



## Vehicles on Beaches – Proposed Determination Schedule of Submissions


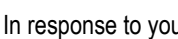
### Submissions in support

Proposed Determination	Beach	Submission:	Officer Comment
Nanarup Beach (West)		<p>Document Reference: EF21423614</p> <p>Submitted by email. [REDACTED]</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I am writing in support of the opening of vehicle access to the western end of Nanarup Beach.</p> <p>As an avid surfer, member of the [REDACTED], we attend the beach for surfing and fishing activities regularly and my car is loaded to the brim with equipment. One of the huge benefits of living on this stretch of the WA coastline is the accessibility to it and in most instances the ability to be able to park in front of the desired part of the beach on any given day, making it easy to unload the numerous surfboards, body boards, skim boards and sand boards.</p> <p>When we are able to park in front of our surf break it gives us a greater sense of safety in case of an emergency especially when we are attending a remote beach such as this which is nearly 30 minutes from town.</p> <p>From my experience surfers know that need to let their tyres down when travelling along the beaches in Albany and as a result there is less chance of damage to the beach. They are also mindful of their surroundings and travel at an appropriate speed given that the beach is shared with many people and animals.</p> <p>Nanarup Beach is special to many people in Albany as well as visitors to our town. Please allow access to this part of the beach so more people can continue to enjoy it.</p>	Noted
Nanarup Beach (West)		<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424618</b></p> <p>Submitted by email. [REDACTED] Australian Recreational Motorists Association (ARMA)</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I am contacting you on behalf of the Australian Recreational Motorists Association (ARMA) and our member clubs, one of which is the Southwest 4WD club whose members are from your part of WA.</p> <p>ARMA is a national peak body with membership open up to all types of activities that require a motor vehicle in which to pursue this. This means a lot of activities that use beaches such as surfers, kite surfers, fisher-people, 4WDDrivers etc. We have entered our second full year of operation and membership is beginning to climb. In fact, we have just had nearly 10 WA 4WD Clubs join us this year.</p> <p>One of our active portfolios is our Land Management, of which I am the Chair, hence my contacting you.</p>	Noted

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	<p>We were thrilled to hear the news that there is a plan to open Nanarup beach to 4WDDrivers. All too often we are faced with the opposite and have to work hard to keep our public spaces open.</p> <p>However, having seen the GWN7 news clip with the announcement, there has obviously been some concern raised about some users failing to adhere to an accepted code of practice and embarking on antisocial and dangerous activities. It is these type of actions that put the rest of the 4WD community in a bad light and we become tarred with the same brush plus the potential to have the beach closed down.</p> <p>Recently South Ballina Council and Crown Lands NSW made the decision to close access to 4WDs on the South Ballina Beach because of some unruly behaviour from a minority of 4WD users.</p> <p>Prior to this decision I was in contact with both the council and Crown Lands and proposed a number of ways in which they could manage this behaviour so the beach could remain open, however, I believe they had already made their minds up and were swayed by a minority of ratepayers.</p> <p>ARMA would be disappointed if this were to become the case at Nanarup, as I feel there will inevitably be some unruly behaviour, just like there is on our state roads.</p> <p>ARMA would be interested in working with the council to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Beach Driving Code of Practice which every user would be expected to adhere to.</li> <li>To also develop sand driving tips for the users, since we cannot expect all users to be experienced sand drivers. To propose rules and regulations for users</li> <li>To develop a policing, infringement and penalty system for the transgressors</li> </ul> <p>I believe, if council is armed with this, they will be in a better situation to deal with any future antisocial behaviour and not jeopardise the beach access to other users.</p> <p>I would be interested in your comments and suggestions.</p>		



## Submissions opposing


Proposed Determination	Beach	Submission:	Officer Comment
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>		<p><b>Document Reference: EF21422010.</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I am concerned with regards the above proposal to allow vehicles to access the beach at Nanarup West.</p> <p>This is a sensitive and special part of our diverse coast which provides a good surf training area and the lagoon. There are few sites that can offer either with reasonable access for non-4WD vehicles.</p> <p>Nanarup West has long been favoured by families wanting a peaceful and safe location for a day out, offering the tranquil and protected waters of the lagoon and the opportunity for young people to learn to surf on a relatively safe break.</p> <p>I have watched over the past few years as more and more people have ignored the closure of this section of the beach to vehicles.</p> <p>The behaviour of many of the drivers is unsafe for any public area.</p> <p>Those who choose to ignore the access limitation are not likely to be compliant in other regards.</p> <p>I am disappointed that I have never seen any policing of the access limitation by the Council.</p> <p>I ask you, as my councillor to support retention of the existing bylaw that prohibits vehicle access and also to voice support for increased policing of the area to deal with infringers.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>		<p><b>Document Reference: EF21422196.</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p>I am writing to ask that the City does NOT change the by-law but works harder to enforce the current law that prohibits 4WD access at Nanarup Beach West.</p> <p>As a Kalgan resident my family used to enjoy accessing the lagoon on foot safe from vehicles and has found that over the past few years the area has changed with vehicles now accessing the west end near the lagoon.</p> <p>There used to be a sign but we have not seen this for a while which makes it hard for people to realise they are not meant to be accessing the west end by vehicle, many people are not familiar with the no vehicle by-law.</p> <p>I ask that we keep the current NO vehicle access to the west end and replace the missing sign providing information as to why it is important to leave this part of the beach vehicle free.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>

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		<p>The beach already allows vehicle access to the East end, by keeping the west end vehicle free it creates a win-win for all beach goers. Those who want to take their vehicles - head east and those who want a more tranquil experience they can park and walk west, the lagoon is perfect for families with small children and without vehicles it makes it safer for everyone allowing kids to run free and people to sit and walk on the beach without worrying about vehicles driving by. This will also help protect the dunes from degradation, protect vegetation, habitats, ecosystems and encourage birdlife.</p> <p>Please consider my submission.</p>	
<p>ALL BEACHES</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to all beaches.</p>		<p><b>Document Reference: EF21422764.</b></p> <p>Submitted by email:  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I object to the proposed allowance of vehicles on beaches, other than for boat launching.</p> <p>I have witnessed vehicle access and destruction/disturbance of beaches and possible bird dune nests.</p> <p>I say keep vehicles off beaches.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>		<p><b>Document Reference: EF21422091.</b></p> <p>Submitted by email:  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>In response to your advert in the Weekender, I am writing to object to vehicles being permitted on Nanarup beach west (from the inlet to the sheltered lagoon).</p> <p>I used to use this area frequently, for swimming and snorkelling and would always take visitors to the lagoon. More recently I avoid the area, as it has become a race track and car park. Instead of being used by family groups it has become taken over by a few vehicles, with gazebos and everything else a vehicle can carry. People now occupy the area as if it's their personal property, preventing others accessing the area. In my experience and opinion, the area would be used by more people if it was vehicle free, it would be safer, more pleasant and a far greater tourism attraction.</p> <p>I understand rangers cannot police the area all the time, but the public can help with this, and dob in offenders easily by taking photographs of offending vehicles. Enforcement is a consideration, but should not determine whether vehicles should be permitted or not.</p> <p>4 wheel drivers can and do access all other parts of the beach, and it is not unreasonable to have a small area protected from vehicles.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>

Proposed Determination	Beach	Submission:	Officer Comment
Nanarup Beach (West) In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).	<p><b>Document Reference: ICR21422256</b></p> <p>Submitted by Letter [REDACTED]</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I am writing in response to the accessing of vehicles onto the beach at Nanarup. Where vehicles have been driving along to the lagoon and churning up the sand, thus making it difficult to walk in between the ruts. Also the 4WDs have taken over the lagoon area and children only have that area of beach where they can swim.</p> <p>On some days, Nanarup is more like a highway, and the lagoon area a car park.</p> <p>So I am against allowing vehicles being given free reign on this beach.</p>	Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.	
Nanarup Beach (West) In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21422331</b></p> <p>Submitted by email: [REDACTED]</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I strongly object to the determination to allow vehicles being permitted onto Nanarup Beach (West). Since people with 4 wheel drives have ignored or destroyed the signage prohibiting vehicles driving into the corner we have stopped going there. It has turned a beautiful spot to take the grand-kids into a noisy and dangerous car park. Rewarding people for breaking the law will set a precedent for more beaches to be damaged and erosion to hasten.</p> <p>No consideration was given for the fragile ecosystems this stretch of beach supports, over and above its use as a safe place to swim and snorkel. There are many scientific studies, both here and overseas, that make clear that the ocean shoreline is both crucial and fragile and needs protecting for all of us. It is past time that council made decisions like this based on self-interested lobby groups, without undertaking crucial environmental research.</p>	Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.  Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.	
Nanarup Beach (West) In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21422565</b></p> <p>Submitted by email: [REDACTED]</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I wish to lodge an objection re Vehicles accessing Nanarup Beach West I am very disappointed that the council has let this become a four-wheel drive car park You have some very selfish councillors who have done nothing about preventing vehicle access because they obviously feel that they have the right to drive up to the lagoon As a pedestrian this is what I have to put up with.</p> <p>1. The beach is always churned up and difficult to walk on</p>	Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.	

