



May 2023

Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment **1403/57** (Minor Amendment)



Whiteman Screen Production Facility

Amendment Report

City of Swan

**Metropolitan Region Scheme
Amendment 1403/57
(minor amendment)**

Whiteman Screen Production Facility

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City of Swan



May 2023

The Western Australian Planning Commission acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of this land. We pay our respect to Elders past and present, their descendants who are with us today, and those who will follow in their footsteps.

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MRS Amendment 1403/57 Amendment Report
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This document is available in alternative formats on application to the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage Communications Branch.

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The Metropolitan Region Scheme

What it is and how it is amended - minor

Planning Perth's future

Perth is currently home to more than 2 million people and this is anticipated to grow to 3.5 million by 2050.

To meet this growth, land must be identified for future housing, employment opportunities, transport, conservation and recreation.

The Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS) provides for this by defining what land can be used for. It is also the means by which landowners can be compensated for land acquired for public purposes.

The role of the WAPC?

The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) has statewide responsibility for planning how land in metropolitan and regional areas can be used and developed. The WAPC comprises a Chair and 16 members, representing industry, government and the community.

The WAPC is a statutory authority and operates in accordance with the *Planning and Development Act 2005*. It is supported by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, which provides professional and technical expertise, administrative services and corporate resources.

What is the Metropolitan Region Scheme?

The MRS is a large town planning scheme which defines how land can be used in the Perth metropolitan area, dividing it into broad zones and reservations. The metropolitan area stretches from south of Rockingham to north of Yanchep and east of Mundaring.

The MRS uses a set of maps and a scheme text to set the planning rules and identify the various zones and reservations.

This plan has been in operation since 1963 and provides the legal basis for planning in the Perth metropolitan area.

The MRS is amended frequently as the region grows and changes.

What is an amendment?

An amendment to the MRS changes the zoning or reservation of land to allow for a different land use.

When a rezoning or a new reservation is considered, it is classified as either a major or a minor amendment and is advertised to seek comment from landowners, the broader community and all levels of government. Under the Act, the process for proposed major and minor amendments is different.

This process allows for extensive community consultation and discussion in Parliament, prior to a final decision being made.

How is the Metropolitan Region Scheme amended?

The WAPC is responsible for maintaining the MRS, including reviewing and initiating changes where necessary.

The amendment process is regulated by the *Planning and Development Act 2005*. The Act requires an amendment to be consistent with both the *Swan River Trust Act 1988* and the *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990* and does not allow for an amendment to occur within the defined area of which a redevelopment scheme applies.

The amendment proposed in this report is being made under the provisions of section 57 (often referred to as a minor amendment).

The minor amendment process includes (also see the diagram on page viii):

- Request submitted and considered by the WAPC.
- WAPC determines to either progress or reject application, classifying it as either a major or minor amendment.

- If progressed, the application is referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to set the level of environmental assessment. If the EPA requires an environmental review, this is carried out before the amendment is advertised.
- Proposed amendment is advertised for public comment. Advertisements are placed in local and statewide newspapers and the information is made available on www.dplh.wa.gov.au/mrs-amendments. Landowners directly affected by a proposed amendment are contacted in writing. Where there is an environmental review, this is also made available for comment.
- WAPC receives public submissions over a period of 60 days.
- WAPC reviews the proposed amendment in light of both the submissions and planning advice provided by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.
- WAPC provides recommendation to the Minister for Planning whether to accept, reject or modify the proposed amendment.
- Minister considers proposed amendment.
- If approved, with or without modification, the amendment becomes legally effective in the MRS with the publishing of a notice in the Government Gazette. If declined, the amendment is discarded.
- Within three months of an MRS amendment being finalised, all affected local governments must initiate an amendment to its local planning scheme to match the new zonings.

Zones and reservations

Zones and reservations in the MRS are broad categories to define how land can be used and developed. The following descriptions are a guide only.

Zones

Urban: areas in which a range of activities are undertaken including residential, commercial, recreational and light industry.

Urban deferred: land identified for future urban uses following the extension of urban services, the progressive development of adjacent urban areas, and resolution of any environmental and planning requirements relating to development.

The WAPC must be satisfied that these issues have been addressed before rezoning to urban.

Central city area: strategic regional centres for major retail, commercial and office facilities as well as employment, civic, business and residential uses.

Industrial and special industrial: land on which manufacturing, processing, warehousing and related activities are undertaken.

Rural: land on which a range of agricultural, extractive and conservation uses is undertaken.

Private recreation: areas of significance to the region's recreation resource, which are (or are proposed to be) managed by the private sector.

Rural - water protection: rural land over public groundwater areas where land use is controlled to avoid contamination.

Reservations

Land reserved for community purposes. It may be reserved to protect a resource or to provide areas for infrastructure.

Parks and recreation: land of regional significance for ecological, recreation or landscape purposes.

Railways: provides for public transit routes, freight rail lines and associated facilities such as marshalling yards, maintenance depots and park n' ride stations.

