



The Hon Nola Marino MP

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Federal Member for Forrest

MEDIA RELEASE

RDA PERTH SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES DURING COVID-19

The Australian Government commends the outstanding work of RDA Perth in supporting the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Led by Chair Cr Keith Ellis, RDA Perth's engagement with their community, businesses and all levels of Government has been vital in identifying emerging issues throughout the crisis and opportunities for the recovery phase.

This work is important to managing impacts and ensuring communities and businesses are able to get back on their feet as quickly as possible. Key activities being undertaken by RDA Perth include:

- Running a Perth Hills Strategic Visioning project across five metropolitan local governments to identify common issues and themes that will drive investment and job growth for the Perth Hills area; and
- Working with local government, industry stakeholders and universities to identify opportunities for economic recovery, including:
 - Delivering an industry-driven strategic plan for the Western Trade Coast;
 - Identifying local content and skills required for Western Australia's defence industry; and
 - Establishing an Innovation Hub Common User Facility to assist start-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises.

Regional Development Australia Committees (RDAs) have played and continue to play an important role in delivering sustainable infrastructure and services to their region. These Committees deliver important work in consulting with communities, promoting and participating in regional initiatives, and providing information and advice on their region to all levels of Government.

Since late March I have been holding regular teleconferences with RDA representatives three times a week. These conversations provided first-hand insights into how local communities are coping, and the impact and effectiveness of Government response measures. This local intelligence is provided directly to Government ministers and agencies to inform policymaking.

I want to thank the RDA Perth committee members and staff for their work in driving positive change in your local communities.

If you would like to learn more about how RDA Perth is able to assist you, visit its website at www.rdaperth.org.

Further information about the RDA program is available at www.rda.gov.au.