

The Town of Victoria Park CEO has elected to not sign a development application form for the Perth Entertainment and Sport Precinct Project team on behalf of the town. Credit: PerthNow

Vic Park CEO opts out of signing off on application for the Burswood racetrack, will go to council



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Town of Victoria Park CEO Carl Askew has elected not to sign off on a development application for the \$217.5 million Perth Entertainment and Sport Precinct on behalf of the town, leaving it for the council to decide.

The development application form refers to parts of State-owned road reserve along Victoria Park Drive and Camfield Drive but as the town is responsible for its care, control and management, it needs to sign off on the plans.

Lands Minister John Carey delegated the power to sign to Mr Askew, but instead he has decided to put it to the council.

Town staff have recommended the council authorise Mr Askew to sign off on the application.

“The signing of the DA form by the town is not to be construed as approval or support for the development, and there will be separate opportunity for the town to provide comments on the merits of the development once the development application is submitted and assessed through the community consultation process.” the officer’s report states.



A rally against the Burswood race track at Parliament House. Credit: Andrew Ritchie/The West Australian

Officers have also called for the council to request the Office of Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery to provide information to the town about the construction, maintenance and management responsibilities, including funding of these road portions, as part of the development application.

If the town decides not to sign the form, the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage would have to explore other options.

The Victoria Park Drive western lanes are proposed to be used in an annual Supercars event.

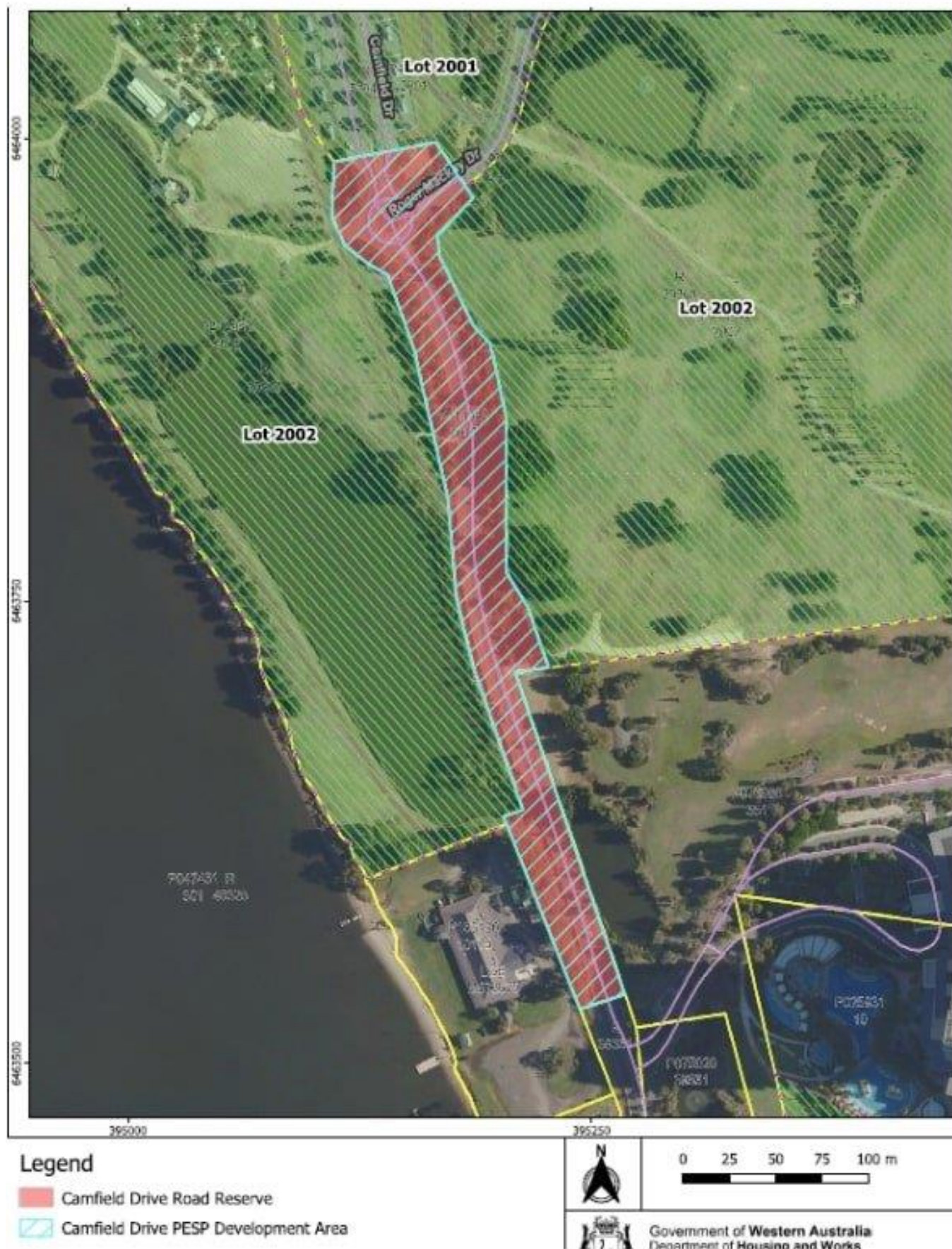


Victoria Park Drive will be used for an annual event Credit: Department of Housing and Works

Camfield Drive will be partially realigned and widened in certain locations to accommodate track requirements and to allow for bus stacking areas during stadium events.

The works will also include a new intersection and associated roundabout, as well as amendments to an existing roundabout.

The redundant Roger Mackay Drive will retain its existing U-turn functionality



Camfield Road Credit: Department of planning

In addition, some permanent and temporary modifications will be required to road furniture, kerbing and road islands, signage, light poles, traffic signal poles and landscaping.

At the agenda meeting last Tuesday, co-chair on the the Save Burswood Park Alliance, Sue Quinn urged council not to sign even if it doesn't mean the Town support the project.

“We are astounded that regardless of the significant opposition and strong public criticism, the government is pushing ahead with the plans,” she said.

“We call upon council to send a clear message to the state government and ratepayers that they do not want the racetrack in their town and we don't believe that council should appear to support the proposal at any level by signing the permissions,”

“We ask council that you please don't make a decision to sign based off the applicant claiming they would approach the Minister for lands to sign and that it would only delay the process, not stop it.”

The PESP project includes the proposed construction of an amphitheatre, multi-use building, FIA-approved multi-use track, landscaping and transport improvements.

In February, the council voted not to support it due to the negative impacts on the natural environment, loss of public open space, tree canopy, wildlife habitats, and the carbon emissions.

The council is scheduled to consider the proposal at its November 18 meeting.