

URBAN

BUSHLAND

STRATEGY

WORKSHOP

PROCEEDINGS

*Training Centre
Department of Conservation and Land Management
50 Hayman Road Como*

2 December 1994

URBAN BUSHLAND STRATEGY WORKSHOP

SUMMARY

The draft Urban Bushland Strategy was released for public comment on 8 May 1994 for a period of eight weeks. The public comment period was extended until 29 July 1994, following requests from a number of community groups and individuals.

The Urban Bushland Strategy Workshop was held on Friday 2 December 1994 in response to requests from community groups for consultation prior to release of the final strategy document.

To make the numbers at the workshop more manageable, the community groups which had made a submission on the draft strategy were invited to nominate one representative to attend the workshop.

Approximately 70 invitations were sent to groups and to local and State government agencies. The Western Australian Municipal Association publicised the workshop to all Metropolitan Perth local authorities. The total number of participants was fifty-four. See Appendices 1 & 11.

The workshop was organised and facilitated by officers of the Department of Planning and Urban Development.

The purpose of the workshop was to work towards a consensus on workable solutions on a number of key issues. The information collected would assist in preparing the final version of the Strategy.

A report titled *Analysis of public submissions and discussion paper* containing a shortened version of the full submission report was sent to all participants prior to the workshop.

The workshop was divided into an introduction session; two Workshop Sessions and a Summary and Discussion session.

Mr Paul Frewer, Director of Strategic Planning, representing Mr Terry Martin, Chief Executive Officer, of the Department of Planning and Urban Development presented an outline of the State Government's view on urban bushland. He demonstrated, through a series of maps and diagrams, how much urban bushland has been protected in the metropolitan region. Using the most recent figures from the Perth Environment Project, he showed that over 170,000 hectares of bushland is protected through the CALM estate and the planning process. He emphasised the need for balance within a city setting and raised a number of issues regarding the practicability of government involvement.

Mrs Mary Gray, President of the Urban Bushland Council provided the Council's perspective on the need to protect and manage the remaining bushland. She cited examples of urban bushland that had disappeared and provided a summary of the community's viewpoint of the draft strategy and the discussion document prepared for the workshop. Mrs Gray reminded participants of documents prepared by the Urban Bushland Council and other community organisations and raised a number of issues to consider including the need for statutory protection, an inter-agency taskforce and public participation.

A new approach was tested in the workshop whereby the groups were each given the opportunity to discuss the issues with topic leaders. The topic leader's role was not to facilitate but to provide information or comment on the issues and solutions being discussed.

The topic leaders were chosen for their knowledge and practice in a relevant profession so that they could provide an assessment of the practicability of solutions put forward during discussion. The topic leaders were officers from the Department of Conservation and Land Management, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Planning and Urban Development, the City of Melville and the Urban Development Institute of Australia.

The participants were formed into four groups and discussed the issues in turn. A scribe was present at each table to record what was said by the participants.

The four most important issues raised in the public submissions were chosen for discussion at the workshop.

These were:

1. Definition, identification and assessment of the ecological significance of urban bushland;
2. Mechanisms for protection - existing, new, preferences;
3. Consideration of urban bushland in development proposals;
4. Management - the roles of government and community groups.

In addition, a 'gallery wall' of blank paper was provided for participants to make additional comments on issues.

Given the novel process and the controversial nature of the topic, the workshop worked surprisingly well. In retrospect, a longer discussion time for each topic would have been preferable and the use of facilitators would have ensured everyone had an equal chance to participate.

This report provides summary points raised in each workshop group discussion.

In general, the community groups expressed views similar to those raised in the public submissions. That is, that all bushland is worthy of preservation and the distinction between regional and local is artificial; current protective mechanisms are inadequate; development practices should be changed; more funding is required and the community has a vital role to play in all aspects of bushland identification and management.

Following the group discussions, topic leaders reported back on the key issues raised. The report contains the summaries. During the open forum session, a number of issues were raised including future consultation with participants.

ISSUE 1: DEFINITION, IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF URBAN BUSHLAND

Green Table

Team Leaders - Steve Connell (DPUD) and Neil Gibson (CALM)

Scribe - Kathy Macklin

GROUP ONE

3.10 - 3.40pm

* DPUD can take action if bushland regionally significant but must conflict over areas of local significance.

* Size (areal extent) not necessarily the issue:

- Government should not fail to reserve bushland because area smaller than desirable from management perspective

- If outside disturbance is negligible then small areas of bush retain quality.

* Criteria included in strategy appear to be hierarchical. Clarification needed.

* Ranking of criteria will change according to location and values/beliefs.

* Corridors more important than regular shape.

* Q. Whether CALM's floristic survey gives government the basis for assessing

A. Good information for public lands (CALM controlled); little for private lands.

Need to look at areas not reserved and assess values.