Port installations: regional maritime shipping facilities.

State forests: areas of woodland located on Crown land and managed under the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984*.

Water catchments: water sources protected for high quality public water supply. These areas have strict controls on land use to avoid pollution of the water resource.

Civic and cultural: significant civic precincts and buildings.

Waterways: permanent inland and coastal waters including many rivers and reservoirs.

Public purposes: land for public facilities such as hospitals, high schools, universities, prisons, utilities for electricity, water and treatment of wastewater, commonwealth government and other special uses.

Primary regional roads: important regionally significant roads as part of the planned road network that are currently, or proposed to be declared, under the *Main Roads Act 1930*.

Other regional roads: roads of regional significance in the planned road network for which the planning responsibilities are shared by the WAPC and local governments.

What if my land is rezoned?

Landowners may find that an amendment seeks to rezone their property, for example from rural to urban or urban deferred.

If the zoning is changed, landowners do not have to change their lifestyle or the way they use the land. However, depending on the new zone, there may be opportunities to change the land use, such as seek approval to subdivide or apply to develop it in some way that suits the new zoning.

The WAPC realises that many people choose their properties because they like them as they are and may not want to change from, for example, a rural-residential lifestyle to an urban area. Others are keen to change the land use.

For these reasons, amendments to the MRS are advertised so that all affected landowners and the broader community have time to examine the proposal and provide their comment.

What if my land is reserved?

Land is reserved because it will eventually be needed for a public purpose such as parks and recreation or other regional roads.

If your land is proposed to be reserved in an advertised amendment, you can continue to use and enjoy your property. Generally, reserved land can remain in private ownership until it is needed for the purpose for which it is reserved.

To protect landowners, there are procedures for acquisition or compensation by the WAPC. These are outlined in *Your Property and the planning system – region schemes*, a leaflet reproduced at the back of this report and online at <https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/your-property-and-region-schemes>.

How can my views be heard?

You can lodge a submission during the advertised period:

- online at www.dplh.wa.gov.au/mrs-amendments.
- in writing to Western Australian Planning Commission, Level 2, 140 William Street, Perth 6000 (a submission form is included at the back of this report).

Publications

Amendments made to the MRS using the provisions of section 57 will in most cases have information published under the following titles:

Amendment report

This document is available from the start of the public submission period of the proposed amendment. It sets out the purpose and scope of the amendment, explains why the proposal is considered necessary, and informs people how they can comment.

Environmental review report

The EPA considers the environmental impact of an amendment to the MRS before it is advertised. Should the EPA require formal assessment, an environmental review is undertaken, and that information is made available for comment at the same time as the *Amendment Report*.

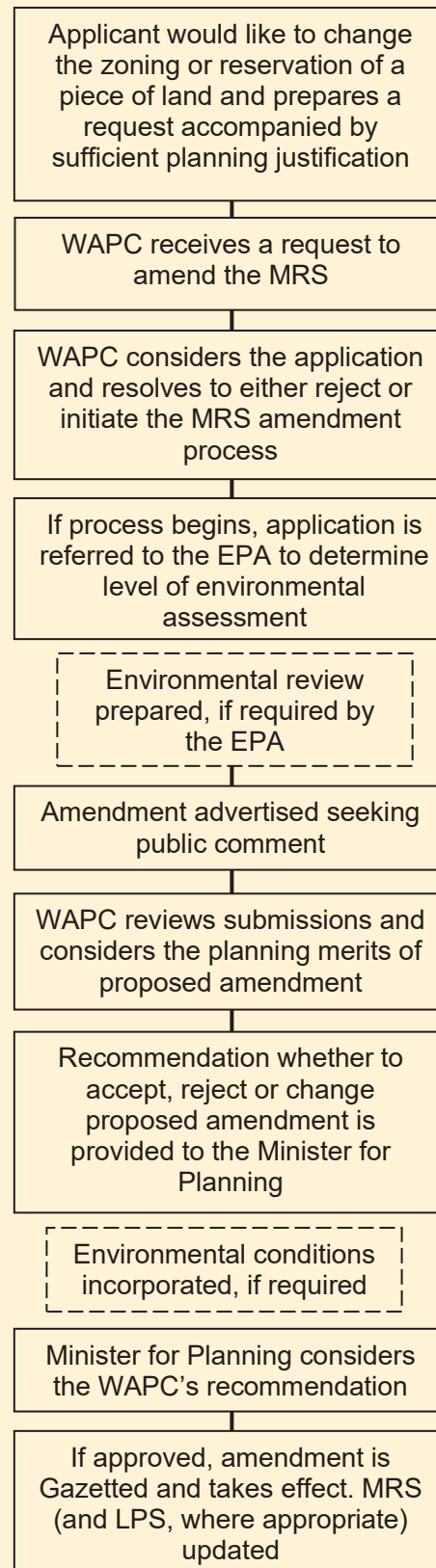
Report on submissions

This publication documents the planning rationale, determination of submissions received, and the recommendations for final approval of the amendment made by the WAPC.

