



ADELE CARLES MLA

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20 October 2011

Dear ~~XXXX~~,

RE: PROPOSED HIGH STREET UPGRADE - UPDATE

I write to you about pending road works, designed to upgrade High Street to National freight network standards. By way of update I advise:

- (1) Option 4 emerged as the preferred option after many years of stakeholder consultation. The Gibson Park Precinct, the group representing locally affected residents, agreed at their meeting in May that Option 4 was their preferred option and sought my support for this.
- (2) In recent months, some members of the community have expressed an interest in supporting an alternative option, namely Option 4a and I committed to seeking additional advice on the viability of that option.
- (3) I have now obtained such advice, including the Safety Auditor's Assessment which concludes that Option 4 is safer than 4a. The audit identifies fundamental safety problems with Option 4a, largely due to the geometry and tighter curve radius, which I cannot ignore. I cannot support an unsafe option.

I enclose a letter from the Minister's office that I received last week, explaining the differences between Option 4 and 4a. If you would like a copy of the Road Safety Assessment, please contact my office or visit my website.

I will continue to call for more containers on rail and for the budgeted Fremantle freight rail improvements to be started. Container numbers will double in the next 10 years, meaning that Fremantle faces years of increasing traffic pressure. In my view, the only practical, long term solution is for a second container port to be built south of Fremantle, with an integrated freight rail network to prioritise the movement of containers by rail. I am urging the Government to start planning a second port and freight rail network now.

Yours sincerely,

Adele Carles MLA,
Member for Fremantle