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	<p>2. Vehicles have no consideration for pedestrians They seem to think that they have right of way and will not divert around you</p> <p>3. If a vehicle comes from behind, it will creep along behind you until you get out of their way</p> <p>4. If a vehicle comes towards you, it will stop and wait for you to walk around them</p> <p>5. These inconsiderate drivers who won't give way to walkers always give way politely to each other</p> <p>6. The beach is unsafe for children as one has to be constantly watching for vehicles and constantly be aware that there is a chance that their child might be run over</p> <p>7. The lagoon area has now become a four-wheel drive car park</p> <p>8. Unsafe for walkers, swimming and picnics</p> <p>9. So if you walk to the lagoon you can basically have a swim and then have to leave again because the vehicles have taken up all the space and if you are lucky you might find a big of wet sand to sit on We can no longer take a picnic and stay for the day because each vehicle has a parking space and the same amount of space for their picnic area</p> <p>10. If you are lucky enough to find somewhere to sit it is then you that has to pick up your belongings and move out of the way if a vehicle wants to leave or come and park</p> <p>11. If a pedestrian is lucky enough to have a vehicle leave while they are there we can then sit on dry but churned up sand</p> <p>This area should be accessible to all, not just to vehicles Why should they have right of way over other people?</p> <p>Please show some consideration and take note of the objections and let this area return to what it was before large four-wheel drive vehicles took it over, and let us all be able to enjoy it again</p>	



<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21422699</b></p> <p>Submitted by email:  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I write as a ratepayer to oppose vehicles having access to the western beach at Nanarup. I am opposed primarily because of safety concerns and the loss of enjoyment for those walking on this beach. There are a number of beaches in the Albany district available for those who feel the need to beach drive. As Albany grows bigger in population the congestion (read "dangers") will become worse.</p> <p>The inlet and pool area at Nanarup contributes to the beauty of our area, attracting locals and visitors. It needs a measure of protection against what can be a procession of 4wd vehicles coming in and out.</p> <p>I am hopeful that Council will have the foresight to ban vehicles from this beach.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21423148</b></p> <p>Submitted by email:  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I wish to submit my objection to vehicles being allowed to the West part of Nanarup beach.</p> <p>SAFETY is the main reason.</p> <p>We have seen many instances of four-wheel drive vehicles speeding past families causing dangerous situations. The wheel ruts from them make walking difficult, especially for older people.</p> <p>Up to 100 vehicles end up parked along the beach and packed at the pool. It becomes a car park which is not a safe place for children to play.</p> <p>The beauty of this pristine little bay is lost with all the cars.</p> <p>A family walking to the pool was recently tooted to make room for a vehicle to go there! A lot of people, including us, don't go there on weekends or after 8am during the week as it becomes so unpleasant.</p> <p>HOW MANY COUNCILLORS HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN TO THE BEACH ON ANY HOLIDAY WEEKEND?</p> <p>If a Councillor votes on an item, they need to be familiar with what actually happens on this beach.</p> <p>Emu Point beach was closed to vehicles for the same reasons that many people wish to see Nanarup beach west closed.</p> <p>With increasing population and increasing traffic, the pressure on this area will be greater every year.</p> <p>The Council has a Duty of Care and when an accident happens, and it will, the Council will be liable.</p> <p>I look forward to a reconsideration by the Councillors that voted for the beach to be an unsafe, and unpleasant experience to make a change in their vote.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>


<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21423150</b></p> <p>Submitted by letter  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I have recently become aware of the potential for local government legislative changes allowing for 4WD beach access to the western Islet section and sheltered pool of Nanarup beach.</p> <p>My concern is for the safety of beach goers, it is becoming a dangerous place to go and an accident in the making. Over Easter weekend with my family we decided to spend the day at Nanarup beach and as was our custom we planned to park up near the sign at the edge of the inlet/the bar and carry our swimming clothes, boards and provisions for the day to the western end of the beach in the shelter of the islet.</p> <p>We were quite surprised to discovered there were already several 4WD vehicles parked in the area and others driving up and down the beach to and from the pool. We were under the impression still that it was still prohibited to go up there with vehicles. So we hoped that perhaps the ranger would soon move people.</p> <p>Despite our disappointment we did not want to waste the day so we walked about two thirds of the way up the beach and managed to find a flattish spot just above the 4WD drive tracks in the soft sand and not quite onto the dune itself.</p> <p>After settling down for about 15-20 minutes while the kids went for a surf we had a close encounter with a Land cruiser heading at speed towards the east that slipped off the wheel ruts into the area we were relaxing in. The driver was more focused on another vehicle traveling on the ocean side heading in the opposite direction with dogs running alongside. We were forced to leap out the way in the nick of time. The driver had no idea or care on how close he had come to running us over. So we pushed up higher on the dune, where we were now forced to sit as it was no longer possible to lay down. We spent a little longer on the beach as we got frustrated watching the constant flow of 4WDs up and down.</p> <p>Sometime later we were informed that there was a sign somewhere at the beach asking people to state their views on the opening up 4WD access to the beach. If we had been aware of this, then we would have made our feelings known. The idea of, and the experience of enjoying this special part of Albany is no longer. Also, what sort of independent feedback is it to put sign up on the beach asking 4WDdrivers whether they think it is a good idea. It is a bit like asking Eagles supporters if they think their team will win the next Derby. It needs to be unbiased and respectful of all the beachgoers at Nanarup. There is plenty of space for 4WDs on the eastern end and other beaches in the area.</p> <p>Perhaps the City can consider evaluating community's aspirations in a more consultative, transparent and independent way. The Albany UWA campus might be interested in supervising students to do this as part of a social science research project.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>
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	<p>Despite my concerns about the lack of 'true community consultation', I am particularly concerned about the potential for a serious accident and injury.</p>	
<p>All Beaches in particular Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to all beaches and particularly Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21423293</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p>██████████</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I am writing in regards to proposed changes to 4WD laws on many of our local beaches. I personally am against access by non-emergency vehicles to any beaches; it is a selfish, indulgent human leisure pursuit that comes at the expense of the fragile environments these areas support.</p> <p>In particular, however, I would like to specifically object to the proposal to allow 4WD access to Nanarup Beach West. In addition to wishing to protect the unique environment of this lagoon, I also visit the calm area frequently with my young family. Small, excited, children at the beach DO NOT mix well with vehicles. Allowing vehicles to access this part of Nanarup beach will put an end to peaceful, worry free, family days out - Precisely the kind of outings families are encouraged to undertake with their children to help promote activity, exercise and respect and fascination for the natural environment.</p> <p>I support and reiterate below the comments that have been generated by others in my local community. "An overwhelming amount of unauthorised vehicles accessing the area" should not be reason for the council to support changes to current 4WD laws...this is totally non-sensical. We have laws (of all sorts) for a reason - if they're being broken frequently, it's a compliance / policing issue, not an issue with the law in the first place.</p> <p><b>Nanarup Beach West</b></p> <p>For generations families and individuals have left vehicles parked at the inlet and taken the walk to the lagoon. A tranquil, protected location for swimming, picnics, fishing, birdlife and away from vehicle traffic. Surfers and swimmers could leave towels and and personal items on the beach, children could dig holes, play safely in the sand and at the water's edge.</p> <p>Many people now ignore the no vehicles by-law resulting in the beach and lagoon being a place where beach goers must be on alert for moving vehicles and an increase in anti-social behaviour. The rocks on the SW side of the lagoon are being vandalised and the dune between the islet and the mainland is being accessed by vehicles.</p> <p>According to a City Officer, the proposal to change the law has been in response to the overwhelming amount of unauthorised vehicle activity on the beach leading to the lagoon and the difficulty enforcing compliance. The City is also of the view if drivers want to use the beach in this way, it has merit.</p> <p>Because it is our Councillors who will vote and decide on the change it is important for community members to make contact with Councillors to discuss their concerns or views.</p> <p>Environmental Considerations</p> <p>*The lagoon is a unique location remote from roads and traffic</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required.</p>

	<p>*Protect dunes from degradation          *Protect vegetation, habitats, ecosystems, birdlife, dune nesting fauna.          *Retain peace and tranquillity.          *Safety for people          *Safety and respect for nature loving and environmentally responsible people.          *Traffic management compliance</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)          In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21423315</b>          Submitted by email.          [REDACTED]  <b>Submission:</b>          I am a resident of Kalgan, and a land owner at Nanarup [REDACTED] I am would like to make you aware of my thoughts on the proposed changes to permit 4WDs west of Nanarup inlet - I disagree with the proposal in its entirety and believe that the way to make our region better is to promote sustainable land use practices.          At heart, permitting 4WDs to access the lagoon is unsustainable. They destroy the dune systems, and destroy the ambiance which people seek when they visit lagoon. The dunes are destroyed through reckless driving practices. The ambiance is destroyed though antisocial behaviour.          Whilst walking back to my car after a surf, (parked at Nanarup Beach East) I have almost been run over through careless/dangerous drivers on two occasions. On one particular occasion, the hoons did not see me until the last minute, swerved out of the way and almost rolled their 4wd into the surf.          These anecdotes highlight a key issue:          - families wanting to access the lagoon will walk from Nanarup Beach East or the car park and leave a light footprint on the environment          - antisocial types who don't care about the nature beauty or fellow land users will do stupid things at the expense of ruining the experience and the environment for everyone          Ultimately, the council should be making plans about land use that enhance sustainability, rather than accelerate the rate of land damage. The way to achieve sustainability is to upgrade the benign neglect shown to Nanarup Beach West and help land users understand why it needs to remain free from 4WDing.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.          Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.          Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required.</p>

<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21423316</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>In response to the City's call for comment re 4WD access to Nanarup Beach West I believe 4WD access should not be allowed on the western end (Lagoon) of Nanarup Beach. This part of the beach is the only area suitable for children to swim at this beach and I believe 4WD access to the lagoon is a hazard to children and has over the years caused degradation to the beach on the way to the lagoon. There is plenty of opportunity to 4WD on the rest of Nanarup beach. 4W Drivers (even though I am one) are becoming increasingly disrespectful of pedestrians and I believe we need to create safe zones and 'peace' zones free from noisy and dangerous traffic.</p> <p>Having said this, I also believe that if vehicle access to the lagoon is not physically blocked and policed, this discussion /ruling is a waste of time. The rules will be ignored if there are no consequences to ignoring signage.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21423763</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I have concerns about the proposed 4WD changes to Nanarup Beach West.</p> <p>This is a beautiful place, beloved by families and beachgoers. I've witnessed changes in behaviour recently at this beach, which is disappointing and concerning.</p> <p>Your 1999 management plan spells this out clearly:  The City's duty of care to provide a safe environment  Sustainable environmental management  Use of the area for recreation and commercial fishing</p> <p>I do not feel that "people are doing it anyway; it's hard to police" is an appropriate or valid reason to change the no-vehicle by-law. This law is upheld by most law-abiding citizens, with only a few that flout it. With recently proposed changes to this by-law, I have witnessed a significant increase in 4WD activity at the west side of the inlet, presumably because people feel they now have "permission".</p> <p>This change has been detrimental, to say the least. There are two parts to this:</p> <p>1) Environmental considerations - "Sustainable environmental management"  The lagoon is a special place from an environmental perspective, and has enjoyed the benefits of being a fair walk from the nearest carpark or road. It is unspoilt, and one of Albany's special beautiful spots. With the rise in 4WD traffic, there has been an increase in litter, and in people who do not respect the natural environment of the lagoon. There is little protection for dunes or vegetation, all of which are directly impacted by traffic.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required.</p>

