

## **CITY OF JOONDALUP**

Objection to the  
Proposed loss of the Legislative Assembly  
Seat of Joondalup

and

Division of the Suburb of Joondalup  
between two new electoral seats.

May 2003.

## **Introduction**

The City of Joondalup is concerned and lodges its strongest objection to the proposed redistribution of State seat electoral boundaries as is currently proposed by the Electoral Distribution Commissioners and outlined in the publication "Western Australia's Proposed Electoral Boundaries May 2003" (the document), with the proposed loss of the seat named 'Joondalup'.

The City is also concerned and strongly objects to the proposed treatment of the suburb of Joondalup dividing it between the proposed two new electoral seats of Heathridge and Mindarie.

The City is also concerned and strongly objects to the proposed boundary meandering through the suburb of Ocean Reef dividing it between the proposed two new electoral seats of Heathridge and Mindarie.

Two maps indicating the State electoral boundaries of the proposed new seats of Heathridge and Mindarie and suggested changes to those boundaries as recommended by the City are attached for information.

## **What is proposed – the concerns**

In reviewing the proposals as outlined in the document, the main concerns for the City include:

1. The loss of the State Legislative Assembly seat name of "Joondalup"; and
2. The division of the suburb of Joondalup between the two new seats of Mindarie and Heathridge with the proposed boundary running along Shenton Avenue; and
3. The division of the suburb of Ocean Reef with location of the proposed boundary meandering through the northern section of the suburb and dividing it between the two new seats of Mindarie and Heathridge.

## **Boundary redistribution criteria**

The Electoral Distribution Act 1947 at Section 7 identifies the key determinants to be considered by the Electoral Distribution Commissioners when re-drawing the electoral boundaries within the State. These are:

- a) community of interest;
- b) means of communication and distance from the capital;

- c) physical features;
- d) existing boundaries of regions and districts;
- e) existing local government boundaries;
- f) the trend of demographic change.

### **Where proposed boundaries do not meet criteria**

It is considered that the proposed new boundaries as outlined in the document, do not meet several of the criteria that must be taken into consideration by the Electoral Division Commissioners when determining new boundaries.

To demonstrate the above claim and provide explanation in support of the City's concerns and objection, comments have been prepared relating to the above criteria and outlined as follows:

### **Community of interest**

#### **1.1 Retention of the name Joondalup**

The name 'Joondalup' immediately brings to mind a place of significance, the location of an established Central Business District, having numerous businesses for retail and support industries providing valuable services to the people of the north metropolitan region and forming the hub of a major regional centre.

The location of Joondalup has been planned and supported by successive State Governments to be the second most important regional centre north of the Capital City of Perth and is the most significant centre in the north metropolitan region.

As an established major regional centre, Joondalup should be treated like other major regional centers in the State and be represented by a single State Legislative Assembly member rather than what is currently proposed, where two members will represent different parts of Joondalup. This can only bring unnecessary confusion to the business representatives and residents in the area.

Naming the proposed new electoral seat "Heathridge" while containing the majority of the Joondalup Central Business District within its boundaries, is considered a retrograde step which does not recognize the importance of Joondalup as a major regional centre. Heathridge is a dormitory suburb of Joondalup and is relatively unknown in comparison to Joondalup which is readily recognised by the majority of the population within the State.

Joondalup also has an established high national and international profile which supports the City's argument for the recommended name change.

It is strongly recommended that the name Joondalup be retained as a Legislative Assembly seat by changing the proposed name of the new electoral seat of Heathridge.

## **1.2 Inclusion of the Joondalup suburb in the Joondalup electoral seat**

The use of Shenton Avenue as the proposed boundary between the new seats of Heathridge and Mindarie divides the suburb of Joondalup and takes no account of the strong community of interest existing within the whole suburb. In addition this proposal would leave Joondalup north of Shenton Avenue as the only part of a developed residential suburb east of the Mitchell Freeway Reserve within the proposed new seat of Mindarie.

The current proposal effectively isolates the northern section of Joondalup from both new seats with major physical features separating it. The community of interest of the northern section of the suburb Joondalup is clearly with the rest of the suburb and Joondalup CBD and bears no relationship whatever with the proposed seat of Mindarie.

It is strongly recommended that the whole of the suburb of Joondalup be retained within the proposed new Legislative Assembly seat currently referred to as Heathridge and recommended to be called Joondalup.

