



Media release

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Authorised by: Mayor Dennis Wellington

The City of Albany recently appointed a Fire Liaison Officer to communicate with and educate people about risk, reducing risks and sharing responsibility.

The position is funded by the Government of Western Australia State Emergency Management Committee and the City of Albany.

A Fire Reduction Plan has been implemented for the Albany region as well as a scheduled works program which will include upgrades and maintenance to fire access tracks.

Executive Director of Works and Services Matthew Thomson said fire crew safety is a top priority and the Fire Liaison Officer would work to ensure fire access tracks have appropriate turn around areas and passing points.

The City of Albany will use methods to reduce fire fuels, such as mechanical weed removal, increased weed control and increasing and creating Hazard Separation Zones where required.

“The City is working closely with Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Power, Main Roads and the WA Police to ensure work programs are aligned, which in turn has saved money and improved relationships with key stakeholders,” Mr Thomson said.

Since the Fire Liaison Officer started, the City with assistance from local brigades has conducted 20 prescribed burns and three mechanical fuel reductions.

The ignition methods during a prescribed burn have been modified, which has decreased the intensity of the fire while still reducing fuel levels.

The City of Albany will continue to work towards other tools for fuel reduction including use of drones during fire planning and wildfire events.

Visit the City of Albany website www.albany.wa.gov.au for more information.

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