* Local Authorities want criteria for proponents to assess development proposals. Timing of fieldwork will greatly affect results.

* Assessment criteria likely to change over time.

* Distinction between local and regional significance is artificial. Should be dispensed with.

* Independent assessment process of the Australian Heritage Commission should be taken more seriously when assessing urban bushland for protection.

* Which is the right body to balance considerations and make decisions with respect to urban bushland? SPC not appropriate. CALM or DEP more appropriate. A working party with representation from all could be formed.

* Presence of gazetted rare flora should have higher ranking than some other criteria because of protection under current legislation.

* Despite declared fauna listings there is no protection for fauna habitats

* Criteria used by Perth Environment Project include most of the elements required for assessment. Social, cultural and educational values have to be added. High human value, for example necessary for protection drinking water, should be given the highest level of protection.

* A similar classification to the one used by the Department of Environmental Protection for wetlands could be used for bushland. For example, identification of certain areas that should not be touched; other areas for limited use such as recreation.

GROUP 2

2.45 - 3.10pm

* Criticism of lack of involvement of community groups in Perth Environment Project. Steve Connell advised input received from some volunteers - individuals and conservation groups - as well as Local Authorities. There will be further community input as the project progresses.

* Assessment should not be limited to ecological values. Other criteria need to be established using consultative process.

* Basis for distinction between locally and regionally significant questioned. Since only remnants of bushland still exist, all are significant. Cammillo Road cited as example.

* Distinction between local and regional significance should be dissolved - only serves as administrative boundary/demarcation for allocating management responsibilities and funding; has no ecological meaning.

NOTE:

Members of the group expressed concern at the lack of time available to comment on each workshop discussion topic. Due to time limitations, the group felt unable to resolve the basis (ie criteria) for assessment of bushland.

GROUP THREE

4.35 - 4.30pm

* Tenure (that is whether or not protected) an important consideration.

- * Abundance of similar ecological type not sufficient justification for not reserving certain remnants, particularly when same type not afforded statutory protection through reservation.
- * Assessment not only on ecological criteria but also emotional and social 'attachment'.
- * Maintenance of ecological processes necessary. Perimeter to area ratio gives indication of stability but maintenance will also depend on external influences/incursions. External factors equal, ecological systems more likely conserved in larger isolates.
- * Cultural/educational values should further refine highest conservation priorities.
- * In the preliminary planning stages, the concept of urban corridors (between significant bushland) should replace that of remnant bushland corridors.
- * Quality of bush is temporal and degraded areas can be rehabilitated. Poor quality is better than nothing.
- * Using vegetation community rarity as criteria for selection can not guarantee selection of all bushland worthy of preservation.
- * Merits of using protection of community/ecological systems versus individual (indicator) species. Use of declared flora/fauna as overriding factor in Perth Environment Project reflects existing statutory control. Computer model capable of being modified and incorporating priority ranking/weighting. Model ranking system being developed.
- * Concern re: application of 10 per cent Public Open Space policy, particularly that representative bushland not conserved when subdivision occurs incrementally.
- * Qualitative techniques useful eg. where there has been extensive clearing, any remaining bushland is valuable.
- * May wish to reserve degraded bushland if meets particular objective, eg establishment of heritage trail within Local Authority's boundaries.

GROUP FOUR

4.05 - 4.30pm

- * Rezoning in Metropolitan area should be halted and regional centres promoted to avoid clearing remaining bush

- * Shape not high priority. Has management implications rather than being basis for identification.
- * Small areas may function as useful links in corridors but be difficult to sustain. Neil Gibson indicated that, in absence of external incursions, small remnants may be of high conservation value.
- * Degree of involvement of private landowners/community in Perth Environment Project queried. Locals can contribute expert knowledge. Steve Connell indicated feedback from Local Authorities and local community groups will contribute to "groundtruthing" of the model.
- * Community input essential to determining significance. Concern expressed about portions of bush deemed not significant.
- * Scale of Perth Environment Project maps makes it difficult to determine whether land locally important.
- * High educational value not dependent on high ecological value. Strategy does not present sensible basis for conservation of bushland since fails to recognise heritage value for next generation.
- * Is DPUD assessing bushland for social, educational significance? If not, why not? Educational and social factors likely to vary as area developed but the computer system is fluid and can accommodate changes, for example, school being built; bushland being cleared for development.
- * Degradation not sufficient reason for not conserving bushland.
- * Habitat protection and species diversity important. Habitat value (eg. breeding area for certain species of fauna) should be consideration of ecological significance.
- * Remnant bushland should be ecologically sustainable. Sustainability may depend on maintenance of another system, for example wetland fringing vegetation.
- * Since data is spatial, Hedde classification system utilised as basis for classifying vegetation communities in Perth Environment Project. However, groundtruthing also undertaken.
- * Representativeness is comparison of how much bushland remains against how much previously existed. Takes into consideration how much is afforded protection. Links to rarity.
- * Extent to which bushland threatened should be taken into account. Greater threat if the bushland is on the urban fringe.