## **1.3 Inclusion of Ocean Reef suburb within the proposed Mindarie seat**

The proposed boundary dividing the new seats of Mindarie and Heathridge meanders through the suburb of Ocean Reef in what appears an obvious attempt to balance the number of electors to reach the quota within both seats. However in doing so, the boundary does not recognize community of interest within the suburb.

It is considered that the current proposed boundary is divisive of the Ocean Reef community and will cause unnecessary confusion to residents if retained. The opportunity exists to redraw the boundary along major physical features and restore the community of interest within the suburb as well as achieve the balance of electors required within both new seats.

It is strongly recommended that the whole of the suburb of Ocean Reef be retained within the proposed new Legislative Assembly seat referred to as Mindarie by redrawing the boundary from Shenton Road along Marmion Avenue to Ocean Reef Road, then to the coast as is currently proposed.



## **2 Physical features, Existing boundaries of regions and districts and Existing local government boundaries.**

### **2.1 Retention of the name Joondalup**

Joondalup is the home and name of the second most populous local government district within the State, having its Civic and Administration Centre which are significant buildings, within the Joondalup CBD. Joondalup is well established as the main centre of education in Western Australia with the head office of West Coast College of TAFE and the new head office of Edith Cowan University to be opened shortly, plus the new Western Australian Police Academy, a sector of Curtin University and other subsidiary learning institutions.

Joondalup has a major public hospital, police station and local court house, major sporting facilities, is major destination stop for the light rail system and already has numerous buildings typifying the major centre it is. It is a well planned modern city with excellent transport facilities catering for motorists and pedestrians alike.

Whilst the current proposed boundary through Joondalup does follow a major road being Shenton Avenue, it is considered that this would adversely impact on the operation of CBD and separate the Joondalup Health Campus and other businesses immediately north of Shenton Avenue from the CBD.

### **2.2 Inclusion of the Joondalup suburb in the Joondalup electoral seat**

It is considered that the Shenton Avenue boundary as proposed will result in unnecessary confusion which could easily be avoided. A far better result would be achieved by having the proposed boundary redrawn along the other major physical features of:

- The eastern local government boundary along Lake Joondalup north to Burns Beach Road;
- West along Burns Beach Road to the Mitchell Freeway Reserve; then
- South along the Mitchell freeway Reserve to Shenton Avenue.

The above recommended boundary would see the retention of the whole of the suburb of Joondalup within the proposed seat of Heathridge (Joondalup).

### **1.3 Inclusion of Ocean Reef suburb within the proposed Mindarie seat**

It is considered that the meandering boundary through Ocean Reef as proposed will result in unnecessary confusion which could also be easily avoided. A far better result would be achieved by having the proposed boundary redrawn along the other major physical features of:

- Following Marmion Avenue south from Shenton Avenue to Ocean Reef Road;
- Following Ocean Reef Road west to Boat Harbour Quays to the coast.

The above recommended boundary would see the retention of the whole of the suburb of Ocean Reef within the proposed seat of Mindarie.

### **Proposed New Boundary for the new seat of Joondalup**

The proposed boundary changes as recommended by the City for the Legislative Assembly seat of Joondalup and as an alternative to what is proposed by the Electoral Distribution Commissioners, would be as follows:

Burns Beach Road in the north to the Mitchell freeway reserve;  
 South to Shenton Avenue then west to Marmion Avenue;  
 South to Ocean Reef Road then west to Boat harbour Quays, then west to the coast.  
 South along the coast to Nothshore Avenue (as per WAEC proposal)  
 East along Aristride Avenue to Dampier Avenue, South to Whitfords Avenue (as per WAEC proposal) east to Mitchell Freeway, North to Treetop Avenue (as per WAEC proposal) north to Shenton Avenue, then north to Burns Beach Road.