	<p>Not only is there direct damage from the vehicles, but there have been vandals damaging the rocks.</p> <p>2) Community respect and safety - “The City’s duty of care to provide a safe environment”, and “use of the area for recreation”.</p> <p>Beach four-wheel driving is a fun and enjoyable activity for many people. There is a significant stretch of beach on the east part of Nanarup that is used for this. I do not see any reason to extend this to Nanarup Beach West, which serves a very different function for many members of the community.</p> <p>There is a lack of respect for many of the families and beachgoers who enjoy this area by allowing 4WD traffic here. I would like to share some examples with you:</p> <p>I’ve had to limit my trips there on Saturday or Sunday afternoons. I’ve witnessed a few times the lagoon turning into a carpark, with several cars parked together, with barbeques and tents all hauled out. A far cry from the serene and peaceful beach, where you carry in what you need, and carry it out again. The cars take up most of the space where one previously could sit and reflect, and they bring with them antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>Restrictions on family activities. I enjoy sharing the beach with young families, where their children can feel safe running around on the sand, and exploring the rocks and relative safety of the sheltered lagoon waters. I’ve witnessed the change in the mood for everyone at the beach when one or two 4WDs hoon through into the lagoon, with disappointed parents keeping their frustrated children close, and many opting to leave.</p> <p>Increase in antisocial behaviour: from hooning around with limited regard for playing children or beachgoer belongings, destruction to the environment, and vandalism. I was also surprised some months back after descending the rocky steps at the side of the lagoon, and finding a couple having intercourse in the back of their 4WD. It was 3pm on a Friday. I think we were equally surprised and unhappy upon seeing each-other. I’m just glad it wasn’t a family with small children.</p> <p>I urge you to think of the future. We should be stewards of this land, and protect it for future generations. We already have climate change bearing down on us - let’s not add needlessly to the incoming environmental damage.</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21423787</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p></p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>The City of Albany is currently proposing changes to 4WD laws on many of our beaches. Of particular concern is the changing of law at Nanarup Beach West to permit 4WD vehicle traffic. Currently 4WD access to Nanarup Beach West and the lagoon is prohibited except for acrod registered people.</p> <p>Nanarup Beach West</p> <p>For generations families and individuals have left vehicles parked at the inlet and taken the walk to the lagoon. A tranquil, protected location for swimming, picnics, fishing, birdlife and away from vehicle traffic. Surfers and swimmers could leave towels and and personal items on the beach, children could dig holes, play safely in the sand and at the water’s edge.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required.</p>

	<p>Many people now ignore the no vehicles by-law resulting in the beach and lagoon being a place where beach goers must be on alert for moving vehicles and an increase in anti-social behaviour. The rocks on the SW side of the lagoon are being vandalised and the dune between the islet and the mainland is being accessed by vehicles.</p> <p>According to a City Officer, the proposal to change the law has been in response to the overwhelming amount of unauthorised vehicle activity on the beach leading to the lagoon and the difficulty enforcing compliance. The City is also of the view if drivers want to use the beach in this way, it has merit.</p> <p>Because it is our Councillors who will vote and decide on the change it is important for community members to make contact with Councillors to discuss their concerns or views.</p> <p>Environmental Considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*The lagoon is a unique location remote from roads and traffic</li> <li>*Protect dunes from degradation</li> <li>*Protect vegetation, habitats, ecosystems, birdlife, dune nesting fauna.</li> <li>*Retain peace and tranquility.</li> <li>*Safety for people</li> <li>*Safety and respect for nature loving and environmentally responsible people.</li> <li>*Traffic management compliance</li> </ul> <p>The voice and values of nature lovers and those who care about this unique environment are being lost in the push for authorised 4WD recreation.</p> <p>Please do not let this change occur and be ruined by 4WD's.</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424103</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I strongly oppose the proposal from the City of Albany to change the gazetted law to allow vehicle access to Nanarup Beach West and the lagoon. As a long-term local resident 1999-2016 of Lower Kalgan and current frequent Nanarup beach user my family and I have witnessed and been impacted by the decrease in compliance enforcement and the increase in illegal and anti-social activity degrading this beach.</p> <p>Nanarup Beach West is gazetted as a recreation area for people. 21 years ago, submissions from the public and the wisdom of Councillors and City Officers recognised and respected the lagoon and its beach access as a place to protect. At that time 4WD and motorbike activity on the beach was a problem and in conflict with beach users. It was considered that this conflict would only increase in future years.</p> <p>In 1999, the City of Albany Councillors voted unanimously to prohibit vehicles and designate this beach for swimmers and walkers. (see Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting Tuesday 14 December 1999)</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required</p>

[https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/ordinary-council-meeting/ordinary-council-meeting-14-december-1999/296/documents/ocm\\_minutes\\_dec99-1.pdf](https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/ordinary-council-meeting/ordinary-council-meeting-14-december-1999/296/documents/ocm_minutes_dec99-1.pdf) See page 49 item 15.1.4

The current proposed use as an access route for vehicles to the lagoon is in direct conflict with this designated use.

The reason for the current proposed change, according to the City Officer is because enforcing compliance is too difficult for the existing management and because the amount of illegal vehicle use has merit for changing the law. In 2021, this proposal is an outrageously backward step for any coastal location to change the status quo from 4WD prohibited to 4WD permitted.

No environmental management plan has been offered in accordance with this proposal according to the City Officer. Environmental considerations have not been presented to voting Councillors.

Signage with a suggested code of conduct will be the guide for users. This will not address environmental degradation, protection of beach users and the destruction of the wilderness quality of this location.

Councillors are to vote on this proposal based on the results of a public preference consultation. There is much more to consider.

#### Environmental Considerations

- The City of Albany administration must put the same value on remote fragile environments as it does on the Emu Point salt marsh ecosystem.
- Risk to dune nesting bird species including the plover and fairy tern is well documented. See <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-06-30/save-the-fairy-tern/100256828>
- Destruction of vegetation and the erosion of sand being repeatedly broken up by tyres at high tide and with rising sea level.
- Compaction of sand impacts on sand dwelling organisms. Sandy beaches have an ecological link between the dunes and the surf zone, providing a constant interchange of sand, organic matter and nutrients.
- It may seem that sandy beaches are home to only the odd bird or crab, but in fact there are countless species of tiny animals that stay buried and hidden under the sand – protected from predators, the drying sun, extreme temperature changes and salinity. Read Off Road Vehicle Impact on the Australian Environment.
- [https://www.aph.gov.au/parliamentary\\_business/committees/house\\_of\\_representatives\\_committees?url=reports/1977/1977\\_pp31.pdf](https://www.aph.gov.au/parliamentary_business/committees/house_of_representatives_committees?url=reports/1977/1977_pp31.pdf)
- Vehicle disturbance, noise, speed, reckless presence greatly impacts the tranquillity and of this unique natural setting for people, birds and fauna.

#### Safety Considerations

- Real danger for people using the beach
- Vehicles moving fast through soft sand assume right of way.

- Drivers who like to test their abilities and machines can be careless with personal safety.
- What laws define safe driving in a dual use area?
- What enforcement and monitoring will there be for unsafe driving?

#### Cultural Respect Considerations

- For generations those who value Nanarup beach and lagoon have walked to the lagoon capably carrying what was necessary for an enjoyable day at this idyllic location. The existing by law permitting vehicle access only to transfer those with mobility restrictions. Keeping it a safe place for all people with calm waters and sheltered aspect.
- Anti-social and inconsiderate behaviour of many 4W drivers and motorbike riders is in direct conflict with the enjoyment and safety of others.
- The soft rocks at the south west side of the lagoon have been increasingly defaced and vandalised. This copy-cat behaviour has increased erosion and detracted from their natural formation. The fragile limestone shoreline of the islet is also under increased pressure and damage from numerous people.

Allowing vehicle access greatly increases the human impact on this location. It is a fair assumption that restricting vehicle access has a self-monitoring characteristic in that people who care to walk to the lagoon, respect and care for the lagoon.



To change the law to permit vehicles on Nanarup Beach West to access the lagoon is not in the interests of coastal conservation, environmental protection or improving community recreation. It is a contradiction to the City of Albany Natural Reserves Strategy and Action Plan. Page 7

The proposal is the response of City of Albany to complaints from the community about unauthorised and unsafe driver behaviour on this beach. Because compliance of the current law has not been enforced, no fines issued, the law is ignored and 4WD activities now dominate. It is absurd to consider the solution is to authorise the problem activities.


I recommend City Officers and Councillors read and consider the Minutes of Ordinary Meeting Tuesday 14 December 1999 (Page 49 onwards) to get a broader understanding of what is to be considered when deciding on this issue.

Please consider the 'Guiding Principles of Natural Reserve Management' page 8 of the City of Albany in particular 'The Challenges and Opportunities' page 10 to make sure your decision protects this location for future generations. <https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/documents/246/natural-reserves-strategy-and-action-plan-2017-to-2021>

Strong leadership does not sit back and let the 'might is right' mentality dictate law enforcement. Strong leadership steps up to make and maintain law and order based on well considered policy, philosophy and vision.