- * Concern that conservation of bushland through 10% Public Open Space policy not resulting in retention of bushland most worthy of retention. Need to ensure 10% saved is the 10% worth saving not the 10% remaining.
- * Whether different strategy is required for inner city as against the outer suburbs. Steve Connell indicated that social or rarity significance might outweigh the ecological significance in inner city but strategy still generally applicable.
- * Conductivity at local scale relevant. Perth Environment Project model incorporates assessment of value for faunal movement (bird; small vertebrate/invertebrate; large vertebrate)
- * Clarification was sought as to whether the Perth Environmental Project model distinguishes between native vegetation and landscaped parklands. Steve Connell indicated that focus is on indigenous vegetation and this distinguished it from other Public Open Space.

REPORTING SESSION

TOPIC LEADER SUMMARY

- * Ecological assessment why not looking at social values
need to involve community
regional v local division artificial, should be
dropped
- * 10% POS requirement criticised
- * Ecological function - habitat values / hydrology should be incorporated
- * Ranking bushland worthwhile intention - community involved and relevant
experts in field
- * If community could not agree with strategy it is worthless

ISSUE 2: MECHANISMS FOR PROTECTION - EXISTING, NEW, PREFERENCES

(Red team)

TEAM LEADERS: Chris O'Neill (DPUD), Gary Whisson (DEP)

SCRIBE: Julie Rowlands (DPUD)

GROUP 1: Time 2.45

Criticisms of existing mechanisms for protection;

- there are no assurances that reserved land will be protected
- the Soil Conservation Act is the wrong umbrella under which to protect urban bushland
- small lot subdivisions do not allow for bushland protection due to less private open space and insensitive earthworks

General comments;

- need to apply separate forms of protection depending on the use of urban bushland and the land tenure
- additional funding is needed to acquire private land
- need to recognise conservation provisions in Strategic Plans as soon as possible
- reservation/Crown ownership is seen to be the most secure means of protection, followed by leasehold and then private ownership

Possible new mechanisms;

- * Private land
 - restrictive covenants
 - rate relief for bushland conservation in rural areas
 - additional funds needed for active management
 - public ownership of development rights
 - strengthen legislation to provide for stricter development controls and enforcement
 - create a separate urban bushland zone
 - explore alternatives to acquisition as suggested in the EPA's System 6 report
- * Public land
 - build into existing legislation new management requirements and management plan audits for reserved land plans.

- * Public or Private land
 - self monitoring programs, using volunteers

GROUP 2: Time 4.32

Criticisms of existing mechanisms for protection;

- the government does not care enough to provide adequate protection primarily because it is too costly and private individuals do not have enough financial resources to legally fight the developers or government for bushland protection (eg Cammillo Road)
- developers object to additional POS requirements being imposed on subdivisions
- development by government needs to be more tightly controlled as it is often the worst offender of destroying bush on Crown land
- there are problems with enforcement of existing controls due to inadequate monitoring and follow-up of controls and bye-laws etc.
- some individuals don't care about bushland protection and have no sense of community responsibility, this attitude becomes contagious

General comments;

- state intervention is not necessary provided that funding assistance is given to local authorities for bushland management
- urban bushland surveys/audits should be carried out and identified as a constraint to development in strategic plans well in advance of development
- the government should curtail "urban sprawl"
- often destruction of urban bushland is not intentional but rather an unfortunate consequence of development

Possible new mechanisms;

- * Private land
 - urban bushland should remain in private ownership but there should be land owner incentives for its protection
 - landowner compensation should not include provisions for urban potential
 - need stronger state government land use controls and policies for long term bushland protection
 - promote more widespread use of building envelopes (eg Mundaring TPS)
 - restrictive covenants
- * Public land
 - local authorities need to be educated regarding better management

and protection techniques

- * Private or Public land
 - recognise bushland in "Natural Heritage" reserves/ additional MRS reserve for Conservation
 - additional funds are needed for a "National Heritage Fund" for bushland protection to be generated by a "user pays" system (ie the community shares the cost)
 - bushland protection should be part of the Judicial process to provide stricter controls (eg an environmental court)

GROUP 3: Time 4.07

Criticisms of existing mechanisms for protection;

- Authorities are not prepared to acquire land for bushland protection in urban areas as it is too expensive
- POS is used for active recreation in urban areas even if it is set aside for other purposes

General comments;