Submissions

All written submissions received on the proposed amendment are reproduced as a public record.

A simple diagram of the amendment process.



Abbreviations

AHA	Aboriginal Heritage Act
BMP	Bushfire Management Plan
DCP	Development Control Policy
DPLH	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
DWMS	District Water Management Strategy
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
LPS	Local Planning Scheme
MRS	Metropolitan Region Scheme
PCA	Planning Control Area
PIA	Planning Investigation Area
SPP	State Planning Policy
SWALSC	South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council
WAPC	Western Australian Planning Commission

Amendment Report

Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1403/57

Whiteman Screen Production Facility

Amendment Report

1 Planning objective

The purpose of the amendment is to transfer approximately 15.69 ha in Whiteman from the Parks and Recreation reservation to the Public Purposes - Special Uses reservation in the Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS). The amendment also zones 1.72 ha to the Urban zone in order to provide for the widening of Marshall Road and align with the abutting zoning.

The amendment will facilitate the development of a new screen production facility following development approval being issued.

2 Background

The proposed amendment is approximately 13 km north-east of the Perth CBD and is owned by the WAPC. The site forms part of Lot 811 Drumpellier Drive, Whiteman and is removed from the wider Whiteman Park as a result of the Morley-Ellenbrook railway project works to the north. The site abuts Urban zoned land to the west, is in close proximity to residential development to the south and is located along Marshall Road.

The amendment will facilitate the development of new screen production facilities and will include purpose built sound stages and other onsite screen production facilities such as production offices, art department and wardrobe, workshops, a backlot, parking and set storage.

The site is largely cleared of vegetation due to historical agricultural uses. There are no Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities within the site and it is not located within or abuts a Bushforever area. The site is partly within a Multiple-Use Wetland.

The subject land is located within the City of Swan and if the MRS amendment is finalised the Public Purposes – Special Uses reservation will be reflected in the City of Swan Local Planning Scheme No. 17 (LPS 17).

Proposed Screen Production Facility

The objective of the project is to deliver, develop and operate a globally competitive film and television studio screen production facility within Western Australia, to develop the local screen industry and attract domestic and international screen productions to the State.

The project is driven by an identified gap of screen production infrastructure, where that without investment in adequate studio infrastructure, Western Australia will miss out on attracting significant screen productions to the State.

The State Government has selected this location as the preferred site for the studio due to a number of technical efficiencies relating to layout, functionality, access and proximity to infrastructure. The screen production facility layout is to include a range of sound stages, production offices, construction workshops, office space and supporting amenities.

3 Scope and content of the amendment

The amendment proposes to rezone various properties as described in Part 1 of this report and depicted on the Amending Figure – Proposal 1. The amendment seeks to zone the following:

- Public Purposes - Special Uses: 15.69 ha
- Urban zone: 1.72 ha.

The total area of the land the subject of the rezoning is approximately 17.41 ha.

4 Discussion

Strategic Planning Context

Perth and Peel @ 3.5 Million / North-East Sub-Regional Planning Framework

The *Perth and Peel @ 3.5 Million* document provides a snapshot of the Perth and Peel regions in the future and makes the case for change to a more considered, connected, consolidated urban form. The *North-East Sub-regional Planning Framework* identifies the subject site as “Open Space”.

The amendment site forms part of the *North Bennett Springs (Marshall Road) Planning Investigation Area (PIA)* in the *North-east Sub-Regional Planning Framework*. The PIA has identified the site and surrounds as “Open Space”, noting that resolution of final planning matters in North Bennett Springs (around Marshall Road) will inform the preferred land-use outcome.

On 9 November 2022, the Government announced the subject site as the preferred location for Western Australia’s first dedicated screen production facility and that it was considering a Market-Led Proposal. Therefore, the amendment is consistent with the North Bennett Springs (Marshall Road) PIA outcomes as the State Government has confirmed this site as the preferred location for a future Screen Production Facility.

State Planning Policy 2.8 - Bushland Policy for the Perth Metropolitan Region

State Planning Policy 2.8 - Bushland Policy for the Perth Metropolitan Region (SPP 2.8) aims to provide a policy and implementation framework that will ensure bushland protection and management issues are addressed and integrated with broader land use planning and decision-making. In general, the policy does not prevent development where it is consistent with policy measures and other planning and environmental considerations.

The site is located within land that is primarily cleared of vegetation and does not contain any Threatened or Priority Ecological Communities and it is not located within or abuts a Bushforever area.

Draft State Planning Policy 2.9 - Planning for Water

Draft State Planning Policy 2.9 - Planning for Water (draft SPP 2.9) seeks to ensure that planning and development considers water resource management and includes appropriate water management measures to achieve optimal water resource outcomes at the various stages of the planning process. The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) has approved a District Water Management Strategy (DWMS) for this site.

