



Save Perth Hills

North Stoneville

FACT SHEET



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This information might help you select topics to write about for your WAPC deputation. Include one, or as many points as you like, using your own words and speaking from your heart!

1. General background:

- North Stoneville opposed by the community for 26 years.
- 957 public submissions received by Shire of Mundaring (January 2019) overwhelmingly objecting to North Stoneville.
- 1500 people rallied in Mundaring against the plan. (April 2019)
- 1200 people attended when Council voted, unanimously, against the plan (August 2019)
- Politicians from every side and level (State and National) oppose North Stoneville.
- Mundaring Shire wants to protect Perth's Hills and safeguard its community from urbanisation by rezoning the site back to Rural.
- North Stoneville is 555 hectares (5.5 square kms) and is 155 hectares bigger than Kings Park.
- Population of 4000+ increases Stoneville's population by a massive 200%.

2. Bushfire Risks

- The site is a permanent Extreme Bushfire Zone and Mundaring Shire is Australia's 5th highest-at-risk-of-fire Shire. (*CSIRO State of the Climate Report 2018*)
- Only two external fire exits, Roland Rd and Stoneville Rd, create a potential fire trap
- Area is highly fire prone - serious fires, 2003, 2008 and 2014. (60 homes lost).
- WA's Bushfire Policy: '*Avoid any increase in threats of bushfire to people, property and infrastructure. The preservation of life and management of bushfire impact are paramount.*'
- **Climate Change** increases bushfire risks: decreasing rainfall, increasing temperatures, more Extreme and Catastrophic Bushfire days.(Bureau of Meteorology)
- **2020 Summer of Fires - Royal Commission**
 - 33 lives lost, 3000+ homes and businesses destroyed, millions of native animals died.
 - Planning and Zoning is a Term of Reference, recognising the need to plan differently for bushfire prone communities.
 - Embers travel 100's of metres and more (DFES Safety Campaign 2020) making Satterley's claim for a "100 metre Safe Zone" dangerous and potentially deadly.
- High costs of building to Bushfire Alert Levels (BAL) in high bushfire risk zones
- Two schools of 1500 children, teachers, staff increase evacuation risks. Parents would race in causing traffic gridlocks trapping residents trying to escape on just two fire exits.

3. Road Risks

- No public transport. 8 kms from Mundaring, 4000+ residents reliant on private vehicles meaning thousands more cars and traffic movements each day on our rural roads.
- Main Roads' network struggles - multiple accidents on Great Eastern Highway including 3 fatalities in May and June.
- Seaborne, Brooking, Stoneville and Roland Roads are rural design, gravel sidings, single lane, for local traffic only – North Stoneville will add 11,200 extra vehicle movements, every day.
- Risks of 1500 extra school children and teachers to school drop off zones already under pressure on Roland, Seaborne and Brooking Roads.

4. Waste Water Treatment Plant (Sewerage works)

- This technology is untested in Hills geology.
- Privately owned: what happens if owner goes broke, or it's impacted by fire or frequent, prolonged power outages? Backups and overflows will occur.
- Risks of contamination of pristine ground water, used by many as their only water source. Sits next to Suzannah Brook Catchment, Water Corp WA refuses to be involved.
- Who pays ongoing costs? Shire residents in rates?
- In first years, residents' waste will be trucked offsite, multiple times a week - noise, smell, traffic risks on Roland and Toodyay Roads.

5. Destruction of Hills Environment

- Perth's Hills are environmentally sensitive, part of an International Biodiversity Hotspot
- The Mundaring Shire's Strategic Community Plan for 2020 – 2030 puts Protection of the Natural Environment as Number One priority.
- 200 hectares of natural bush and habitats, ancient Jarrah and Marri trees, will be destroyed.
- Local fauna: eagle and cockatoo nesting and feeding sites, native marsupials' habitat.
- Quote Drew Wallace's 3-year investigation, concluding North Stoneville holds high conversation value - found [here](#)
- Link to Echo article on Drew <https://echonewspaper.com.au/three-year-study-shines-spotlight-on-environment/>
- Impact on mammals, birds and reptiles of potentially hundreds of introduced domestic cats.

6. Tourism – loss of unique economic growth potential.

- The Hills are Perth's backyard, and the 'lungs' of Perth that help to cleanse Perth's air.
- Preserve and develop Perth Hills as a natural retreat and tourist haven, for recreation, education and connection to the fast-diminishing natural environment.
- Tourists won't come to see urban sprawl – instead, let's model Perth Hills on the Adelaide Hills which enjoy 'protection' as a highly valued environment and tourist attraction.