- there are a variety of uses for urban bushland (active, education/research, conservation, "accidental bushland" ie left over after subdivision but not in POS) but uses must be made compatible with conservation
- urban bushland should be classified in terms of priority and the level of protection should accord with its significance (eg DRF is high priority and should be reserved)
- local authorities should prepare heritage registers and bushland inventories which should be considered as part of decisions on development

Possible new mechanisms;

- * Private land
 - increase "greenways/wildlife corridors" in urban zones by rehabilitating existing streams and drainage lines
 - encourage cluster development to cater to the demand for small lots so that larger areas of communal bushland can be protected
 - amalgamate open space in schools, POS, community facilities and manage with a conservation emphasis like a "heritage precinct".
 - increase the use of building envelopes in subdivision design
 - give density bonuses to developers who allocate an increased amount of POS for conservation

- decrease land tax as an incentive for landowners who preserve remnant vegetation (eg L.Meelup Preservation Society)
- conservation agreements between landowners and authorities
- * Public land
 - resource sharing between government departments for funding/management purposes etc
 - local authorities need more management funds in order to take over management of urban bushland, including coordination of community groups
- * Private and Public land
 - vegetation protection orders in town planning schemes (eg SEPP 19 - NSW model)
 - a proportion of local authority rates/MRIF should be used as an "urban bushland fund" for acquisition and management of bushland

GROUP 4: Time 3.10

Criticisms of existing mechanisms for protection;

- reservations are not secure (especially in the Darling Range) as acquisition is not quick enough to prevent the reserves being "whittled away"
- Protection under the Town Planning Legislation is not secure, protection under the CALM Act provides better security and protection under the EPA Act is the most secure
- the 10% POS requirement for small lots is not an effective protection mechanism as small bushland parcels are more vulnerable
- there are limited management funds to manage all POS for active recreation
- Community/volunteer management programs (eg Friends of Bold Park) are often only affective when they attract media attention
- small lot subdivisions do not allow for bushland protection due to less private open space and insensitive earthworks

General Comments;

- different mechanisms are required for different bushland types and land tenure
- must concentrate on long term rather than short term controls
- needs a greater commitment to "follow through" with protection mechanisms
- the concept of landscape protection zones needs to be better promoted by the government

- promote bushland protection and management in public education programs

Possible new mechanisms;

- * **Private land**
 - establish a "Bushland Protection fund" from a cash-in-lieu pool of the 10% POS requirements of small subdivisions
 - restrictive covenants (eg to control cats, horses)
 - buy development rights of landowners
 - Heritage Orders for bushland
 - apply similar protection methods to those used in Brisbane where landowners choose to live in protection areas
 - remove landowner rights to compensation for loss of development potential in order to make acquisition cheaper
 - increase the POS requirement for urban subdivisions from 10% to 20% to enable a bushland protection allowance as well as active recreation provisions (this already exists in the wheatbelt for catchment management reasons)
 - increase the POS requirement proportional to the increase in residential density (ie. consistent amount of POS area per person)
 - promote a sense of public responsibility for private individuals
- * **Public land**
 - strengthen the status of MRS Parks and Recreation reserves
 - local authority surveys to establish the demand and current use of existing urban bushland in POS
 - POS should be vested in Local Authorities for a specific purpose (eg. passive or active Recreation) in order to make more efficient use of existing management resources
 - increase management emphasis (eg control pets and feral animals)
- * **Private or Public land**
 - apply the Green Space method of protection
 - management is a State issue and should be supported at both State and Federal levels in the form of additional funding (eg the "Save the Bushland Program")

REPORTING SESSION

TOPIC LEADER SUMMARY

- * Right to develop erroneous in law
- * Reservation for P & R does not provide adequate assurance that remaining bush could be protected / can be changed

- * Need separate classification in bush heritage values/ or elevate status
- * Management required as an integral part /not sufficient to reserve land / need to be active management / \$ and expertise
- * More money / contribution 10% - 20% POS / other sources - separate additional land tax
- * Great potential for avoidance bush at strategic planning level/ more sensitive urban planning / perhaps heritage listing as in heritage buildings

ISSUE 3: CONSIDERATION OF BUSHLAND IN DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

Blue Table

Team Leaders: ROSS MONTGOMERY (DPUD) & ANNE ARNOLD (SPC)

Scribe: GARY WILLIAMS (DPUD)

GROUP ONE DISCUSSION

Time: 4.35pm

- * Urban bushland should be considered early in the planning process and not considered as an afterthought.
- * The 10% POS contribution should be increased to accommodate bushland and the developer could be compensated eg. density bonuses).
- * Guided development schemes can be used to create large areas of urban bushland.
- * Native bushland should not be cleared until approval is sought to develop. Legislation should be introduced to ensure that bushland is not cleared.
- * A moratorium should be placed on development until bushland is assessed.
- * Urban bushland should be identified as a valuable resource to developers.
- * Remnant vegetation in private ownership degrades.
- * Local Authorities could look at their own landholdings as possibility of retaining bushland.

