the City of Subiaco over the next ten years, forcing a potential rate increase on remaining residents, cuts to services and staff losses.

City of Subiaco Mayor Heather Henderson says "We are committed to keeping Subiaco whole. First and foremost we are concerned about our residents, many of whom have indicated their desire to remain part of the City of Subiaco."

"With the departure of the City of Perth's Chief Executive yesterday and the turmoil the organisation has seen over the last twelve months, I would suggest that with such ongoing instability and transition, now is not the right time to take on 3000 new residents."

The legislation was announced without any consultation with the City of Subiaco or the community and there has been no formal means or opportunity to reverse or alter the decision.

"All Western Australian local governments need to be aware of the significant ramifications of a forced boundary change, which under the current legislation could happen to any local government in WA." Mayor Henderson added.

Currently sitting in the Upper House, if the City of Perth Act comes into effect, over 1300 rateable properties will transfer to the City of Perth.

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