<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424148</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I have a 4WD, but choose to obey the signage and park my vehicle and walk.</p> <p>I feel unsafe walking along the narrow section of beach between the lagoon and islet pool. 4WD vehicle seem to think they own the beach and pedestrians should walk in the water.</p> <p>At the islet pool, 4WD vehicles last summer hogged every available bit of sand, greatly reducing the enjoyment of this wonderful natural feature.</p> <p>In the last few years the environmental damage on the beach has increased greatly.</p> <p>I am also concerned that with lack of management, people are increasingly lighting fires on the beach. I have found hot coals from these fires in the morning. There is a chance of a fire escaping into the nearby vegetation. The frequency of fires at the beach has increased over the past few summers.</p> <p>A summer hot fire in this fragile coastal vegetation would cause a lot of environmental damage.</p> <p>I see lots of donut spins on the hard lagoon sand. Occasionally the donuts are on the sand up at the eyelet pool end. The donut spins have recently increased.</p> <p>It would appear that the donut spins are extending from the beach to Mt Richard Rd. Mornings when the beach is badly cut up are frequently mornings that Mt Richard Rd is also cut up.</p> <p>To help the environment and reduce the associated damage on Mt Richard Road. I hope the council can allocate resource to police the damage to the beach.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required.</p>
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424138</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>We are regular users of nanurup beach and walk up to Islet pool for a swim. We have a 4WD, but choose to obey the signage and park and walk.</p> <p>In the last few years the anti-social and dangerous behaviour on the beach has increased greatly.</p> <p>In the past, council policed the beach and anti-social behaviour was only occasional.</p> <p>Even prior to the recent beach erosion, some 4WD vehicles fail to deflate their tyres and drove along this narrow stretch of beach fast to avoid bogging. Since the erosion and even with Taylor Inlet open, people are still driving to the islet pool. I find myself constantly checking behind to ensure we are not going to be run down by a fast moving 4WD.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required</p>



	<p>Basically the beach is not wide enough for both 4WD and pedestrians.</p> <p>In recent years, un-managed vehicle access has led to large overnight parties a couple of times each summer. Each year after these parties, we and the local community collect the rubbish and bury the hot coals. When the beach was managed, this unsocial behaviour happened, but was very rare.</p> <p>Please manage the beach before some unsuspecting kid stands in hot coals or cuts themselves on broken glass.</p> <p>The line up of 4WDs around the inlet pool the last few summer was ugly and left little room for people who had walked and hence unable to stake a claim to some beach to relax.</p> <p>When the beach was managed, we would have occasional 4WD at the point surf break, but not hogging the islet pool.</p> <p>The lack of vehicle management at the beach has led to lot dune damage. For some un known reason, vehicles want to try and see how high they can drive up a vertical dune. With some management, the dune damage hopefully will be reduced.</p> <p>We see lots of donut spins on the hard lagoon sand. To my complete astonishment, in broad day light and with people present at islet pool, a 4WD proceeded to do donuts at the pool.</p> <p>The cutting up of the hard sand at the lagoon has increased in the last few years and is now extending to the islet pool.</p> <p>I am hopeful that council will allocate sufficient resources to once again manage the beach so that we can safely walk to islet pool and enjoy this wonderful bit of nature.</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424275</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p></p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I do not agree with allowing cars on the beach at Nanarup. It is amazing that no one has been injured or killed. It is sickening to see the number of vehicles that drive along the beach and at a speed which is dangerous to those who are using it. Its unfathomable to think the Council thinks this is acceptable to place the lives of children and elderly at risk. Would the council expect it was acceptable to allow children to play on a busy street and dodge cars for their safety.</p> <p>The Council has duty of care to those who use our beaches and to allow cars to use it as a road so as to access parts of the beach that can be reached by simply walking is unbelievable. Each year the number of cars on the beach has increased. What number will the Council consider safe for families to have to dodge the oncoming traffic to be safe?</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>

<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424337</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>Thank you for taking your time to consider this serious issue.</p> <p>The main concern [REDACTED] is the anti-social behavior happening at the lagoon by allowing unlimited access to everyone.</p> <p>We now have 4wds tearing up and down the beach through all hours of the night spotlighting [REDACTED] with total disregard for the people staying. [REDACTED] having the enjoyment of all the Great Southern has to offer with our beautiful coastline and pristine beaches.</p> <p>These weekend warriors in their 4wds have done so much to destroy the peacefulness and the entire ecosystem of the beach.</p> <p>I have personally witnessed more than 50 cars attending the lagoon on long weekends and school holidays, with some just families having a good time but whilst this was all happening you had your idiots and tools doing burnout donuts in front of everyone with young children running everywhere, this should be major concern for council.</p> <p>Dogs off leads with the height of visitors are also a problem as they are fighting [REDACTED], also another public concern.</p> <p>I [REDACTED] have had many run ins with the public who do not read trespassing signs [REDACTED]. Their excuse is we just wanted to have a look [REDACTED] they plant their faces on windows but also on a number of occasions have attempted to break in. Vandalism is also a current and ongoing threat. We had an attempted theft [REDACTED] regarding [REDACTED] over on the beach side. I have been abused and physically threatened from these beach goers entering our property.</p> <p>This is not what we want to portray to visit our region but to allow such behavior and have it not policed will result sadly in death or serious injury.</p> <p><b>Document Reference: EF21424566</b></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>In the relatively short duration of my tenure, it has become apparent that the lack of a management and policing of predominantly 4WD's on the beach has developed into a significant problem.</p>	<p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required</p> <p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p>
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	<p>Particularly over long weekends and summer months, 4WD's can be observed (and heard) driving along the beach at speed, often exhibiting dangerous behaviour which puts unsuspecting family beachgoers at risk. These offenders display no respect for the unique environment, driving over natural habitat which is leading to gradual degradation. This practice is destroying plants, which is allowing the sand to be dispersed by the wind, contributing to erosion. Our natural beach surrounds, moreover, are not only a beautiful feature, they also provide environs for a number of animal and plant species, some of which are threatened.</p> <p>From a tourism stance, these visitors create an unwelcome atmosphere on our stunning beach. Their vehicles, many a time, narrowly missing other patrons. Drivers and their passengers occasionally illegally camp overnight, lighting fires and displaying drunken, loutish behaviour which has been commented on by my guests. [REDACTED] we have encountered beach campers on numerous occasions. Two instances immediately spring to mind:</p> <p>The first involves a group of men who harassed a young lady [REDACTED] one morning, making crude comments and demanding a shower. On another occasion I arrived home from work to be confronted by two gentlemen (I use the term loosely) driving back down my long private dirt driveway at speed, claiming they were sleeping rough on the beach and thought my driveway lead to a 4wd track to their camp. The toothless, heavily tattooed passenger resembled an 'after' picture warning against the use of A class drugs. The incident certainly unnerved me.</p> <p>These 4WD visitors/ tourists bring nothing to our gorgeous corner of the Great Southern. They seemingly are not spending money on accommodation or dining as brought out by their free camping/camp fire cookout practices. They are, however, deterring tourists from visiting Nanarup Beach and contributing to paying visitors with holiday dollars to spend perhaps investigating safer sightseeing options further afield. The only contribution these people bring and leave in their wake is damage to our environment and tourism reputation and a multitude of rubbish.</p> <p>In conclusion, protecting Nanarup Beach and surrounds via ranger patrols, and enforcing fines where applicable, would not only protect the beach and Albany's reputation as a family orientated tourist hub, but also produce additional revenue for the city. A win/win situation.</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West) In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: ICR21424296</b> Submitted by email. [REDACTED] <b>Submission:</b> We are local residents of Kalgan and very frequent visitors and beach users of Nanarup, we are quite disheartened to hear that the beach west of Taylors Inlet would be open to vehicles. The cove and lagoon is a peaceful place which should be a protected space for recreation without vehicles. The beach access to this area is quite narrow and many near misses through inconsiderate 4WD owners/ oncoming traffic and pedestrians have occurred. Many</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>

	<p>of the 4WD vehicles &amp; motor bikes that journey up to the Lagoon bring antisocial, unwanted behaviours and cause massive sand ruts making walking difficult. The destruction of the dunes with 4WD and human misuse is apparent and affecting the vegetation and nesting areas for birds such as Plovers &amp; Sooty Oystercatchers. Many residents including ourselves and the elderly continue to park at the met and walk to the Lagoon, as they have done for many years, this combined with permanent signage will help deter people from driving to the Lagoon. We understand "policing" or "enforcing compliance" of such a closure can be a burden to the City both financially and in time, but surely with the "Report It" facility on the website, unauthorized vehicles can be reported and fined through leaving enough citizen evidence. The majority of people do the right thing - it is always a few that will ruin it for others.</p> <p>Photos were provided of Australia Day 2019- to note how little beach there is for 4WD access and many small children present. A very dangerous place during the holiday period, on long weekends and special event days. We urge you to re consider this potential opening to vehicles and to make the decision to ban all vehicles west of Taylors inlet. Kind regards</p>	<p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p>
<p>Nanarup Beach (West) and Betty's Beach North.</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West) and Betty's Beach North.</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21134054</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p></p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I thank the City for the opportunity to comment on the proposed vehicles on beaches determination. I trust that City staff will give the submission that follows their active consideration.</p> <p>I request that the submission be <b>published in full</b> in attachments to the agenda for upcoming Development and Infrastructure Services (DIS) committee and Ordinary Council meetings (OCMs) at which the determination will be considered by the City's elected members.</p> <p><b>1. BACKGROUND</b></p> <p>This submission addresses the policy development process for the proposed vehicles on beaches determination, and two of the 19 beaches covered by the draft determination, namely Nanarup Beach West and Bettys Beach North.</p> <p>In the DIS committee and OCM debates that non-unanimously endorsed the current round of public consultation pursuant to which this submission is made, the proposed determination was contentious for only two of the 19 beaches – Nanarup Beach West and Bettys Beach North. It is for that reason that this submission specifically addresses only those two beaches.</p> <p>The proposed determination considers vehicular access to the 19 beaches as one omnibus consideration. In contrast, an officer's report unanimously endorsed by elected members two decades ago, in 1999, focused entirely on just one of these beaches – Nanarup. That report, Item 15.1.4 at <a href="https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/ordinary-council-meeting/ordinary-council-meeting-14-december-1999/296/documents/ocm_minutes_dec99-1.pdf">https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/ordinary-council-meeting/ordinary-council-meeting-14-december-1999/296/documents/ocm_minutes_dec99-1.pdf</a>, provided nuanced consideration of vehicles on this one sensitive beach and deserves further consideration today.</p> <p>In preparing the 1999 report, officers also developed, in close consultation with the Albany – and specifically Nanarup – community, the <i>Nanarup Beach Management Plan</i> (Price, M., Giles, D., and Davies, J., City of Albany), which was cited in a coastal planning and management manual produced by the State Government (<i>Coastal Planning and Management Manual</i>, WA Planning Commission, 2003). I have not seen the <i>Nanarup Beach</i></p>	<p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Monitor beach use at Betty's and undertake measures to protect the environmental values as required.</p>

