

7 May 2024

Native Vegetation Regulation Department of Water and Environmental Regulation Locked Bag 10 Joondalup DC, WA 6919

Via email: info@dwer.wa.gov.au.

Re: CPS 10525/1 – Shire of Toodyay - Toodyay-Bindi Road

The Wildflower Society of Western Australia (hereafter referred to as 'the Society') makes this submission in response to an application by the Shire of Toodyay to clear trees in an area proposed for widening of the Toodyay-Bindi Road in the locality of Coondle. The Society opposes this clearing as it has demonstrated previously that clearing is not required for works of this nature, where widening by 1 m on either side is to be carried out as indicated in this application.

No biological survey has been provided to establish the ecological values of the vegetation proposed for clearance. The Society requests a copy of the document that the Shire of Toodyay indicates is being prepared to report on a biological survey to be completed.

In April 2022, members of the Society staged a protest on the Northam-Goomalling Road following the refusal of Main Roads to observe the following principles:

- 1. Carry out widening on one side of the road with the most room available to accommodate the works required.
- 2. Retain all large trees for protection of habitat for fauna.
- 3. Provide protective barriers around large trees that exist within the lateral clearance zone.
- 4. Place drainage behind trees where it was not able to fit the drainage structures between te road and the tree.

Main Roads redesigned the works to allow 30 trees to be retained and did not remove any additional trees following consultation on-site.

The Society believes the same principles can be applied in this instance. There are other engineering solutions that can be applied to the proposed works to avoid removal of these 13 trees. The Society is prepared to meet with the engineers/supervisors from the Shire of Toodyay to discuss the application of these solutions to the proposed works.



The Society would also appreciate the opportunity to discuss this application for a clearing permit with the Assessing Officer/s from the Native Vegetation Branch prior to completion of permit application CPS 10525/1.



http://www.wildflowersocietywa.org.au/