GROUP TWO DISCUSSION

Time: 4.05pm

- * Changes have taken place with regard to public open space recreational needs. Passive recreation needs are increasing. The demand for playing fields is decreasing.
- * The 10% public open space should be carefully selected to save urban bushland. Bushland should be saved in large parcels.
- * The natural landscape should be retained rather than being bulldozed. Native trees should be saved.

Native trees should be used when landscaping rather than introducing exotic species.

- * The landscape and native bushland provide an area with identity.
- * Bonds should be obtained from the developer to encourage retention of the natural landscape.
- * The cost of removing natural trees should be quantified.

GROUP THREE DISCUSSION

Time: 3.15pm

- * The community doesn't understand the planning process and it is difficult to participate.
- * EPA and SPC procedures should be combined to form one process.
- * The EPA should do all environmental studies rather than the developer's consultant.
- * Bushland does not need to be significant to be saved. It may be important to the local authority.
- * The 10% POS contribution should be examined or a strategy for its use prepared.
- * A broader based land tax should be implemented to raise funds for the purchase of more bushland.

GROUP FOUR DISCUSSION

Time: 2.45pm

- * Consultation before confrontation
- * Community groups should be able to provide more input at an early stage.
- * Community groups generally need more time to prepare responses.
- * Each local authority should do an inventory so that government agencies know where bushlands are.
- * The West Australian Municipal Association needs to provide a code of

practice for local authorities to develop an Urban Bushland Policy or Greening Policy.

- * Local Environment Plans should be prepared and initiated by the State Government.

REPORTING SESSION TOPIC LEADER SUMMARY

- * Need to conserve bush prior to development, be more proactive
- * 10% POS bit antiquated, change recreation trends, passive activities now more popular
- * who pays ? - broader based land tax to fund bush acquisition
- * moratorium on all further clearance of bushland
- * change needed in development practices
- * bind government to any bushland strategy - government agencies should observe, inventories of government land
- * P & R zoning needs to be reconsidered as a way of protecting urban bushland

ISSUE 4: MANAGEMENT - THE ROLES OF GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY

Team Leaders: Rob Towers (CALM), Neil Robinson (DPUD), Mark Street (City of Melville)

Scribe: Cath Meaghan (DPUD)

GROUP ONE

4.05 - 4.30

- * Bushland in private ownership either needs to be managed by incentive or it could be enforced
- * Land in private ownership can be managed using management plans (incentive)
- * Land in private ownership can be managed by LGA controls such as tree clearing or by the use of landscape protection zones (LPZ's) (enforcement)
- * Private land owners must look after own land
- * The rights and responsibilities of LGAs versus community groups must be examined
- * LGAs are restrained by statutory requirements - need to look at the possibility of enabling councils to assign management responsibility to community groups
- * There are two categories of management:
 - * land that is the responsibility of State or LG authority
 - * land where the government sets the frame for others to manage
- * There is a need for effective way of involving the community at all stages of management of bushland
- * LGAs should loan equipment to community groups
- * There is a need for a co-ordinated approach among LGAs
- * LGA's cannot look after all reserves - some must go to the community
- * There is an opportunity for an advisory group for communities to go through at LGA level - a sort of co-ordinating body for groups to see how management plans are being implemented
- * There is a danger of some community groups being ignored ie councils may have preferred groups to work with. Possibility of community groups being able to register with LGA

- * Community groups often have extensive knowledge - more so than LGAs, many of whom do not have an environmental officer
- * Bushland conservation is challenging many of the old ideas and attitudes in government at all levels. Need to combat 'old school' types.
- * New ideas about bushland need to be accepted - the community is not just there to pull out weeds
- * LGAs don't want to be left with bushland that the community has tired of eg effort of community groups not always sustained over a long period of time
- * LGAs need to identify bushland - those they manage, and those that could be for the community to manage eg expressions of interest in newspaper - for community groups to manage
- * The general community need to assist also - change habits ie rubbish dumping
- * There is a need for an umbrella group for "Friends of" to manage metro area -in case some areas are not looked after. A group that concentrates specifically on bushland
- * There is a need for a structure to ensure bushland is managed effectively. A structure that looks at the big picture
- * The management group must come from the community - be driven by and managed by

GROUP TWO

3.10 - 3.40

- * LGAs need to prevent fire / provide firebreaks in bushland
- * Firebreaks can create weeds
- * Community groups should look after bushland areas
- * Government needs to act in a co-ordinated way. This includes state and local government
- * Communities need to be valued
- * Community needs opportunity to participate