*Management Plan* but it was apparently once available at:

[https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/download/795/3098\\_Nanarup\\_Beach\\_MP\\_Final.pdf](https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/download/795/3098_Nanarup_Beach_MP_Final.pdf) .

More recently, a scientific study conducted across eight Albany beaches (including Nanarup), and published in the prestigious international *Nature* journal, highlighted “that even low-level vehicular traffic negatively impacts the physical beach environment and consequently the ability of many species to survive in this habitat in the face of this disturbance”. That study – Davies, R., Speldewinde, P. & Stewart, B. *Low level off-road vehicle (ORV) traffic negatively impacts macroinvertebrate assemblages at sandy beaches in south-western Australia*. *Sci Rep* 6, 24899, 2016, at

<https://www.nature.com/articles/srep24899>, is an instructive resource for developing the proposed determination. Detailed consideration of the above points, and recommendations for the policy development process from here to completion of the proposed determination, follow.

## **2. COUNCIL DEBATES TO DATE**

At both the June 2021 DIS committee and OCM meetings, two City councillors respectively familiar with each beach raised respective concerns about:

- the width of Nanarup Beach West and whether it was possible to achieve a balance between vehicular and pedestrian use of the beach; and
- the narrowness and fragility of the vehicular access point to Bettys Beach North.

Having inspected both beaches, and in no way criticising the resolutions made at those two meetings, I must say that I share the two councillors’ concerns. Again, with no criticism intended, I am concerned too that some elected members may never have been to either or both of Nanarup Beach West or Bettys Beach North. It is my firm belief that to make an informed decision about vehicular access to these beaches, all elected members must be given the opportunity to inspect the beaches first-hand.

## **3. OMNIBUS VERSUS FOCUSED CONSIDERATION**

As noted above, the proposed determination addresses the future of the 19 beaches together in omnibus fashion, whereas a 1999 officer’s report focused entirely on just one of these beaches – Nanarup.

This submission considers that because both Nanarup Beach West and Bettys Beach North have specific and serious access issues, and would both be blighted by vehicular traffic, they need special, focused consideration, such as provided in 1999 for Nanarup Beach.

## **4. 1999 OFFICER’S REPORT, NANARUP BEACH AND THE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

An important part of the policy development process for the 1999 officer’s report, which focused exclusively on Nanarup, was the *Nanarup Beach Management Plan*, produced in close consultation with the Albany, and especially Nanarup, community. This highly-considered community-City collaboration resulted in prohibition of vehicles at Nanarup Beach West, including the lagoon area, while permitting vehicle use at Nanarup Beach East. According to the 1999 report, the community and the City’s then Strategic Planning team had worked together to develop a management plan that reflected: 1. the City’s duty of care to provide a safe environment; 2. sustainable environmental management; and 3. use of the area for recreation and commercial fishing.

Coastwatch Coastcare provided a grant to prepare the management plan and for some implementation.

In what appears to be a holistic and constructive approach, the plan considered pedestrian and vehicle access, signs, dune rehabilitation, provision of facilities, and funding opportunities.

The City's Strategic Planning team sought to strike a balance between the previously unlimited use of vehicles at Nanarup and the need to have an area dedicated to pedestrians and swimmers only. This was done by prohibiting vehicles to the west of the inlet. Licensed vehicles were allowed to use the beach to the east of the inlet. In special cases, such as for the commercial fishermen and visitors with disabilities, a permit could be sought from the City for vehicular use at Nanarup Beach West.

The 1999 officer's report noted that policing undesirable behaviour at Nanarup had been a problem in the past. It stressed that compliance to vehicle access designations was important to success of the management plan. The report further noted that rangers would need to be available should there be complaints at Nanarup Beach West. The report further highlighted that the process of developing the plan had already led to improvements at the beach in terms of dune rehabilitation.

This submission observes that vehicular access at Nanarup Beach West has been prohibited by statute since 1999. To overturn the long-standing status quo, the City will need to seek State Government approval, thereby elongating uncertainty over what has already been a long decision-making process for Nanarup Beach West.

#### **5. BETTYS BEACH NORTH**

This submission further observes that in the development of the proposed determination, the proposal for Bettys Beach North, prior to a previous round of consultation, was that vehicles be prohibited. Presumably, this original, pre-consultation proposal was made for sound policy reasons.

#### **6. 2016 SCIENTIFIC STUDY**

The above-mentioned study (Davies, R., Speldewinde, P. & Stewart, B. *Low level off-road vehicle (ORV) traffic negatively impacts macroinvertebrate assemblages at sandy beaches in south-western Australia. Sci Rep* 6, 24899, 2016), based on field observations in Albany, highlighted "that even low-level vehicular traffic negatively impacts the physical beach environment and consequently, the ability of many species to survive in this habitat in the face of this disturbance".


The study compared the impact on macroinvertebrates at four Albany beaches where vehicles were permitted (Nanarup, Cheyne, Muttonbird and Gull Rock) and at four where they were not (Little Beach, Cosy Corner, Ledge Beach and Middleton Beach). It stated that "off-road vehicle use is arguably one of the most environmentally damaging human activities undertaken on sandy beaches worldwide".

Participating scientists found that "even low-level vehicle traffic negatively impacts the physical beach environment, and consequently, the ability of many species to survive in this habitat in the face of this disturbance". The study observed "compaction, rutting and displacement of the sand matrix ... over a large area, resulting in significant decreases in species diversity and density, and measurable shifts in community structure on beaches that experienced offroad vehicle traffic".

The study noted that beaches in south-western Australia (including Albany) were generally narrower than beaches previously studied in Queensland, and that "restricting access on narrower beaches may be more important than on wide beaches, as the wider beaches allow more [vehicle] use of the lower parts of the beach".



The scientists suggested that "given a choice between either reducing traffic volumes, or excluding off-road vehicle traffic from beaches, ... that the latter would be more appropriate when the retention of ecological integrity is the objective".


In any case, the study observed that "while completely excluding off-road vehicle traffic from beaches may not be feasible on all beaches, some alternative management options are available such as restricting off-road vehicle

	<p>use on stable beaches while allowing them on more dynamic beaches, having closed seasons on beaches to allow time for recovery and directing off-road-vehicle use to low sections of the beach which are more dynamic rather than the higher sections which are more stable". It is unclear from officer reports to Council to date what, if any, of these non-binary (open beach/close beach) options have been considered.</p> <p><b>7. RECOMMENDATIONS</b></p> <p>From the above observations, readings and reflections, it is recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The City's Elected Members be offered the opportunity to visit, in the company of senior City staff, to both Nanarup Beach West and Bettys Beach North to examine conditions at both beaches first-hand. In making this recommendation I note that accessing both beaches may be difficult, but request that every effort be made to arrange a visit nonetheless;</li> <li>2. Detailed consideration of the above-mentioned scientific study be incorporated into the officer's report to the DIS Committee and Council;</li> <li>3. Systematic desktop research be conducted to determine if there are any further expert studies into the impact of vehicles on beaches and on adjacent environments, and if so, to incorporate consideration of these studies into the officer's next report to the DIS Committee and Council;</li> <li>4. In their next report to the DIS Committee and Council, officers provide background on the 1999 Council decision and the contents and status of the <i>Nanarup Beach Management Plan</i>, including a copy of the management plan itself; and</li> <li>5. In that next report, officers provide options for how compliance with closure of Nanarup Beach West and/or Betty's Beach North might be achieved in the event that the Council decides either or both measure to be a desirable course of action.</li> </ol>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424384</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p></p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>As Albany ratepayers we do not wish for vehicles to have any access to the lagoon or west end of Nanarup beach.</p> <p>My reasons are in relation to beach safety.</p> <p>On a good weather day, the lagoon area is filled with families many with small children. Combine this variable with the beach traffic driving along the deep sand to the lagoon, parking and then the odd hoon, thinking its ok to leave this area at speed and under a cloud of sand; there is a clear recipe for disaster.</p> <p>It is only a matter of time before a child and a vehicle collide, should the current shared use of the lagoon continues.</p> <p>Years ago the fishing rocks at the Nanarup lagoon were closed due to the hazardous nature of the area, it was a hard decision but the right one – no doubt saving lives/injury and of course litigation against the city.</p> <p>This decision has parallels that can be drawn to the current situation at the lagoon.</p> <p>Safety, for all beach users must be considered as the highest priority and not to be seen to be benefitting the few who believe it is their right to drive unsafely, churning up the sand and leaving their rubbish for others to remove.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>