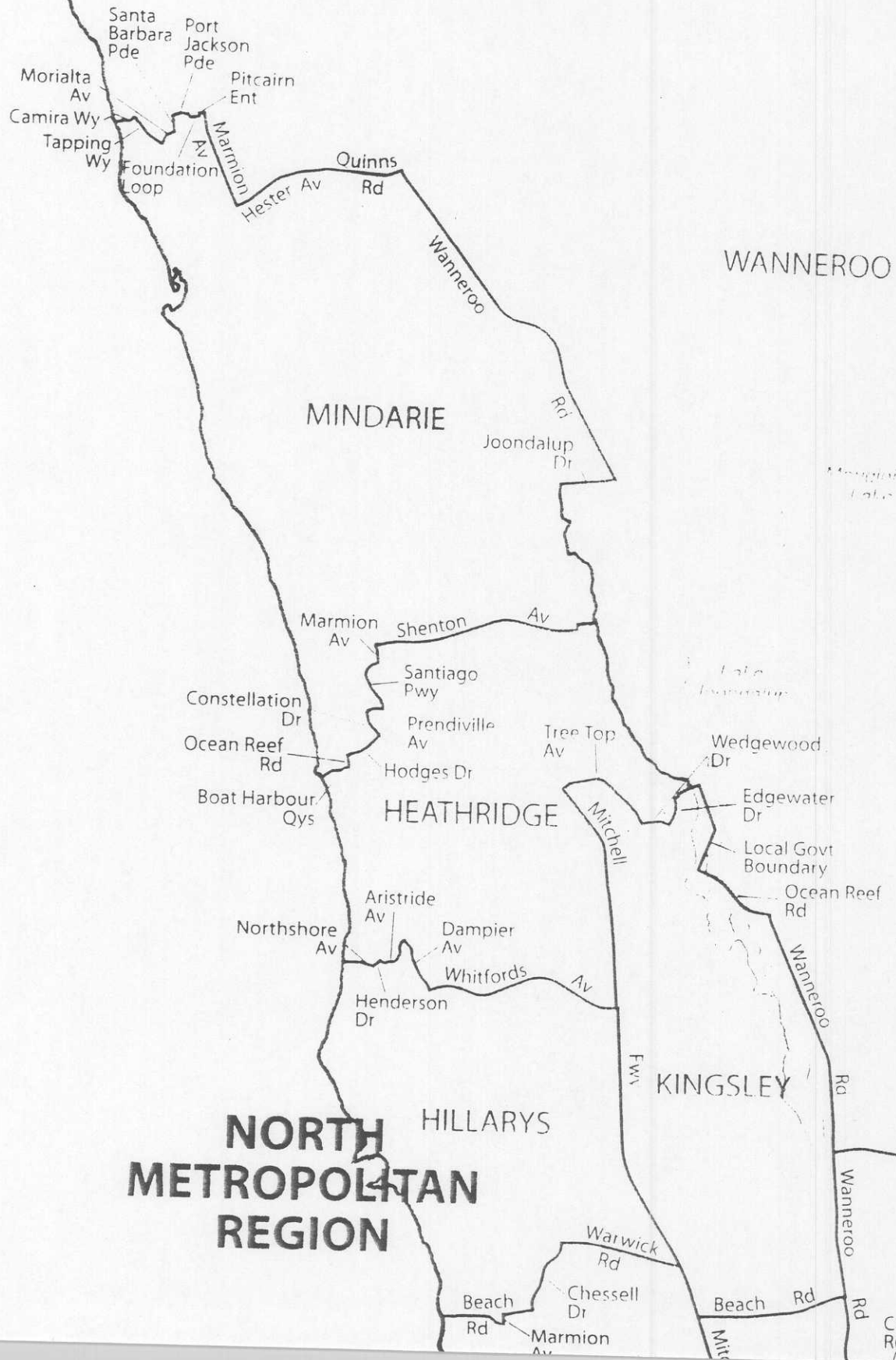
From the above it can be seen that the boundary changes recommended by the City are limited to just the joint boundaries only of the proposed two new seats. It is considered that the recommended changes would be beneficial to the local communities and minimise the likely confusion to electors that is usually associated with the creation of new electoral boundaries. This is largely due to the recommended boundaries following more major physical features.