State Planning Policy 3.7 - Planning for Bushfire Risk Management

State Planning Policy 3.7 - Planning for Bushfire Risk Management (SPP 3.7) forms the foundation for land-use planning to address bushfire risk management in Western Australia. It is used to inform and guide decision-makers, referral authorities and proponents to achieve acceptable fire protection outcomes on planning proposals in bushfire-prone areas.

A Bushfire Management Plan (BMP) has been prepared for the site and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services recommends that the amendment can proceed, as minor modifications to the BMP can be undertaken in the subsequent planning stage.

State Planning Policy 5.4 - Road and Rail Noise

State Planning Policy 5.4 - Road and Rail Noise (SPP 5.4) seeks to minimise the adverse impact of road and rail noise on noise-sensitive land use and / or development within the specified trigger distance of major transport corridors. The Policy also seeks to protect the functionality of the State's transport corridors by protecting them from encroaching incompatible development.

The proposal is in close proximity to Marshall Road, however as no sensitive land uses are proposed, the provisions of SPP 5.4 are not applicable to this proposal.

Development Control Policy 1.6 - Planning to Support Transit Use and Development

Development Control Policy 1.6 - Planning to Support Transit Use and Development (DCP 1.6) seeks a sustainable urban form by maximising the opportunities to integrate land use with public transport and minimise transport via the private motor vehicle. Where possible and appropriate, the policy seeks the intensification of activities and the promotion of uses that make better use of public transport.

DCP 1.6 is applicable as the proposed Malaga Rail Station is within 750 metres of the subject site. However, the proposed film studio and associated facilities is considered a land intensive use with limited location benefits to a future rail station.

Planning Control Area 174

The subject land and surrounds is located within Planning Control Area 174 (PCA 174) which identifies that the land may be required for civic and cultural amenity, parks and recreation, schools and associated car parking areas. The development of a screen production facility is considered to be compatible with the general intent of PCA 174, in particular the "civic and cultural amenity" use.

Statutory Context

Environment

The DWER has advised that the proposed amendment is unlikely to raise any environmental issues.

Urban Water Management

The DWER has approved a DWMS for the site.

Water, Wastewater and Drainage Infrastructure

The Water Corporation raises no objections to the proposed amendment and advises that a structure plan (or similar) should be prepared for the North Bennett Springs (Marshall Road) Planning Investigation Area.

In the interim, the proposed amendment area will need to be serviced as a standalone development by water and sewer infrastructure funded by the proponent including off-site upgrades.

Transportation

Main Roads WA raises no objections to the proposed amendment.

5 Aboriginal heritage

The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (AHA) provides for the protection and preservation of Aboriginal heritage and culture throughout Western Australia, including places and objects that are of significance to Aboriginal people. Aboriginal sites and materials are protected whether or not they have been previously recorded or reported.

The process of rezoning or reservation of land in a region scheme is not in itself directly affected by the AHA. Proposed changes to land-use at MRS amendment stage are broad by nature and do not physically interfere with the land. Consideration of any protection that may be required is addressed more specifically at later stages of the planning process, typically being a local planning scheme amendment and when preparing a local structure plan.

Proponents of proposals are advised to familiarise themselves with the *Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines* (the Guidelines). These have been developed to assist proponents to identify any risks to Aboriginal heritage and to mitigate risk where heritage sites may be present. The Guidelines are available electronically at https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2021-05/AH-Due-diligence-guidelines_0.pdf.

Nevertheless, in recognising the importance of having reliable Aboriginal information on land and the values attached to it, the WAPC and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC) for the provision of Aboriginal consultative services. All MRS amendment proposals likely to be of interest to Aboriginal persons are now referred to SWALSC for comment before being released for public submission. SWALSC is the recognised Native Title Representative Body for Western Australia's south west region and as such is also well placed to provide advice on Aboriginal heritage.

This amendment was not referred to SWALSC prior to initiation as it was not expected to impact on Aboriginal heritage values. However, the amendment will be referred to SWALSC during the public advertising period.

6 Coordination of local and region scheme amendments

Under Section 126(3) of the *Planning and Development Act 2005* the WAPC has the option of concurrently rezoning land being zoned Urban under the MRS to a 'Development' zone (or equivalent) in a LPS. In accordance with standard practice a decision on the concurrent LPS amendment of the Urban component of the amendment would be made after the public submission period.

7 Substantiality

The *Planning and Development Act 2005* allows for amendments to the MRS to be processed as either "minor" or "major" amendments depending on whether they are considered to constitute a substantial alteration to the MRS or not. WAPC Policy *DC 1.9 - Amendment to Region Schemes* sets out the criteria for deciding whether the major or minor process should be followed. The criteria relate to a variety of matters, not all of which relate to every amendment. This amendment is recommended to be processed as a 'minor' amendment for the following reasons:

- The size and scale of the proposed amendment is not considered regionally significant. It does not reflect a regional change to the planning strategy or philosophy for the metropolitan region.
- The proposed amendment will primarily facilitate the provision of a future screen production facility in which the location has been strategically identified by the State Government and is consistent with the North Bennett Springs (Marshall Road) PIA.
- The City of Swan and relevant State Government agencies have not raised matters which prevent the initiation and advertising of the amendment.