	<p>Nanarup beach is enormous, vehicles can and do have access to the northerly aspect too – to fish, surf and to drive along, this really should be enough for this sector of society. Vehicles do not need to have unlimited and uncontrolled access to the lagoon too, leave this area just for pedestrians, their families and dogs too.</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West) In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424386</b> Submitted by email. [REDACTED]</p> <p><b>Submission:</b> <b>I strongly oppose vehicles being permitted on Nanarup Beach West and the Lagoon.</b></p> <p>1. Safety As a regular patron of this world-class beach, I've watched in horror from the water as someone drove very fast within a metre of my child who was lying on the beach gazing at the sky. Is it really supposed to be a roadway?</p> <p>I've watched my sister (60) stand on the beach as an SUV drove at speed within less than a metre from her travelling at about 60km/hr through the thick, boggy sand.</p> <p>2. Hooliganism - inducing fear in the community I have been frightened at the lagoon - again with my young kids - as I held their hands on one beautiful afternoon there - whilst we watched two circling SUVs loaded with teenagers (all seemed drunk) jumping up and down to make the vehicle bob up and down whilst the drivers were doing donuts in the sand.</p> <p>I'm fine with people taking their picnics and alcoholic drinks to enjoy a good time out there - maybe it would be better for all if people could only take as much alcohol as they can carry in their hand (rather than on the tray of their ute). People should be encouraged to respect the pristine beauty, rather than allowed to drive all over it and leave their debris behind - which they do.</p> <p>3. World-class beach and learn-to-surf location The location is world-class and often shown in photography promoting the region (minus the vehicles). It should be upheld as such. Nanarup Beach West and the Lagoon are worth the walk.</p> <p>It is a superb place for learning to surf - picturesque, sometimes with dolphins, great for the whole family to come and enjoy at the same time. Once a year, the Albany Surf Club have a day out there and I think on that day, they can be permitted to drive out the trolley of surf-boards to the beach in order to conduct the event.</p> <p>In allowing vehicles on there all the time, the City of Albany is failing to acknowledge, preserve, nor take advantage of the world-class quality of the location. Instead appears to be regarding it as a rather third-rate backwater.</p> <p>Instead, I suggest getting the best minds in to design beautiful, minimalist infrastructure (like at The Gap) and lead the right behaviour, the right experience.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required</p>



<p>Nanarup Beach (West) and Betty's Beach North.</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West) and Betty's Beach North.</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424464</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>We are concerned about the proposed changes regarding vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (west) and Bettys Beach (north) and recommend that these beaches continue to remain free of vehicles to help protect vulnerable Hooded Plovers.</p> <p>Hooded Plovers are beach-nesting birds which are very susceptible to human disturbance. With the ever increasing recreational use of beaches their numbers have decreased significantly and the species is now listed as threatened in several states. In Albany these shorebirds have disappeared from most beaches but are still regularly found on a few of the beaches between Cheynes Beach and Nanarup. Permitting yet more vehicle traffic on beaches in the area is bound to have a negative impact on the species.</p> <p>Given that the City of Albany has committed to preserving wildlife habitat values and the management of their threats we feel those beaches should continue to remain vehicle-free to protect these shorebirds.</p> <p>Apart from impacting on wildlife, vehicles on beaches also reduce the enjoyment of the natural environment for human beach users. Due to the fact that a large part of Nanarup Beach is already available to users of 4WDs, one should be able to expect that other recreational beach users can use a stretch of the beach without being disturbed by vehicles.</p> <p>We would hope that the City of Albany will continue to look after the interests of all its citizens rather than support the wishes of a noisy minority.</p>	<p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p>
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424500</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I would like to comment on the City of Albany proposal to opening up of the Islet and lagoon area on the Western end of Nanarup Beach to vehicles.</p> <p>This area has been, and should remain a safe and peaceful location for families to enjoy. The argument that it is difficult to police should not be a reason to stop. The signage needs to be installed on the beach (edge of the dunes), where everyone driving down onto the beach can clearly see, so it is clearly visible and robust to withstand the weather and vandalism. This way there is no excuse that no one can see it.</p> <p>Then there needs to be regular ranger visits, particularly on public holidays and during the summer holidays to check compliance. Keep this beach safe and for everyone to enjoy.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>

<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424500</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I wish to state my objection to the proposal to allow vehicle access to the west side of Taylors inlet at Nanarup beach and ask you to consider my following points when making your decision. Nanarup beach is a unique natural environment that requires the community protection, not the damage this proposal will cause.</p> <p>When deciding on the proposal please consider The City of Albany Community Strategic Plan objective to be 'Clean, Green and Sustainable'.</p> <p>Over recent years the impact of increased 4WD activity on the beach and surrounding dunes has significantly degraded the Nanarup beach area.</p> <p>This degradation can be visualised through a comparison of aerial photographs at the Western Australia's land information authority website, Landgate. <a href="https://map-viewer-plus.app.landgate.wa.gov.au/index.html">https://map-viewer-plus.app.landgate.wa.gov.au/index.html</a></p> <p>No obvious attempt to manage the increasing number of vehicle access points from the City of Albany managed beach area to the surrounding dunes has contributed to the dune degradation.</p> <p>If vehicle access is allowed to the western end of Nanarup, the damage vehicles cause to the environment will result in the loss of this fragile ecosystem.</p> <p>This negative impact caused by 4WD was recently recognised by the City of Albany at the Emu Point salt marsh, as reported in the Weekender on July 8 2021. The article titled Saving the Emu Point saltmarsh, states "The coastal saltmarsh near Emu Point has been severely damaged by un-restricted vehicle access, with large amounts of tyre tracks evident in aerial footage." The City of Albany has erected barriers at this site to restrict access. The Nanarup beach and inlet ecosystem is suffering from the same negative impact due to unrestricted vehicle access and should be protected in a similar manner.</p> <p>The City of Albany goes to great effort to protect freshwater turtle species, when they inhabit areas close to town. Stating on its website "illegally taking or disturbing this species will cost you \$50,000 and a permanent criminal record". The Cities proposal to allow vehicles to drive over the fragile Nanarup ecosystem will damage the habitat of the protected turtle species endemic to this ecosystem.</p> <p>Please consider the <a href="#">City of Albany Natural Reserves Strategy &amp; Action Plan   2017-2021</a></p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p>
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<https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/documents/246/natural-reserves-strategy-and-action-plan-2017-to-2021> when making a decision on this proposal. The vision of this adopted plan is “To protect and enhance the City's world-class natural reserves today and into the future.”

A decision to allow vehicles to drive over the Nanarup ecosystem is neither protecting nor enhancing. The first Strategic Goal of this plan is to preserve and increase the ecological values of our natural reserves. Driving over fragile beach vegetation kills the stabilising plant life within the incipient dune area of the beach. This vegetation cover is a critical element to protect the fortune from the damage of winter storms as is occurring now.

As a regular Nanarup beach walker the vast majority of 4WDs I observe using the beach are not idyllic families driving sedately.

Since becoming common knowledge Nanarup beach is unpatrolled by City Rangers the majority of 4WD are young adults driving vehicles at high speed. This speed and the loss of control due to driving within wheel ruts is a dangerous situation for walkers to the lagoon. During the high tide, the limited beach area between the water and steep foredune puts walkers and 4WD into the same limited unsafe space.

As stated in the City of Albany “Safer Albany Plan 2020 - 2023” <https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/documents/793/safer-albany-plan-2020-2023>

*The City of Albany plays a pivotal role in community safety in Albany. City planning and approvals, management and maintenance of public spaces, enforcement*


*of local laws and the provision of a wide range of services to businesses, residents, ratepayers, and visitors, all contribute to public safety.*


This proposal will force walkers and moving vehicles onto an unsafe position, the opposite to the stated objective of the City's adopted Safer Albany Plan.

Throughout the consultative phase of this proposal the City has not indicated that this change will be guided by an environmental management plan.


Has the City of Albany investigated the number of vehicles accessing the Lagoon area currently, while its prohibited? Does the City have an indication of the number of vehicles likely to access the area if it becomes allowed? What will be the consequences of overuse on the unique area? Has the City investigated successful solutions to unauthorised 4WD access implemented by other councils?



This proposal gives the community the impression that if a council rule such as driving west of the inlet is difficult to enforce and time consuming for City Rangers then changing the rule is the solution to the problem. The Cities

