



# Media release

Office: 102 North Road, Yakamia  
Postal: PO Box 484, ALBANY WA 6331  
Phone: (08) 9841 9333  
Fax: (08) 9841 4099  
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**Authorised by: DENNIS WELLINGTON, MAYOR**

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## **All trails lead to Albany**

The City of Albany's Trails Hub Strategy has been officially adopted by Council following a final public comment period.

The vision of the strategy is for Albany to become one of Australia's primary trails destinations, packaging together a high quality system of trails set within Albany's unique natural landscape.

Albany Mayor Dennis Wellington said the Strategy had been developed in close consultation with the community over 15 months and had been very positively received.

138 public submissions were received, 96% of which were in support of the Strategy.

Mr Wellington said the Strategy would be a well-planned approach to trails infrastructure supported by a comprehensive package of visitor and hospitality services.

"An audit found that Albany has enormous potential as a trails destination. There are over 250km of world class walking trails but a distinct lack of mountain biking trails, consistent signage and cohesive visitor information," he said.

"We want Albany to be known as a premium destination for mountain bikers and other trails users and this Strategy aims to achieve that."

The Trails Hub Strategy has a focus on the fast-growing mountain biking sector, but also covers hiking, horse riding and aquatic trails.

The City of Albany Trails Hub Strategy is a result of significant collaboration with local stakeholders, including South Coast NRM, DPAW, Albany Mountain Bike Club, DSR, Albany Bushwalkers Group, Albany Natural Trailriders, Department of Water, Munda Biddi Trail Foundation and Evolve Solutions (consultant).

The Trails Hub Strategy will form the basis for the development of Trails infrastructure. The City will soon undertake planning and design for new mountain bike trails. The first priority will be upgrading trails facilities in Albany Heritage Park, including the Mass Rock Trail and the Circuit Trail.

The Trails Hub Strategy is a 10 year plan which may be subject to future funding requirements.

**END**