

17 March 2009

Mr Geoff Dawson
Principal Research Officer
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee



Dear Geoff,

Re: Inquiry into public transport – Public Hearing – Perth, 23 March

I acknowledge your invitation and will attend to give evidence to the inquiry at 3.30pm on Monday, 23 March, 2009.

I attach a brief profile of both PATREC – the Planning and Transport Research Centre – and of the Executive Director

In 2008 the Centre produced a report for the Public Transport Authority of Western Australia entitled, *Future Directions – Planning for the Next Decade of Public Transport in Perth*. I would be pleased to discuss the considerations outlined in the report to the inquiry. The Public Transport Authority may provide more information about their response to the research report.

I would be pleased to respond to questions by the Committee and suggest the following questions as a basis for the discussion:

- With the high cost of public transport in capital and operational terms, how should we plan for the long term to maximize the benefit of the investment?
- Is one way travel in the peak (to the CBD am, and from the CBD pm) the best use of our public transport investment?
- Can we expect park n' ride to match demand for users of our rail system?
- Can rail (and road) reservations provide opportunities to intensify land use and support 'walk on' patronage?

Underlying issues include:

- Origin and destination activity centres
- Business viability and centre vitality
- Residential versus employment in land use planning
- Main line transit versus feeder services
- Parking policies and strategies
- Public versus private costs of travel

Yours sincerely


Professor Greg Martin PSM
Executive Director PATREC

**Planning and
Transport
Research Centre**

A collaborative program of
Curtin University of Technology,
Edith Cowan University,
Murdoch University and
The University of Western
Australia, supported by the
Government of Western Australia.

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Cc Mr Reece Waldock, CEO PIA