	<p>Natural Reserves Strategy and Action Plan states (Strategic Goal 3.1) is to provide recreational facilities that minimise impact on the natural environment and (3.1.5) to Ensure compliance officers/ rangers presence in 'hotspots' to ensure sustainable recreational activities in reserves.</p> <p>Please consider the results of the public consultation process.</p> <p>The A4 laminated sheet asking for feedback on the proposal at Nanarup was located at the 4WD beach access, where observant drivers would notice the sign. Walkers entering the beach at the raised walkway would not have noticed this sign on the other side of the car park. The results from the consultation process represent the opinion of the specific beach users the City has informed on the change, not all the beach users.</p> <p>Please consider all beach users when assessing this proposal.</p> <p>Currently, vehicles have access to the majority of Nanarup beach managed by the City of Albany with only the area west of the inlet available for use without the disruption and danger from 4WDs. If this proposal goes ahead the entire beach managed by the City of Albany will be dedicated to one group of beach users only.</p> <p>Pictures provided</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424502</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p></p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>As a long time user and having spent much of my life enjoying Nanarup Beach I was extremely surprised to learn of the content of the PROPOSED VEHICLES ON BEACHES DETERMINATION from the City of Albany and reverse the protection of Nanarup Beach west and its users from vehicle traffic.</p> <p>I would like to bring to the City's attention a number of considerations from the PROPOSED VEHICLES ON BEACHES DETERMINATION which based on the current information available appear to be overlooked and I expect a detailed response from the City addressing these items before the proposal is taken any further. Specific concerns relate the proposed changes to Nanarup Beach (west) as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of management plans available for this changed access and how the following risks will be managed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Rescue- in the event of an incident how is the City facilitating emergency access give the greater volumes of people now access the area and the increased personnel vehicle interaction?</li> <li>o How safe access is being ensured for pedestrians especially at times of high tide or large seas where the beach can be as little as a single lane width?</li> <li>o Recovery for vehicles may become stuck trapping other users at time where it is unsafe for to pass each other?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o How the council will manage the opening of the inlet to the sea which is subject to natural forces and could result in vehicle entrapment on the west side of inlet.</li> <li>o Environment damage caused by vehicles operating on that section of beach especially related to erosion caused to sand dunes and damage to native flora as a result of the unrestricted vehicle access</li> </ul> <p>There is no information available on any environmental studies which have been undertaken nor risk assessments as to the possibility of adverse outcomes from these proposed changes. The lack of expert consideration or advice raises questions of the decision-making process undertaken in regards to these changes and who the responsibility would remain with were and incident to occur.</p> <p>I would expect these considerations to have been assessed and risks managed or mitigated before proceeding with the proposal as the change could leave parties liable for damages if in the case of an incident.</p> <p>Aside from these considerations Nanarup Beach west is a very small section of a much larger area which is available to vehicle use and I am perplexed as to why the City feels the need to reverse the current status and increase the likelihood of an incident.</p> <p>I look forward to detailed responses to the above points and hope the decision is reconsidered given the considerable risk for little community gain.</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424503</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>Dear City of Albany staff</p> <p>I am opposed to the City of Albany proposal to open up the western end of Nanarup Beach Islet and the natural pool family swimming area to vehicles and in particular 4WDs.</p> <p>This has been a regular swimming place all my life and now too as a young adult being a regular surfer at the Islet point.</p> <p>I have always respected the signage and rules about access to this part of the beach and although there was the occasional vehicle breach of the law, slipping through to the beach, nowadays it is a horrific free-for-all. So often I find the beach congested with vehicles and when they are passing in both directions it gets scary, there is often hardly any room for even one vehicle. I worry while I am surfing about personal security and leaving gear and car keys on the beach.</p> <p>It is a simple case of reminding people of the law as it stands, make people aware with signs and media and carry out regular compliance.</p> <p>Please consider the needs of the silent majority.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>

<p>Nanarup Beach (West) and Betty's Beach North.</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West) and Betty's Beach North</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424504</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p>██████████</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>██████████ requests that vehicles not be permitted on beaches at the following proposed locations:          Bettys Beach (north) – R52825          Nanarup Beach (West) – R45631</p> <p>Pairs of adult Hooded Plovers are frequently sighted on these 2 beaches during the breeding season in summer where they very likely breed. This is also the time when vehicle activity on beaches is highest. Hooded Plovers are listed as 'Vulnerable' under the federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act and have undergone declines due to their highly vulnerable breeding strategy. They lay and incubate eggs in scrapes of sand on the beach above the high tide mark, where their sand-coloured eggs are well camouflaged. The chicks once they hatch cannot fly for 5 weeks and spend much of their time on the water's edge feeding and run between here and the dunes where they seek shelter. Adult birds, chicks and eggs are all small and well camouflaged (for protection against predators) and as such are not visible to 4WD drivers.</p> <p>██████████ studies in SA and Victoria clearly show that vehicle access on beaches is a major threat to successful breeding for this species, disturbing nests, crushing eggs and impacting and causing direct mortality of chicks (which cannot fly out of the way).</p> <p>Bettys Beach and Nanarup Beach provide habitat for this vulnerable species and allowing vehicle access is incompatible with suitable management of this habitat for their conservation.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p>
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: ICR21424428</b></p> <p>Submitted by letter.</p> <p>██████████</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>Regarding the lagoon, west of Nanarup Beach, this unique crown in the jewel for Albany. I personally have been going to this pool for 70 years and for nearly 40 years, I was at the beach-pool every day, rain, hail or shine. So I feel I can give an account of the place which the City should listen to.</p> <p>My family's great grandfather was the first person to live at the inlet where he built a house 160 years ago. From 1980 – 2000 in that period when the Shire controlled access to cars west of the inlet by having bollards and a gate which the local Shire Ranger kept watch on vehicles and animals. Unfortunate heavy seas when City amalgamated was not maintained. The City needs to place a big stone barrier with an emergency gate.</p> <p>Cars / people take no notice of signs at toilets.</p> <p>In the last 3 – 4 years, the cars and dogs have increased 20 fold. Any long weekend or holiday, you will see</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>

	<p>15 - 60 cars parked from the beach inlet to the pool. As easterly winds bring ocean wash high up the beach. This makes cars go at high speed in soft sand near sand hills. The cars are all parked high up from the inlet to the pool. It creates a very dangerous situation with very little children. I have seen very near misses, with parents rushing to recover children. This is apart from many cars also have a large dog. I have seen dogs several times knock over small children.</p> <p>If the City does not reinstate large rocks or bollards with an emergency gates, there will be a serious accident or death.</p> <p>As always, cars and dogs have used the beach to the east for fishing and surfing. I hope the City Councillors have some understanding of the seriousness of the current situation.</p> <p>Before, people walked and enjoyed the pool.</p> <p>Stop the vehicles.</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424549</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p></p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I am a regular visitor to Albany, usually staying in the Emu Point area.</p> <p>Nanarup beach is where we go to enjoy the coast and look for some surfing waves.</p> <p>I am totally opposed to vehicle access west of the inlet.</p> <p>On previous visits, 4wd vehicles have passed me at speed in the soft sand as I have been walking up the beach. It is dangerous, especially as there are often children playing on this beach.</p> <p>Invariably, these vehicles back into the dune causing even more erosion, so they can get a downhill run to drive back up the beach.</p> <p>The distance from the inlet to the end of the beach to the west is short, only taking a few minutes to walk. In my opinion there can be no justification permitting vehicles on this section of Nanarup beach.</p> <p>If we take Nanarup beach as a whole, this is nesting habitat for the threatened Hooded Plover. Vehicles on beaches destroy this habitat.</p> <p>The least we can do is protect the western end of Nanarup beach.</p> <p>Part of the pleasure of walking up the beach is the peace and quiet of the beach and the surf. Please dont spoil this for visitors like myself and my family, do not permit vehicles on Nanarup beach west of the inlet.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>

<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424586</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I am writing to you to express my concerns regarding the increased safety risks from unauthorised vehicle use on the Nanarup beach west section.</p> <p>I am a resident of Nanarup for the past 2 years and Albany for 15 years. The increased traffic to this area has become very observable through the deeply rutted sand from the inlet to Islet point which at times resembles a race track for 4WDs, motorbikes and dogs. At times when I have requested people slow down or put dogs on lead, I have been responded to with aggressive gestures or one occasion from a trail motorbike, verbal abuse. I park and walk to the lagoon and took my parents from interstate to enjoy the wonderful place, who commented what a pity it was that vehicles were on the beach at such a unique spot, especially since it was relatively narrow and they felt it made the experience unpleasant and unsafe. It is a major risk for pedestrians, who like myself are abiding by the signs, which could be enlarged, updated and placed in more prominent positions as some people not from the Great Southern were unaware of the traffic compliance.</p> <p>This piece of beach is less than 400 metres long. It has a narrow beach front and should be maintained as no vehicle access except for ACROD registered people, which would have difficulty getting near the water's edge on a summer's day due to the line up of cars with eskies and gazebos taking up all the room. To the east there are kilometres of beach for 4WD equipped vehicles to enjoy.</p> <p>The council represents the entire community and we have been patient and tolerant of the increased incorrect use of this area, regularly cleaning up after a long weekend. We need to ensure safety to the area and respect for locals who act responsibly.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p>
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424598</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.  </p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I strongly oppose the City of Albany (CoA) Council's resolution and proposal to amend the City of Albany Property Local Law 2011 (CoA PLL 2011) to permit vehicles on Nanarup Beach (West) Reserve 45631 (R45631) which is a Reserve for the purposes of</li> <li>2. A former resident of Albany, I am now a regular visitor to the Albany region and a recreational beach user at Nanarup Beach (West) and lagoon. I support the protection of this foreshore Reserve under its current purpose (see Point 3 below).</li> <li>3. Reserve 45631 (R45631)  CURRENT PURPOSE - RECREATION AND FORESHORE PROTECTION  CURRENT LAND USE - RECREATION CONSERVATION FORESHORE PROTECTION  <a href="https://land-enquiry.app.landgate.wa.gov.au/SVProperty/reserves/45631#reserveDetails">https://land-enquiry.app.landgate.wa.gov.au/SVProperty/reserves/45631#reserveDetails</a></li> </ol>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required</p>



4. In 1999 Albany Council resolved to prohibit vehicles on R45631 and the Minutes (link below) record the sound rationale for Council's decision  
[https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/ordinary-council-meeting/ordinary-council-meeting-14-december-1999/296/documents/ocm\\_minutes\\_dec99-1.pdf](https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/ordinary-council-meeting/ordinary-council-meeting-14-december-1999/296/documents/ocm_minutes_dec99-1.pdf)

5. Vehicles that typically frequent beaches and dunes include four-wheel-drives (4WDs), trail bikes and quad bikes. I have witnessed all three of these vehicle types on R45631 and the term "vehicles" used in my comments includes all of these.

6. I understand that (as per CoA Officers) the enforcement of compliance with the prohibition of vehicles as per the CoA PLL2011 on R45631 is an ongoing and unresolved issue. This defeatist rationale should not provide a basis for the proposal to amend CoA PLL2011 to permit vehicles on R45631.

7. An effective public education program in conjunction with penalties for infringing vehicle owners will lead to behavioural change. This has been an effective approach used by other (more responsible, informed and progressive) local governments such as City of Wanneroo.