8 Sustainability appraisal

The proposed amendment will allow further detailed planning to facilitate the development of Western Australia's first screen production facility consistent with the goals and objectives of the WAPC's *North-East Sub-Regional Planning Framework* which addresses the sustainability of proposed development in general.

9 Environmental Protection Authority advice

The proposed amendment was referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for advice on whether environmental assessment would be required.

The EPA has advised that the proposed amendment does not require formal assessment under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. A copy of the notice from the EPA is included at appendix A.

10 The amendment process

The procedures for amending the MRS are prescribed by the *Planning and Development Act 2005*. The amendment proposed in this report is being made under the provisions of section 57 of that Act.

In essence, the procedure for an amendment not constituting a substantial alteration to the MRS (often referred to as a minor amendment) involves:

- formulation of the amendment by the WAPC
- referral to the EPA for environmental assessment
- completion of an Environmental Review (if required) in accordance with EPA instructions

- public submissions being sought on the proposed amendment (including Environmental Review if required)
- consideration of submissions
- approval, with or without any modifications in response to submissions, or refusal to approve, by the Minister
- the amendment takes legal effect with Gazettal of the Minister's approval.

An explanation of this process can also be found in the front of this report, entitled 'The Metropolitan Region Scheme, what it is and how it is amended'.

11 Submissions on the amendment

The WAPC invites people to comment on this proposed amendment to the MRS.

The amendment is being advertised for public submissions for a period of 60 days from Friday 5 May 2023 to Friday 7 July 2023.

Copies of the amendment are available for public inspection at the:

- i) Western Australian Planning Commission, 140 William Street, Perth
- ii) City of Swan
- iii) State Reference Library, Northbridge.

Online submissions are encouraged via: <https://consultation.dplh.wa.gov.au>.

Written submissions commenting on the amendment should be sent to:

The Secretary
Western Australian Planning Commission
Locked Bag 2506
PERTH WA 6001

or by email to:-

RegionPlanningSchemes@dplh.wa.gov.au

and must be received by 5 pm Friday 7 July 2023.

All submissions received by the WAPC will be acknowledged.

For your convenience a submission form (form 57) is contained in this report (appendix E). Additional copies of the form are available from the display locations and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage website <https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/mrs-amendments>.

You should be aware that calling for submissions is a public process and all submissions lodged will become public. All submissions are published and made available when the Minister has made a determination on the amendment. Advice of disclosure and access requirements are shown on side two of the submission form.

Before making your submission, it is recommended that you read the information in appendix D of this report regarding preparing a submission.

