BUILDING BETTER REGIONAL CITIES – KARLOO WANDINA PROJECT

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Abstract

The Karloo-Wandina project is a joint initiative of the City of Greater Geraldton and the Department of Housing to provide affordable housing and high-order road & services infrastructure to the growing Geraldton community. This significant undertaking is jointly funded by both federal and state governments, as well as the City. The $30M trunk road and utilities component of the project, including 3 new roundabouts and a bridge spanning the Southern Transport Road & Rail corridor, is being managed by the City of Greater Geraldton. The new 5km Karloo-Wandina link road will connect the southern suburb of Wandina to the eastern suburb of Karloo, substantially improving accessibility for both and reducing volumes on the heavily-used Brand Highway. The new road will also link the northern suburbs to the recently-acquired Southern Districts Sportsfields, which will be a major sporting hub in the future. The trunk infrastructure needs to be established prior to land development activities taking place, by both the City and the Department of Housing, which will see in the order of 1,500 lots ultimately developed. Though largely a greenfields project, a significant engineering challenge within the project was crossing the existing road and rail of the Southern Transport Corridor. Safe clearance was required over the road and rail and then under the existing 132kV power lines that were in close proximity. The project is well underway and is planned to be completed prior to the end of March, 2014.

Key Words: Road, Bridge, Roundabouts, Joint Venture, Affordable Housing, Federal funding, Stakeholders, Main Roads, Rail, HV Power