- * Community groups are doing more work than government
- * There is more chance for involvement for communities if liaison occurs between community and local government
- * Consider the link between management of bushland areas by school groups - ie education and management combined. Many areas of bushland located near schools
- * Communities are willing to contribute and help, but need administrative support and co-ordination to have a focussed view and achieve objectives
- * Government or LGA should take co-ordinator role - the community will do the work
- * Community work can be facilitated by strategies and management plans to provide a focus for communities - a framework for action is needed
- * Why don't bushland groups receive the technical expertise and funding other groups receive? eg Netball Assn
- * An organisation is needed to provide specialised information and co-ordination specifically for bushland
- * Bushland has to be included as a recreational land use. More than active recreation needs must be considered - examine the value of bushland as a recreational resource ie recharging batteries
- * Need to raise the value of bushland - look at the \$ recreation valuation of bushland - bushland is a finite resource
- * Bushland has many tourism values
- * Government cannot always manage bushland reserves. For example, DPUD manages Whiteman Park and has let it go to roads. Government should not control bushland reserves.
- * Local governments need proper expertise to handle bushland issues
- * Funding needs to go to bushland - it is already given to parkland

GROUP THREE

2.45 - 3.10

- * Community groups need management plans. This will assist when organisations change ie change in personnel, direction - they will still have clear objectives
- * Funding is required for management plans

- * Management plans need to be prepared with community groups
- * Bushland management is a new issue for LGA's - conservation versus recreation issues - conservation as a land use.
- * Government services shouldn't be duplicated
- * Environmental consultants do not have experience with bushland, especially in the preparation of management plans. Making a lot of money doing what many people in the community have expert knowledge of.
- * Communities have a large role to play in management plans.
- * The best way for management plans to be implemented is by a state or local government agency to be responsible for liaison with community groups eg. DPUD rangers, LGA environment officers.
- * Care must be taken in selecting personnel to manage bushland

GROUP FOUR

4.35 - 5.05

- * Community will only do what they want to do - and there is great variation among community groups as to what they do
- * There should be scope for communities to take whatever action necessary to achieve results ie partnerships with a range of organisations DAG, CALM, DPUD, LGA
- * Community needs to initiate and develop management plans
- * Government should not decide that community does the work -they will not do it if they are told to
- * Community involvement demonstrates the value of bushland
- * There is a need for management plans to be set as a standard ie what needs to be achieved, otherwise LGA can create management plans that are not relevant
- * Management plans need funding to be implemented
- * People who derive benefits from bushland are more likely to assist in their management
- * Examine concept of sustainable income from bushland eg firewood
- * Can the extended life of community groups be guaranteed?

- * New areas need management because there will not be communities there to have groups to look after bushland
- * There is a need for action before bushland is threatened - more community groups need to be involved
- * User groups of bushland can progress to management role
- * LGA can foster and support community groups
- * Look at the NSW model as an example for Perth
- * WAMA can facilitate community groups
- * Community groups have various needs and want to do various things
- * LGA can take on administrative role, leading towards creation of a formal policy
- * There is a need for a focal point for bushland - something that all groups can refer to
- * Consider the possibility of a partnership between the Urban Bushland Council and a lead government agency
- * Today is the first step towards development of a strategy

REPORTING SESSION

TOPIC LEADER SUMMARY

- * Community has a wealth of knowledge, is willing to assist, not just prepared to pull out weeds
- * funding grassed parklands - why not funding bushland?
- * some local authorities care, others don't
- * need management plans and funding to implement
- * umbrella group needed for urban bushland with 3 main roles:
 - . coordination management
 - . information
 - . control/implement management plans
 Could be LA, State Gov., Comm. Gov or partnerships
- * use NSW model in WA

This is a transcript of a letter presented by Dorothy Redreau from the National Trust:

I don't see what the problem is in the project becoming bigger than it is at the moment.

A fair and proper allocation of funds to developing the Urban Bushland Strategy would allow the further community consultation necessary to integrate the different strands of expertise eg. integration of water quality issues in assessment of bushland.

I would be very happy to assist and/or participate in further consultative processes.

Yours faithfully

Dorothy Redreau
National Trust

2 December 1994

first do it right - then do it fast

POSTER GALLERY

ISSUE 1

- * rural zoned bushland could become automatically rezoned "bushland protection" and DPUD could protect these against being zoned urban
- * there may be coincidence between government land and bushland

ISSUE 2

- * questioned reason why discussion paper termed use of lotteries for fundraising as "inappropriate"
- * environmental levy should be compulsory on all Councils and residents
- * proposed planning legislation is most undemocratic and unacceptable
- * developer should pay for removal of urban bushland in same way polluters

pay for pollution

ISSUE 3

- * developer should not be body to decide which part of land is set aside for bushland
- * public land should be set aside before private land in case of two areas of equal significance being preserved
- * there should be a moratorium on clearing all or any bushland so that each can be evaluated on its own merits
- * portion of cost of development of substantial areas of land (metro greater than 5 ha) should be set aside to maintain ecological values

ISSUE 4

- * Do community groups have a role in "owning" and managing land with bush on it?
- * Community groups are a potential resource that can save land managers a lot of money if they choose to become organised enough to make use of it.

