File: 1051

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12 May 2015

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**Dear Commissioners** 

RE: 2015 Electoral Boundary Review

I write to you on behalf of the Shire of Murray in relation to the proposal that could see part of the Peel Region's largest municipality, the City of Mandurah included in the metropolitan area.

The Shire of Murray remains committed to the Peel Region. Given that Mandurah has approximately 80,000 residents, it is a crucial component to ensuring the Peel region flourishes with future strong economic development, employment and training opportunities, the rebirth of the agriculture industry and a coordinated and strong tourism industry.

The Shire of Murray and City of Mandurah work extremely well with other stakeholders as part of the Peel Regional Leaders Forum (PRLF). All local governments have joined with the Peel Harvey Catchment Council, Peel Community Development Group, Regional Development Australia and the Peel Development Commission to form a strategic action based group that will guide the strategic direction to achieve positive outcomes as listed above. Already the PRLF has developed Stage 1 of the Murray Regional Equestrian Centre which has recently been completed.

The Shire of Murray and City of Mandurah are working cooperatively in

- the development of the future Nambeelup Industrial Park which will provide for 7000 direct and another 10,000 indirect jobs;
- planning for the future Regional Sporting precinct on Fiegert Road;
- working towards positive social outcomes in relation to the homeless, unemployed and the social disconnect that is increasing in the region;
- developing a cooperative and unified tourism structure that will foster regional tourism outcomes.

The Peel region is now ready to add significant economic value to the state of Western Australia. Any proposal to integrate Mandurah in the metropolitan area will result in a loss of Mandurah's, and potentially the Peel's regional identity and a loss of community of interest.

The City of Mandurah along with the Shires of Murray, Boddington, Serpentine Jarrahdale and Waroona forms the Peel Region under the Regional Development Commissions Act 1993. The Peel Region has much to offer the State given its rural, agricultural, industrial and mining nature. By withdrawing the City of Mandurah from this region will significantly fracture the region and be a major constraint in allowing the Region to reach its full potential. Keeping the City of Mandurah is critical for the region and will provide many economic and social benefits to all the residents of the Peel Region.

Yours sincerely

Dean Unsworth

**Chief Executive Officer** 

Mendo

Cc: Hon. Kim Hames MLA

Member for Dawesville

Hon. Murray Cowper

Member for Murray-Wellington

Hon. David Templeman MLC

Member for Mandurah

Hon. Nigel Hallett MLC

Member for South West Region

Hon. Dr. Sally Talbot MLC

Member for South West Region

Mr Mark Newman

Chief Executive Officer City of Mandurah