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24 August 2015

Mr David Kerlake  
 Electoral Commissioner  
**Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners**  
 Level 2  
 111 St Georges Terrace  
 Perth WA 6000

Dear Mr Kerlake

**CITY OF WANNEROO SUBMISSION FOR PROPOSED 2017 ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAME CHANGES**

The City of Wanneroo (**City**) makes this submission to the Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners (**Commissioners**) to object to the following proposed Electoral District name changes:

District	Proposed Name	Commissioners' Rationale
Girrawheen	Erickson	The name Erickson is in recognition of Frederica Erickson, a prominent 20th century naturalist, historian and botanical artist.
Ocean Reef	Hale	The name Hale is in recognition of the contribution of Bishop Matthew Hale to education and his work among Indigenous Australians in the early colony of Western Australia.

The reasons for the objection are:

1. unnecessary confusion for electors;
2. Mrs Federica Erickson has no connection with the local area of Girrawheen;
3. proposed boundaries to Girrawheen do not include new suburbs but instead cedes the remainder of Cullacabardee, Warwick and Hamersley; and
4. Bishop Matthew Hale has no connection with the local area of Ocean Reef.

**Reasons for Objection**

Unnecessary Confusion for Electors

The City is concerned that the proposed Electoral District name changes will create a level of confusion and uncertainty for electors. The Electoral District names of

Girrawheen and Ocean Reef have been in place for a significant period of time and at least the last three successive State Government elections.

Notwithstanding that the proposed boundary change for the Electoral District of Ocean Reef cedes the suburbs of Ocean Reef and Mullaloo, the City submits that the Commissioners should consider a more appropriate and less confusing name for the Electoral Districts that demonstrates a connection with the local area that electors are at least knowledgeable of.

#### Mrs Federica Erickson has no connection with the local area of Girrawheen

Notwithstanding that Mrs Frederica Erickson was a distinguished and prominent twentieth century naturalist, historian and botanical artist who received the middle ranking Australian Honour as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM), the City submits that Mrs Erickson has no demonstrable connection to the geographical locality in which the Electoral District is situated. Mrs Erickson was not born nor did she live in the locality and spent most of her adult life in rural areas, in particular Esperance.

Further, the City submits that such a name change does not embrace the grass root community of the locality, being an area designated and used as market gardens during the early to mid-twentieth century.

#### Proposed Boundary Changes to the Electoral District of Girrawheen

The proposed boundary change to the Electoral District of Girrawheen does not include any new suburbs but instead proposes to cede the remainder of Cullacabardee, Warwick and Hamersley. Without the inclusion of any new suburbs, there is no significant change to the Electoral District of Girrawheen and for electors and therefore the City submits that there is justification for a change in the Electoral District's name.

#### Bishop Matthew Hale has no connection with the local area of Ocean Reef

The City acknowledges that the proposed boundary changes to the Electoral District of Ocean Reef are significant and numerous including the:

1. gains of Tamala Park, Clarkson, Neerabup west of Wanneroo Road and Joondalup locality north of Moore Drive and west of Joondalup Drive; and
2. ceding of Ocean Reef and Mullaloo,

and where such proposed boundary changes results in the suburb after which the Electoral District is named is no longer part of the Electoral District, then a change in name is appropriate.

Notwithstanding that Bishop Matthew Hale contributed greatly to education and undertook significant work among and with Indigenous Australians in the early colony of Western Australia, the City submits that Bishop Hale has no demonstrable connection to the geographical locality in which the Electoral District is situated. Bishop Hale was not born nor did he live or contribute to the specific locality.

Further, the City submits that such a name change does not embrace the grass root community of the locality, being a coastal area with significant bushland including the Neerabup National Park.

### **Summary**

It is the City's submission that the Commissioners consider the reasons for the objection to the proposed name changes to the Electoral Districts of Girrawheen (to Erickson) and Ocean Reef (to Hale) and in particular:

- a) maintain the name Girrawheen; and
- b) undertake further investigation to determine a more appropriate name for the Electoral District of Ocean Reef that provides for a connection to the geographical locality.

Yours sincerely



Daniel Simms  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**