General comment

We hope that this meeting will have some real meaning - we don't want to see a "FINAL" document that gives the Minister or DPUD all the power and control.

APPENDIX 1

GROUP 1

Jim Dixon	Department of Planning and Urban Development
Mark Harvey	Museum of Western Australia
Paul Holmes	City of Wanneroo
David Wake	Quinns Rock Environmental Group
Kingsley Dunstan	Ellenbrook Conservation Group
Richard Cowan	Friends of Queens Park
Nick McCarthy	Shire of Mundaring
Martine Sheltema	Greening Western Australia
Paul Rokich	Town of Kwinana
Tricia Broun	Lord Street Group / Combined Community Groups of the North-East Region

GROUP 2

Una Bell	Bugle Tree Creek
Marion Blackwell	NPNCA
Simon Hancocks	CALM
Kirsten Tullis	Men of the Trees
Shane Porter	Tourism Commission
Otto Mueller	Habitat Herdsman
Bronwyn Keighery	Wildflower Society
Rodney Henderson	Henley Brook Locality Group
Benjamin Seabrook	Friends of Cammillo Road
Odna Borlang	Baldivis Community Association
Peter Day	Darlington Ratepayers Association / Eastern Hills Branch Wildflower Society

GROUP 3

Norma Calcutt	Friends of Bold Park
Alan Burbidge	Department of Conservation and Land Management
Phil Jennings	Conservation Council
David Pike	Friends of Star Swamp Bushland
Wayne van Lieven	City of Gosnells
Greg Ryan	W.A.M.A.
Mrs Olive Langham	Melville Environment Group
Robert Fraser	Friends of Dianella Bushland
Maureen Campbell	Waterbird Conservation Society
Michael McClure	?
Ray Julien	Friends of River Canning Environment

GROUP 4

Tony Smurthwaite
Jeff Anderton

Mary Gray
Colin Walker
Nick Wimbush
Meredith Kenny
Dorothy Redreau
Ken Atkins

Ric How

DOMÉ
Port Kennedy Land Conservation District
Committee
Urban Bushland Council
Tree Society
Shire of Kalamunda
City of South Perth
National Trust
Department of Conservation and Land
Management
Museum of Western Australia

APPENDIX 11

TEAM LEADERS

ISSUE 1

Steven Connell
Neil Gibson

Department of Planning and Urban Development
Department of Conservation and Land
Management

ISSUE 2

Chris O'Neill
Gary Whisson

Department of Planning and Urban Development
Department of Environmental Protection

ISSUE 3

Anne Arnold
Ross Montgomery

Urban Development Institute of Australia
Department of Planning and Urban Development

ISSUE 4

Rob Towers

Neil Robinson
Mark Street

Department of Conservation and Land
Management
Department of Planning and Urban Development
City of Melville

