

CITY OF GERALDTON-GREENOUGH - MERU REZONING

Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

- (1) Can the minister advise on the progress of rezoning the Meru triangle and the Allen triangle in Meru, in the former Shire of Greenough, from general farming to light industrial?
- (2) Can the minister advise members when this rezoning will be finalised?

Hon SALLY TALBOT replied:

On behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. The minister has replied in the following terms -

- (1) Both the Meru and Allen triangle areas are within the Narngulu industrial area buffer. The Geraldton region plan recommends that detailed land use and development planning be undertaken for these areas before subdivision is considered. The former Shire of Greenough initiated the rezoning of these pieces of land, despite the fact that the detailed planning had not been done. This has the potential to zone the land, despite the absence of development design that will deliver the best outcome for the industry users, the most appropriate lot sizes, and the best way of meeting the significant transport needs of the area, without possible constraint on or conflict with the long-term industrial uses at Narngulu. The Department for Planning and Infrastructure has appointed planning consultants to prepare the overall plans for the areas and discussions are underway with the City of Geraldton-Greenough and landowners. The city confirms that it supports this work being done before subdivision of the land can occur. Draft plans are expected by the end of September 2007 and will go to the council with that design certainty in place before the rezoning of the areas can progress.
- (2) The Department for Planning and Infrastructure has three rezoning amendments for this area under consideration: two for west of Edward Road and one for east of Edward Road. One of the rezoning amendments west of Edward Road is nearing final approval and the other two have yet to be approved for advertising for public comment. The department is committed to these matters as a priority and will continue to work with the city and landowners.