



Enquiries:
TRIM: 15/2

16 May 20

legulation

350

TOODYAY ROAD WIDENING AND IMPROVEMENT WORKS - CPS 7431/1

Main Roads Wheatbelt Region is proposing to widen and improve the safety of Toodyay Road, located in the Shire of Toodyay, from approximately SLK 12 to SLK 40. The project will require the clearing of 54.87 hectares of native vegetation and was advertised in February 2017 for public comment. One submission was received and the comments are addressed below.

The project was considered to represent Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) Woodlands of the Wheatbelt at the time of submission in December 2016. However, since submission Main Roads received advice from the Department of Parks and Wildlife that the clearing area does not constitute the Wheatbelt TEC as the gravelly substrate and associated hilly landscape are considered to be more typical of the woodlands of the eastern Darling Scarp. The submission to the Department of Environment Regulation was modified and resubmitted in early February 2017 to reflect this advice. The project is expected to have significant residual impacts on environmental values, including Black Cockatoo and Chuditch habitat, and therefore an Offset Proposal was submitted to DER in early February 2017. It is expected that the offset provided by Main Roads will consist of a contribution to the State Offset Fund, which will be used for the purchase of conservation land in the immediate region.

Main Roads will be inviting the Toodyay Naturalists' Club to participate in the Community Reference Group, expected to meet in mid-2017. The spring survey commissioned in 2016 was used to provide baseline data regarding the environmental values of the project area, and to inform initial concept design. The Community Reference Group will be consulted on the final detailed design for the project.

Yours sincerely,