SCRIBES

ISSUE 1

Kathy Macklin

Department of Planning and Urban Development

ISSUE 2

Julie Rowlands

Department of Planning and Urban Development

ISSUE 3

Gary Williams

Department of Planning and Urban Development

ISSUE 4

Cath Meaghan

Department of Planning and Urban Development

WORKSHOP FACILITATOR

Bernadette Preston

Department of Planning and Urban Development

URBAN BUSHLAND STRATEGY WORKSHOP

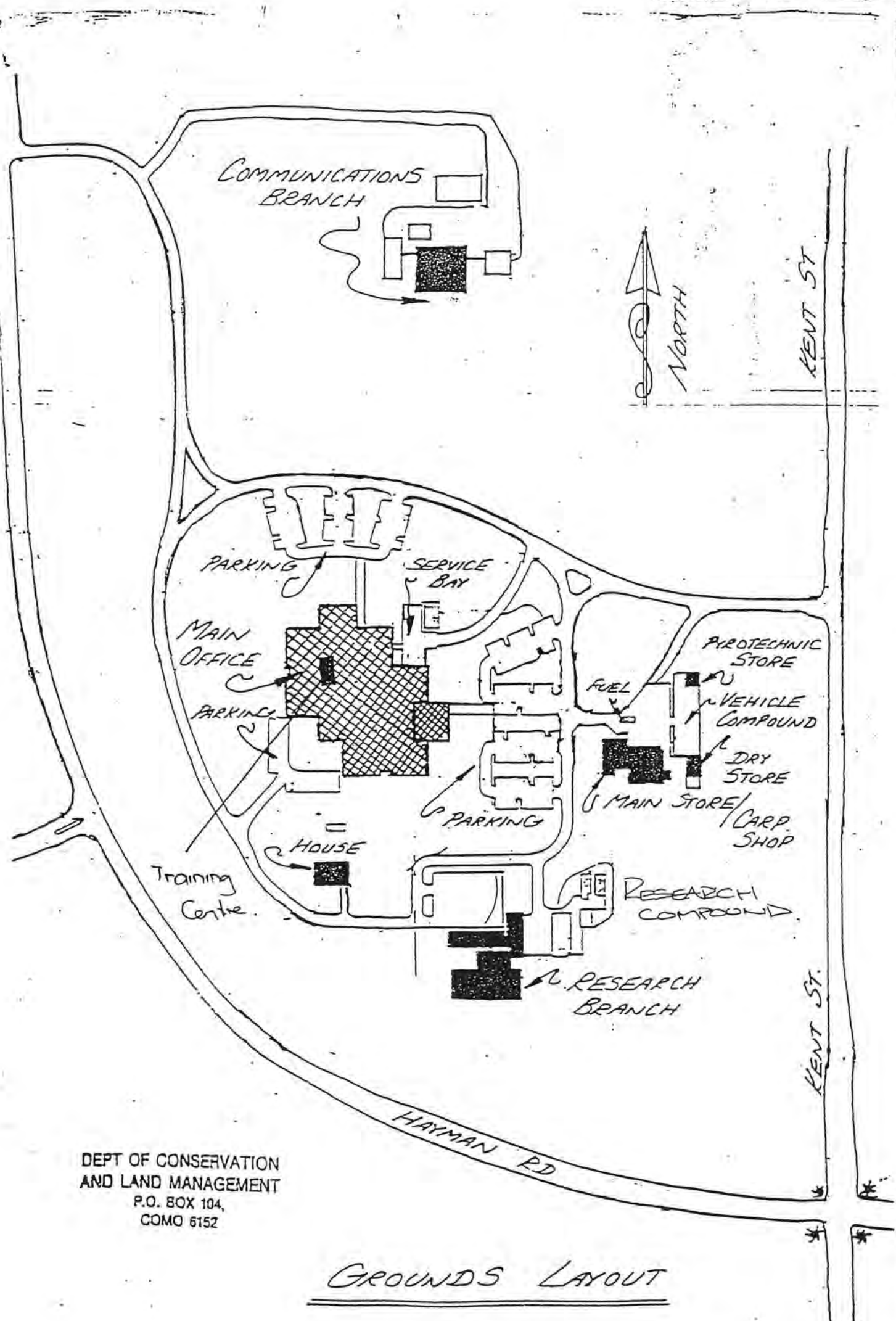
Friday 2 December 1994

*Training Centre
Department of Conservation and Land Management
50 Hayman Road
COMO*

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|---|
| 1.30 | Registration | |
| 2.00 | Outline of proceedings | Facilitator Ms Bernadette Preston |
| | Introductory remarks | |
| | Mr Terry Martin | Chief Executive Officer, Department of Planning and Urban Development |
| | Mrs Mary Gray | President, Urban Bushland Council |
| 2.30 - 3.30 | Workshop Session 1 | |
| 3.30 - 4.00 | Afternoon Tea | |
| 4.00 - 5.00 | Workshop Session 2 | |
| 5.00 - 5.30 | Summary and discussions | |
| 5.30 | Refreshments | |

WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS

1. Definition, identification and assessment of ecological significance of urban bushland
2. Mechanisms for protection - existing, new, preferences
3. Consideration of urban bushland in development proposals
4. Management - the roles of government and community groups



DEPT OF CONSERVATION
AND LAND MANAGEMENT
P.O. BOX 104,
COMO 6152

GROUND'S LAYOUT

Marie Ward

805-2-1-32

DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT



nameaddress~
salu~

URBAN BUSHLAND STRATEGY WORKSHOP

Your organisation is invited to attend a workshop to discuss issues raised in public submissions on the draft Urban Bushland Strategy. The information will be taken into consideration in the final strategy scheduled for release in early 1995.

The meeting will be held on Friday 2 December 1994 at the Department of Conservation and Land Management Training Centre, 50 Hayman Road, Como. Registration is at 1.30pm, with the workshop taking place from 2pm to 5pm, followed by refreshments. An agenda and map is attached for your convenience.

Due to the number of organisations involved, it will be necessary to limit participation to one representative for each organisation. Please advise the attendee name as soon as possible to Marie Ward on 264 7544.

Yours sincerely

Chris O'Neill *CO*
A/Manager
Environmental Planning Branch

*Letter, agenda & map
sent to attached list.*

22 November 1994