

(Debra Bishop)

I'm a Stoneville resident of almost 20 years. I call on Mundaring Shire Council to recommend the WAPC refuse Structure Plan 34 because the Bushfire Management Plan does not adequately address the extreme fire risk.

Populating **Australia's 5th highest fire risk shire** with 4000 extra residents, surrounded by an Extreme Fire Zone - renders this plan **IN**-capable of approval.

Fire is an insurmountable risk.

SP34 conflicts with this Shire's Bushfire Management Plan, which states: ***Bushfire risk in the Shire cannot be overstated. Fire hazard, to Shire residents, is anticipated to increase due to climate change, hotter, drier, extreme weather, longer fire seasons. ...*** a position supported by CSIRO and Australian Bureau of Metrology's **State of the Climate Report December 2018**.

600 years' collective wisdom from Australia's former fire chiefs – including ex-DFES Commissioner Wayne Gregson - who lives in the Hills, tell us: ***"Australia is unprepared for escalating climate change disasters, and governments are putting lives at risk because we have too few fire-fighting assets."***

DFES' review of the 2014 fire states:

- *In the lead up to Stoneville, **126 incidents** were logged with DFES. Five, which ran concurrently, **had heavy resource commitments**. After Stoneville started, **58 more incidents** were logged, three, requiring heavy resourcing.*

So, Councillors, you must consider SP34 in the context of future catastrophic fire days like 2014, because, experience and science tell us, **we will not be the only Shire on fire.**

There are limited numbers of fire appliances – limited numbers of fire fighters.

If concurrent fires burn – DFES confirms, communities will be lost.

SP34 flies in the face of **WAPC's Fire Policy 3.7 / Section 5.1** - which explicitly states -

- **Avoid any increase** in the threat of bushfire to people, property and infrastructure.

Yet this plan for **4000 extra people**, explodes the local population **by 200%**.

The developer confirms '***there will be no gas available to the area***'.

So let's add 2900 gas bottles attached to each of these confined and suburban style homes – and then add 1,450 BBQ gas bottles – the outcome, in an ember attack, will be nothing short of catastrophic – for us all.

As many mitigations we might conjure up, they will not combat these increasingly insurmountable risks.

Councillors, on August 27 you have the opportunity to say, **we must step back and consider carefully** how we plan fire prone communities.

Do not relegate SP34 to a desktop exercise, where on paper, it's 'capable of approval.'

SP34, in reality is capable of claiming lives.

Serious errors render this report inaccurate and potentially misleading for formal consideration.

Inexplicably the 2008 Stoneville fire is omitted.

Inexcusably, the wrong year is mentioned for the horrific blaze of 2014.

This report must be re-assessed and re-written to reflect the true state of fire history, so you – our elected Councillors – and the WAPC, can properly determine and then vote that this plan is, indeed, **incapable of approval**.