



14 June 2017

## **Second consultation on underground power now under way**

The City of Nedlands has taken another step forward in progressing underground power with residents in the Hollywood project area invited to take part in a second community engagement process.

It comes after the City was invited by Western Power to participate in a high voltage project that could provide underground power to about 600 properties.

Nedlands Mayor Max Hipkins said the City had now received a detailed design estimate from Western Power, following an April council decision.

“The model is a 50-50 share basis between the City and project land-owners, which includes the recovery of the design cost and excludes the Western Power contribution,” he said.

“The cost of the project is less than originally anticipated because Western Power has agreed to subsidise the project expense more than originally proposed due to a change in policy, given there is a significant level of existing underground connections within the project area.

“Property owners will be receiving a letter from the City, outlining the proposal and the estimated cost for each property, along with any discounts that may be applicable and a short survey.

“Similar to the detailed design estimate provided by Western Power, the contribution is within plus or minus 10 per cent of the final contribution.”

Mayor Hipkins noted the overall cost of the detailed design estimate remained commercial-in-confidence because it is subject to a competitive tender process.

The second community engagement process follows a survey in January-February that asked property owners their views on the importance of installing underground power and their willingness to pay for a connection.

“Underground power was rated as important to 51 per cent of residents with 75 per cent of survey respondents indicating that instalments were their preferred method of payment,” Mayor Hipkins said.

To find out more and provide feedback by 3 July, visit **[yourvoice.nedlands.wa.gov.au](http://yourvoice.nedlands.wa.gov.au)**.

It is expected the outcomes of the second consultation will be deliberated at the 25 July council meeting.

ENDS

**About the City of Nedlands**

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of more than 21,000 lives in the suburbs of Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

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