



## MEDIA STATEMENT

**Tony McRae MLA**  
*Member for Riverton*

28<sup>th</sup> May 2003

### **McRae moves to block Roe Highway alignment through wetlands**

Riverton MLA, Tony McRae has declared he will do everything he can to block any future Government from building Roe Highway through the Beeliar wetlands in Bibra Lake.

“The Liberal Party/SOS plan for Roe Highway is environmental vandalism and must not be allowed to happen,” Mr McRae said.

“Their plans to extend Roe Highway west of the Freeway would put bulldozers through the middle of the Beeliar Wetlands.

“Liberal Leader, Colin Barnett has declared this as a priority for the next Conservative Government and the SOS front run by local Liberals as well as many Melville Councillors are in full support.

“I will be taking my plans for a re-think on the alignment of Stage 7 of Roe Highway to Minister Alannah MacTiernan.

“I want to put in place a Roe Highway connection to the Freeway that blocks out forever any chance the Liberal/SOS group have of building through the Beeliar wetlands.

“Re-drawing the connection of Roe Highway to the Freeway will also mean taking into account future links to the industrial areas to the south.

“The whole approach of the SOS group has been divisive and with their successful lobbying of the Federal Government will cause traffic chaos for Canning and Melville residents.

“That’s never been my vision and it’s time the SOS group joined with me and the community to get the best outcomes,” Mr McRae said.

“The Melville Ratepayers Association has been creative and proposed a realignment of Roe Highway and I’m taking that idea back to the Minister.

Mr McRae said the Government’s freight movement plans were already being put in place and having a positive effect on total traffic throughout the south metropolitan region.

The Government’s freight reform strategy includes:

- connecting Roe Highway to the Freeway;
- increasing rail freight;
- reducing empty truck trips;
- making safety and efficiency upgrades to major freight routes; and,
- planning for a new outer harbour.

Mr McRae said that he would also be writing to the local Federal MP, Darryl Williams asking him to reject the Liberal/SOS lobby group strategy.

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