



CITY OF GOSNELLS

# COMMUNITY REPORT 2009



# A City of development, with a diversity of residents

A message from the Mayor of the City of Gosnells

THE City of Gosnells is well known for the quality of the services and community programs that it delivers to residents of the City. We are proud of our past achievements and look forward to continuing to provide such services.

Even in a time of global financial crisis, the City has experienced significant development and building activity.

Many of our new residents are first-time homebuyers and we welcome them to a City that offers an opportunity to participate in and contribute to the many activities of a City which is remarkably diverse in terms of its people, facilities and character.

We have some 100,000 people from over 70 different ethnic backgrounds.

Many of these people are families with young children.

The City is home to some of the most modern suburbs in Perth, including Southern River and Canning Vale, but also contains the semi-rural retreats of Martin and Orange Grove and older suburbs where considerable revitalisation has, or will be, undertaken.

This diversity brings with it many challenges and opportunities.

In Southern River and Canning Vale the new Amherst Village Community Centre will provide magnificent, modern



*City of Gosnells Mayor  
Olwen Searle.*

facilities for young and old alike.

A state-of-the-art library, community art area, youth facilities including a recording studio and top-class function rooms which the public can hire makes this an ideal community hub.

Elsewhere we are seeing strong progress, including placing powerlines underground in Maddington.

This project has widespread community support and will make the area quite simply a better place to live.

It will also have a positive effect on property prices.

The City has provided programs for young mothers, parents wanting to

improve their skills, children wanting to try their hand at arts and sports and a host of youth programs.

Our successful eco walks and ghost walks continue to attract visitors to the City.

The City has also opened up Ellis Brook Valley, possibly the best wildflower area on the outskirts of Perth.

If you haven't been there yet then I recommend you visit soon. It is a beautiful place and a credit to the many wonderful volunteers who work there.

Recently, the City was given a tick of approval from the State Government as part of the Local Government structural reform process when it was defined as a Category 1 local government.

This should give the community great confidence that the City is meeting the challenges and capitalising on the opportunities it faces.

Council elections take place on October 17 and we encourage all our ratepayers to participate in voting.

Finally, it is a great privilege to be Mayor of the City of Gosnells and I would like to thank my fellow councillors, the staff at the City and the many organisations and volunteers who all help make the City of Gosnells a great place.

## Serving over 100,000 people

LOCATED in Western Australia, the City of Gosnells is 17km south-east of the central business district of Perth.

Serving a population of more than 100,000, the City offers pleasant residential living with markets, bushwalks and modern shopping facilities.

The City was first developed by European settlers in 1829, with the loam soils and abundant waters of the Canning River running through the City providing the means for settlement of the region.

The area is rich in historical buildings, reflecting the lifestyle of the early pioneers and offering a unique opportunity to experience an integral part of WA's history.

The City enjoys a community of spirit and cultural diversity and has built a reputation for achievement and innovation. The City of Gosnells is one of WA's largest local governments, with the responsibility of ensuring the delivery of a wide range of services.

There have been significant changes in the Council to better meet the challenges of the 21st Century and the changing needs of our community, including a strong focus on customer service, an emphasis of more from less in terms of value for money and an even greater degree of consultation with the public.

Two of this district's pioneers, John Okey Davis and his wife Frances, settled in the area of land which was purchased in 1862 by Charles Gosnell, a director of the London firm of John Gosnell and Co, perfumery manufacturers.

It was from this association that the name of the City originated.



*Agonis Tower.*