### **Recommendations**

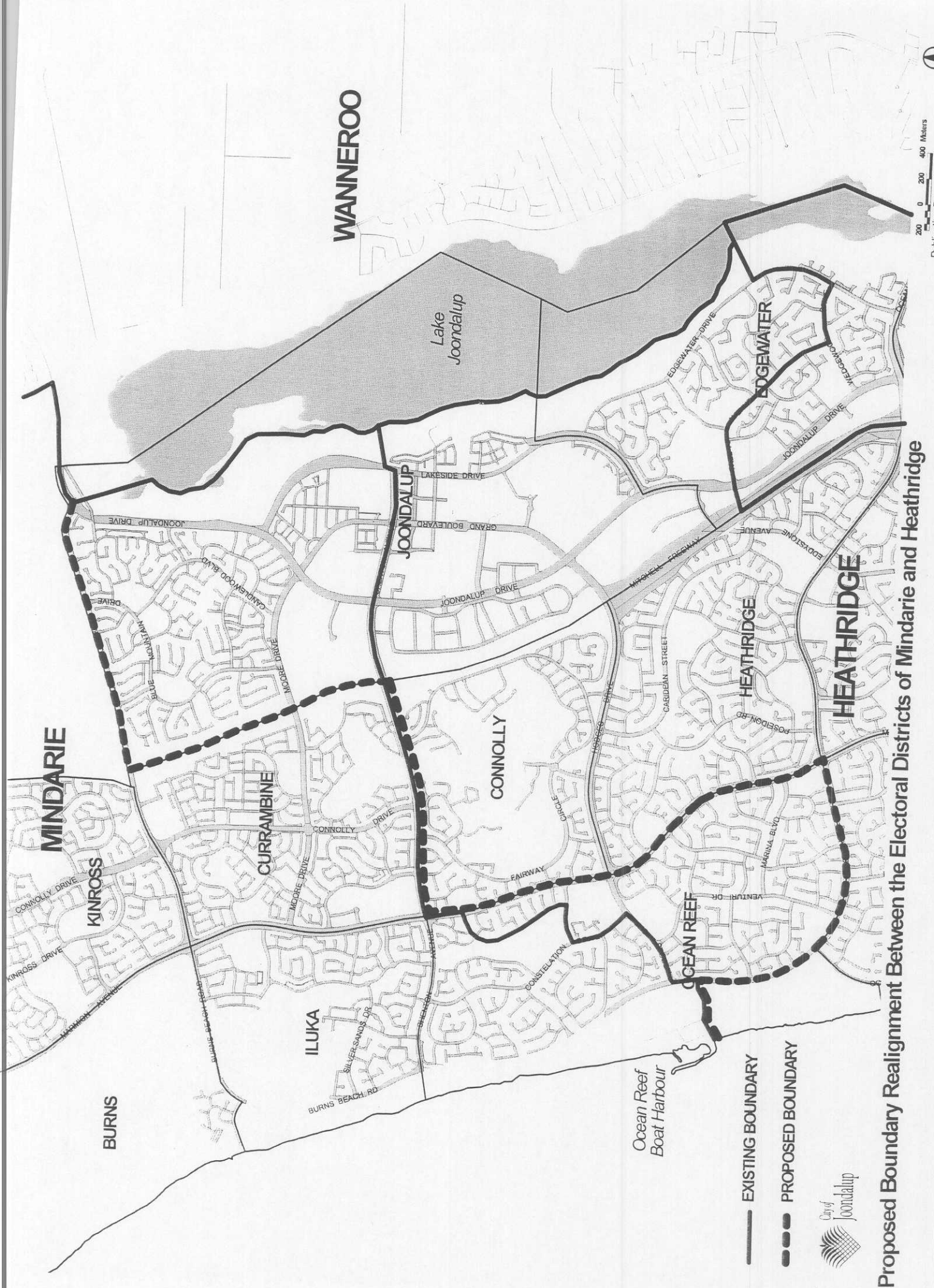
1. It is strongly recommended that the name Joondalup be retained as a Legislative Assembly seat by changing the proposed name of the new electoral seat of Heathridge.
2. It is strongly recommended that the whole of the suburb of Ocean Reef be retained within the proposed new Legislative Assembly seat referred to as Mindarie by redrawing the boundary from Shenton Road along Marmion Avenue to Ocean Reef Road, then to the coast as is currently proposed.
3. It is strongly recommended that the whole of the suburb of Ocean Reef be retained within the proposed new Legislative Assembly seat referred to as Mindarie by redrawing the boundary from Shenton Road along Marmion Avenue to Ocean Reef Road, to Boat Harbour Quays, then to the coast as is currently proposed.

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**Electoral District Boundaries  
as proposed by the  
Electoral Distribution Commissioners**







Proposed Boundary Realignment Between the Electoral Districts of Mindarie and Heathridge