12 Modifications to the amendment

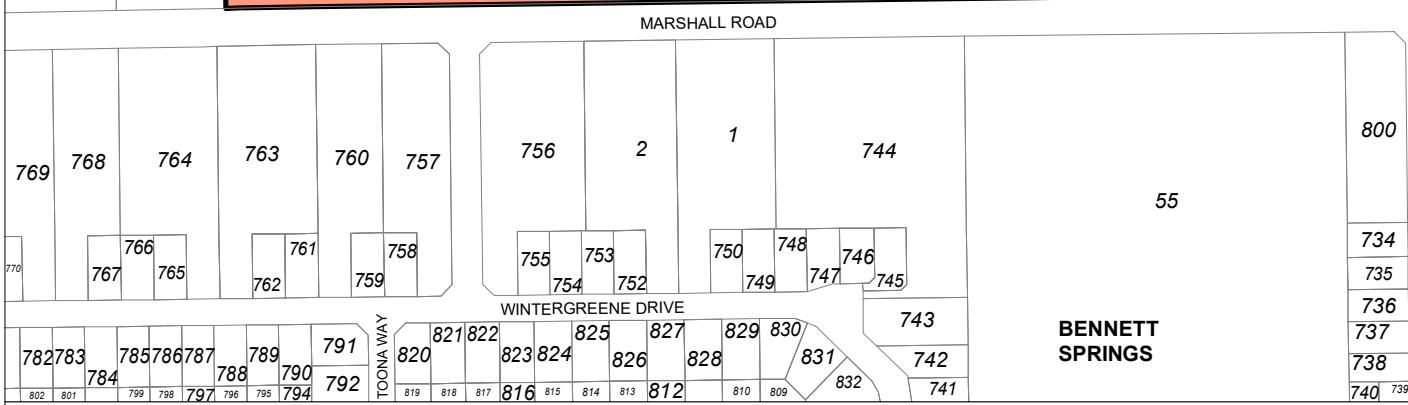
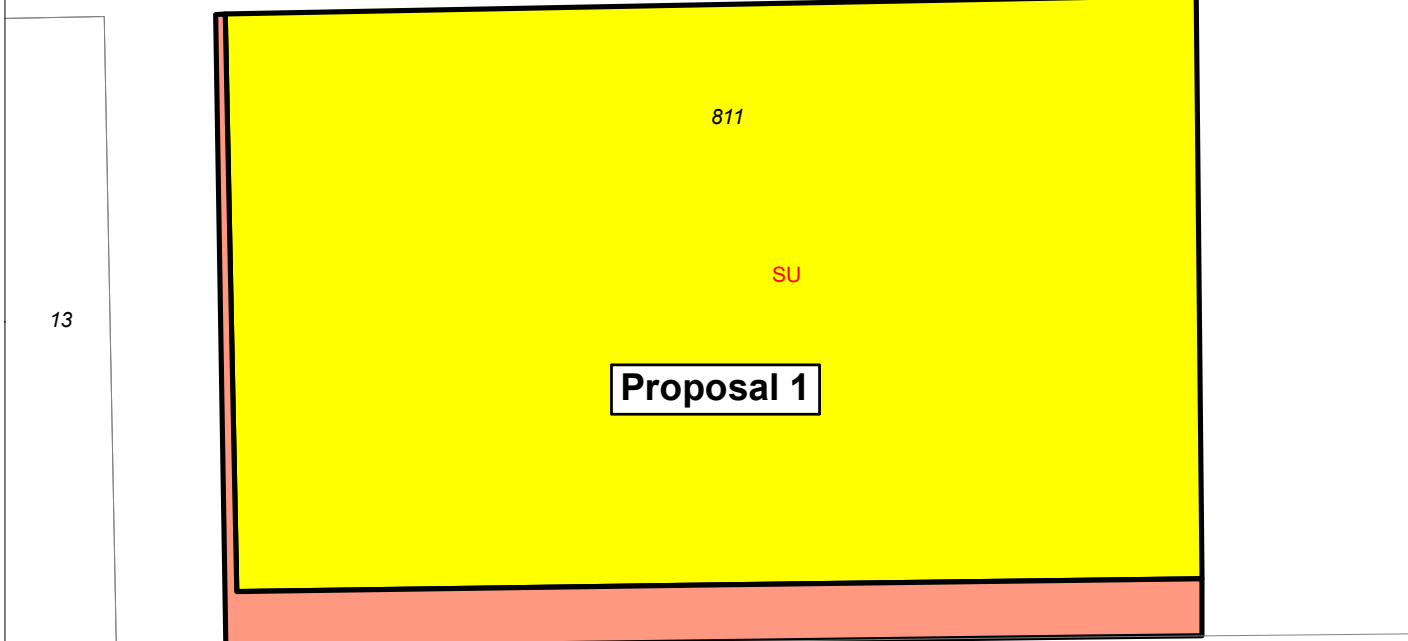
After considering any comments received from the public and government agencies, the WAPC may recommend that the Minister modify the amendment. The Minister may approve the amendment, with or without any modifications in response to submissions, or decline to approve.

13 Final outcome

The recommendations of the WAPC, including any modifications, along with the determination of the Minister, are published in a report on submissions. Anyone who has made a submission, along with affected landowners, will be notified of the outcome when the amendment is gazetted to give it legal effect.

MRS Amendment 1403/57
Whiteman Screen Production Facility
Amending Figure
Proposal 1

WHITEMAN





**Whiteman Screen Production Facility
Proposed minor amendment
as advertised**

29 March 2023

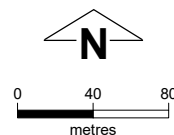
Proposal 1

Proposed Amendment:

-  SU Public purposes reservation - special uses
-  Urban zone

Oracle reference no: 4215

Version number: 2



Appendix A

Notice of environmental assessment

Ms Sam Fagan
Secretary
Western Australian Planning Commission
Locked Bag 2506
PERTH WA 6001

Our Ref: APP-0000320
Enquiries: Gerard O'Brien, 6364 6499
Email: gerard.obrien@dwer.wa.gov.au

Dear Ms Fagan

DECISION UNDER SECTION 48A(1)(a)
Environmental Protection Act 1986

SCHEME	Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1403/57
LOCATION	Part Lot 811 Drumpellier Drive Whiteman
RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	Western Australian Planning Commission
DECISION	Referral Examined, Preliminary Investigations and Inquiries Conducted. Scheme Amendment Not to be Assessed Under Part IV of the EP Act. No advice given (Not Appealable).

Thank you for referring the above scheme to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).

After consideration of the information provided by you, the EPA considers that the proposed scheme should not be assessed under Part IV Division 3 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

Please note the following:

- For the purposes of Part IV of the EP Act, the scheme is defined as an assessed scheme. In relation to the implementation of the scheme, please note the requirements of Part IV Division 4 of the EP Act.
- There is no appeal right in respect of the EPA's decision to not assess the scheme.

A copy of the EPA's Determination is attached and will be made available to the public via the EPA website.

Yours sincerely



Prof. Matthew Tonts
Chair of the Environmental Protection Authority

19 April 2023

Encl. EPA Determination



Environmental Protection Authority

s.48A Referrals

Title: Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment 1403/57

Location: Part of Lot 811 Drumpellier Drive, Whiteman

Description: The amendment will reclassify 15.69 ha from a 'Parks and Recreation' reservation to a 'Public Purposes – Special Uses' reservation and 1.72 ha to a 'Urban' zone to facilitate the development of a television studio screen production facility and provide for the widening of Marshall Road and align with the abutting zoning.

Ref ID: APP-0000320

Date Received: 31/03/2023 **Date Sufficient Information Received:** 31/03/2023

Responsible Authority: Western Australian Planning Commission

Contact: Anthony Muscara

Preliminary Environmental Factors: Inland Waters and Social Surroundings


Potential Significant Effects: Implementation of the scheme amendment may result in impacts to inland water values. The site is also within a heritage site area.

Protection: Implementation of the amendment is unlikely to result in significant impacts to environmental values. A District Water Management Strategy has been approved for the site. Impacts will also be addressed through the future development application process and compliance with the requirements of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (AHA)* (transitional period) and the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021*.

Determination: **Referral Examined, Preliminary Investigations and Inquiries Conducted. Scheme/Scheme Amendment Not to be Assessed under Part IV of the EP Act. No Advice Given. (Not Appealable).**

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has carried out some investigations and inquiries before deciding not to assess this scheme. In deciding not to formally assess schemes, the EPA has determined that no further assessment is required by the EPA.

This Determination is not appealable.

Chair's Initials: 

Date: 19 April 2023

Appendix B

List of plans supporting the amendment

**Metropolitan Region Scheme
Amendment 1403/57**

Whiteman Screen Production Facility

as advertised

Amending Plan 3.2805

Appendix C

Your property and the planning system - region schemes

Your property and the planning system – region schemes

Rights to compensation in relation to reserved land

The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) has statewide responsibility for planning how land in metropolitan and regional areas can be used and developed. It does this by reserving and zoning land for immediate and future development through region schemes and/or planning control areas.

Region schemes

The WAPC administers three region schemes which classify land into zones and reservations:

- Metropolitan Region Scheme
- Peel Region Scheme
- Greater Bunbury Region Scheme.

Zones are large areas identified for purposes such as industry (industrial zone) and residential (urban zone).

Reservations are required for public purposes such as schools, railways, major roads, and parks and recreation.

How do you amend a region scheme?

Schemes can be amended as regions grow and change. This process begins with the local government, landowner, State Government or WAPC making a request to amend a scheme. The WAPC considers the request and can either refuse or approve the initiation of an amendment.

The amendment process is lengthy and in general, takes between 12 to 24 months to complete and includes extensive consultation with landowners and the broader community. In some cases amendments are subject to assessment by the Environmental Protection Authority. Amendments can be classified as Major or Minor, in accordance with *Development Control Policy 1.9 – Amendment to Region Schemes*.

Planning Control Area

In some instances, the WAPC will use a planning control area (PCA) to protect land required for a particular purpose from development until it may be reserved in one of the region schemes. A PCA acts in a similar manner as a region scheme but can be applied as a temporary measure to enable an amendment to be progressed. This also provides affected landowners with rights to claim compensation while a decision is made to reserve land or not. A PCA is valid for up to five years.

This means the WAPC is the decision-making authority for any development applications on land within a PCA. A person must not commence and carry out development within the PCA area without the prior approval of the WAPC. There are penalties for failure to comply with this requirement.

The same compensation and alternative purchase rules apply as with a region scheme. However, if compensation is paid and the PCA or reservation is reduced or removed in the future, the compensation is repayable in whole or part upon the subsequent sale or subdivision of the property.

What if your land is proposed to be reserved?

The WAPC approaches landowners on land proposed to be reserved and invites them to comment through the amendment process.

The Government will ultimately acquire reserved land, but as the reservations are strategic and long-term requirements, the land can generally remain in private ownership until it is needed for the public purpose. Several options are available to the owners of reserved land:

- **Retain ownership of your property** and continue quiet enjoyment until it is needed for the public purpose. You may complete any development or subdivision approved prior to the reservation taking effect. Under non-conforming use rights, you may continue to use the property for the purpose for which it was legally being used immediately before the reservation came into effect.
- **Sell the property on the open market** to another person(s). The WAPC recognises that the reservation may make this difficult. Subject to acquisition priorities and the availability of funds, the WAPC would be willing to consider purchasing a reserved property if an owner is unable to achieve a private sale on the open market. This does affect your right to otherwise claim statutory compensation (outlined in the compensation section below).
- **Offer the property for sale** to the WAPC. Subject to acquisition priorities and the availability of funds, the WAPC would be willing to consider purchasing a reserved property. The WAPC purchases a property at its current market value, ignoring the impact of the reservation and proposed public purpose. The WAPC obtains two independent valuations to provide it with advice on the value of the property.

Am I entitled to claim compensation?

If your land is reserved in a region scheme or subject to a PCA and **you are the owner of the land when it was first reserved or the PCA was declared**, you may be able to make a claim for compensation for injurious affection if:

1. **Private Sale** – you sell the property on the open market at a reduced price (due to the effect of the reservation or PCA);
or
2. **Refused development** – the WAPC has either refused a development application over the property or approved it subject to conditions that are unacceptable to you.

What is injurious affection?

Injurious affection occurs when the value of a piece of land is affected by the application of a reservation or restriction for a public purpose.

How do I claim compensation?

1. Private sale

If you wish to sell your property on the open market at a reduced price (affected value), you will need to complete a *Notice of Intention to Sell* form, which is available online at www.dplh.wa.gov.au. The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage will establish the extent of the reservation and forward the notice to the Board of Valuers.

The Board of Valuers will determine the value of the property as if there was no reservation or PCA (unaffected value). You may wish to attend the board's meeting to present any matters you believe are relevant to the value of your property.

Following the board's decision:

- The board will advise you of the unaffected value of the property.
- You pay the board's valuation fee to the department and you will be advised of the affected value of the property (as determined by the WAPC) – the minimum price for which you can sell the property and receive the full amount of compensation (the difference between the affected and unaffected values). The valuation fee is refundable upon the sale of the property and the payment of compensation.
- You then arrange the sale of the property (either privately or through an agent) – the sale price must not be less than the affected value.

You (and your agent) must inform prospective purchasers that you are selling the property at a reduced price and that you will be claiming compensation for injurious affection from the WAPC. You must also include a special condition in the offer and acceptance.

- After you sell the property, you can make a claim for compensation for injurious affection through the WAPC **within six months** of the property being sold (registered at Landgate).
- After the WAPC pays compensation, the WAPC will lodge a notification on the Certificate of Title to identify that it has paid compensation, which is only payable once.
- If the property does not sell within one year of the board's valuation, you may ask the board to revalue the property. The sale process is then repeated.
- Alternatively, you may wish to ask the WAPC to purchase the property, as you have been unable to sell it privately. The WAPC will purchase the property at its then fair market value (unaffected value).

2. Refused development

If the WAPC refused your development application or approved it subject to unacceptable conditions, you may make a claim for compensation for injurious affection **within six months** of the WAPC's decision.

The WAPC will either pay compensation or may elect to purchase the property instead of paying compensation. If the WAPC elects to purchase the property, it obtains valuations for the fair market value (unaffected value) as at the date of the election to purchase.

What is compulsory acquisition?

If land is required for a reservation and has not been previously acquired or compensation has been claimed, the Government may compulsorily acquire the property. The WAPC will obtain independent valuations and make an offer of compensation, in accordance with the *Land Administration Act 1997*.

How can I view a region scheme?

- online at www.dplh.wa.gov.au/your-property-and-region-schemes
- office of the WAPC and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage Level 2, 140 William Street, Perth
- any local government office.

The WAPC operates in accordance with the *Planning and Development Act 2005* and receives administrative support from the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.

This information is correct as at January 2019.

Appendix D
Preparing a submission

Preparing a submission

The WAPC welcomes comment on proposed amendments to the MRS from interested individuals, groups and organisations.

What is a submission?

A submission is a way to express your opinion and provide information. It is an opportunity to explain why the amendment should be supported, withdrawn or modified. Suggestions of alternative courses of action are also welcomed.

Making a submission is not the same as voting in an election. The number of submissions received for or against a proposal will not in itself determine the result. Rather, it is the reasoned argument of why a particular thing should or should not be done. Your submission will assist the WAPC in reviewing its planning proposal before proceeding. Advertised proposals are often modified in response to the public submission process.

What should I say?

Your comments should focus on the particular issues that arise from the proposed amendment. If there are a number of components in the amendment, please indicate exactly which ones you are addressing.

It is important that you state your point of view clearly and give reasons for your conclusions and recommendations. These may include an alternative approach or other ways for the WAPC to improve the amendment or make it more acceptable. Indicate the source of your information or argument where applicable.

If you prefer not to write your own comments, you may consider joining a group interested in making a submission on similar issues. Joint submissions can increase the pool of ideas and information.

Before lodging your submission

The WAPC prefers to receive submissions online at <https://consultation.dplh.wa.gov.au>, however, hardcopy submissions can also be accepted (form 57 – appendix E).

Please remember to complete all fields in the submission form including your name, contact details and whether you would like to attend a hearing. Please limit the number of attachments, where possible, ensuring they are directly relevant to the proposed amendment you are commenting on.

The closing date for submissions and how to lodge them is shown on form 57 and in the submissions on the amendment section of the amendment report.

Some amendments may be subject to an environmental review. Under these circumstances, the WAPC will forward a copy of any submission raising environmental issues to the EPA.

You should be aware that all submissions lodged with the WAPC are subject to regulations on disclosure and access, and your submission will become a public document.

Appendix E

**Submission form for this amendment
(form 57)**