8. Public access to the coast is highly valued in Australia and, in my view, this should continue to be upheld. However public access to R45631 should be only via pedestrian access (no vehicle access) as the historic and current presence of vehicles on this foreshore has resulted in visible and measurable adverse impacts.

9. Vehicles have a greater impact on beaches when compared to pedestrians due to the weight of the vehicle; the engine power transferred to wheels; speed; the greater range of vehicles; noise generated; and the safety impact on other beach users.

10. The current unlawful and regular presence of vehicles on R45631 encourages antisocial behaviour with its associated negative impacts of increased litter, the lighting of fires and drunkenness. Vehicles facilitate these behaviours by enabling the easy transportation of people and resources (alcohol, wood, gas bottles etc). I have witnessed such antisocial behaviours which have adversely impacted the beach experience of my family and other pedestrian beach visitors.

11. The presence of vehicles on R45631 increases the risk of fire, especially during dry summer periods.

12. The driving of vehicles on R45631 causes visible habitat degradation, including beach erosion and damage to dune vegetation is caused by tyre tracks and hooning behaviour. Habitat fragmentation is also visible.

13. Dune ecosystems are fragile and it takes many decades of costly rehabilitation to restore the coastal vegetation that serves to stabilise the foreshore. Concerted, labour intensive and costly rehabilitation programs are never able to fully restore a damaged foreshore to its original state.

14. Vehicles on beaches exacerbate the existing invasive weed problem through the transportation of weed species material and seeds and fungal plant diseases.

15. The increasing effects of climate change greatly impact R45631. The impacts of rising sea levels and increased storm surge are already being realised along this coast and the current unlawful use of vehicles on R45631 visibly exacerbates these issues.

16. The high visual landscape values of the R45631 coastline are greatly diminished by the presence and use of vehicles in this area. Some years ago I took overseas visitors to Nanarup Beach and they were appalled at the presence of vehicles. This area is a popular tourist attraction which is degraded by the presence of vehicles on the beach.

17. The current unlawful presence and use of vehicles on R45631 causes conflict between vehicle users and pedestrian beach users, and I have witnessed

- vehicles driving between pedestrians (often children)
- cars towing plastic (legless) chairs with people seated in them at high speeds across the sand
- regular incidences of dangerous driving
- hooning
- the erratic and unpredictable course of powered vehicles through soft sand
- underage and presumable unlicensed drivers (ie children driving)
- excessive vehicle noise
- verbal abuse between vehicle drivers and pedestrians, witnessed by children who were upset and disturbed by such adult behaviour.

18. Apart from detracting from the overall beach experience of beach users, these vehicle-related activities present an observable safety hazard to beach goers and shorebirds.

19. I put the CoA Officers, all Councillors and the State Government on notice regarding the public liability of safety on R45631. In my view, it is only a matter of time before a serious injury or death occurs due to the unsafe mix of vehicles and pedestrians. If the Minister approves the proposed amendment to permit vehicles on R45631 then they are complicit in any such injury or death.

20. The presence of vehicles on R45631 has had an observable and measurable negative impact on bird life in the area. Shorebirds such as gulls, terns, sandpipers, oystercatchers, dotterels and plovers (many species of which are threatened) feed on the sandy beaches along this coastline. The feeding (and sometimes nesting) activities of these species are greatly disrupted by vehicles and bird productivity (destruction of nests, eggs and chicks) is measurable. Birds stressed by the presence of vehicles are less productive.

21. The presence and use of vehicles on R45631 has increased the human impact on the fragile rocks on the south west side of the lagoon. They have been defaced and vandalised resulting in a degradation of this natural formation. Without vehicular access, many people would not bother walking to the western end of the beach and the incidence of defacement would be reduced.

22. In considering this proposed amendment to CoA PLL2011, the CoA, Council and the Minister should give due regard to

- all relevant State Planning Policies  
<https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/policy-and-legislation/state-planning-framework/state-planning-policies>
- CoA Natural Reserves Strategy & Action Plan 2017-2021  
<https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/documents/246/natural-reserves-strategy-and-action-plan-2017-to-2021>
- CoA 2030 Community Strategic Plan  
[https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/documents/201/community-strategic-plan-albany-2030-\(as-amended\)](https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/documents/201/community-strategic-plan-albany-2030-(as-amended))
- CoA Local Planning Scheme  
<https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/albany>


23. For all the above reasons I strongly oppose the proposed amendment to CoA PLL

2011 to permit vehicles on R45631 and trust that the Minister will uphold best practice planning principles in the interests of the environmental sustainability and the public's recreational use of this precious coastal Reserve.

<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424600</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p>██████████</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I am writing to you as a resident of Nanarup, an Albany rate payer and local user of the Nanarup beach after reading the local media reports regarding the change to vehicle access to the west section of Taylor's Inlet at Nanarup beach. After reading the article in the Advertiser on Thursday 24th June, I felt compelled to write to you with concerns regarding safety, environmental considerations and the joy that this peaceful place gives people.</p> <p>I ██████████ enjoy the beach, the inlet and the lagoon on a regular basis. It has become less enjoyable and an obstacle course in dodging 4WDs, motorbikes and dogs, on occasions, chasing these vehicles. The result is the deep ruts left behind by the speed in which they travel and the repetitive up and down to the toilets located at the carpark. It is also frustrating to see when vehicles get bogged with their tyres fully inflated and the additional damage they do attempting to get out. The sections have been greatly impacted and on occasions, deterred people from walking to the lagoon due to not feeling confident to safely navigate the ruts or the traffic.</p> <p>At the lagoon they park close to the water's edge vying for the best position with their large vehicles, often in groups which can make it very difficult to get to the water. Some vehicles have leaked oil or other mechanical oils whilst being parked for long periods and in this environment with its sheltered waters can cause environmental issues with high tides. The other issue is the attempt to drive up and down the sand dunes at the Islet point end.</p> <p>I would like to know if an environmental/ marine study will be conducted to collect data on the vegetation, flora, fauna, ecosystem and marine life of the area? It has been protected for many years with pedestrian use only and its remoteness and I fear what the current vehicle impact will do or in the future if it continues. It would be devastating to learn too late the damage that could have been prevented. This needs to be greatly considered with the unique ecosystems and the wonderful work and successes that are being achieved in the Great Southern region around flora and fauna regrowth and repopulation.</p> <p>The rest of the beach can be accessed by 4WD and if they are after safer swimming spots, we are blessed with plenty of beaches to choose from in the Great Southern region. Their use of the Islet pool/ point is for pleasure with no consideration of the environmental damage. I have collected rubbish on many occasions in this area and along the beach which highlights that they are not promoting environmentally sound or law-abiding behaviours. This about community wants but environmental needs are greater and on most occasions the damage is irreversible.</p> <p>██████████ we can view Taylor's inlet, and there have been occasions when we can see vehicles or lights from vehicles in the distance going around and around doing 'donuts' and the next day witnessing the damage caused to the beach and inlet. I have thoughts on contacting the police, with limited information due to distance and consider if this is the best option of police resources. Any school holidays or particularly public holidays has become</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required</p>
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	<p>a time when we cannot bear visiting the beach due to the large number of vehicles on the beach and the anti-social behaviour often exacerbated with alcohol.</p> <p>I particularly feel for the paying guests at Fisherman's Lodge or Maitraya who must listen to the revving of engines up and down the west section of the beach or to observe the 'donuts' near Taylor's Inlet. These guests have paid good money to visit and stay in the region and it does not promote the accommodation or region well when they have to experience these behaviours.</p> <p>The newspaper articles states that the community wants it open, but I am not one of them and the people who I regularly encounter fishing or walking at the beach also do not want it open to vehicle access as it not used responsibly. I have faith that the councillors will collect information necessary to determine the environmental and safety risk of this area and what the consequences may be if vehicle access is allowed to the west section on Nananup beach and make a considered decision.</p>	
Beaches in Albany Region	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424604</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p>██████████</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>██████████ is writing to express our concern in relation to the proposed changes regarding the permission of vehicle access to beaches in the Albany region. Beach driving of any kind can be the cause of serious environmental damage, including compaction of marine sediments, erosion of coastal dunes, and disturbance to the wildlife using the beach, in particular nesting birds.</p> <p>Allowing more vehicles to access the beach leads to the potential for increased disturbance for the birdlife using the beaches in the Albany region. Migratory shorebirds, terns and resident beach nesting birds rely on these beaches to feed, roost and breed. Increased vehicle traffic has a direct and negative impact on the survival of these species, including direct mortality of adult birds, the crushing of eggs and flightless chicks, as well as disturbance to critical behaviours that will determine the birds survival during migration and capacity to protect and thermo-regulate their young. Shorebirds and terns have been known to abandon sites altogether due to increased human use, in particular, by vehicles. In many areas it has taken decades to restore habitats through the removal of vehicles, to see the return of these species to their important breeding and roosting sites. The submissions and recommendations from a recent parliamentary enquiry in South Australia into off-road vehicles are worth accessing for exposure to the large suite of impacts of beach-driving.</p> <p>We are particularly concerned about the impact that vehicle access will have on the remaining populations of Hooded Plover, a species nationally listed as vulnerable. Hooded Plovers in the south-west have experienced considerable decline and now can only be found on a few of the beaches in the Albany region. Allowing vehicle access on these beaches will likely be the final straw for these remaining populations and could lead to their local extinction.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nananup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p>

	<p>Of the proposed changes, Normans and Nanarup Beach have the largest remaining numbers of Hooded Plover and would stand to lose the most by allowing more vehicles to access the beach. We consider allowing the permission of driving on these beaches to be a backward step for conservation of coastal habitats in Western Australia and as leaders of shorebird conservation recovery programs across the country, hope that the council will review the science-based evidence to dismiss the inclusion of these sites from the current plan.</p> <p>██████████ can provide a range of scientific, peer-reviewed publications and educational resources to assist council with best practice decision making.</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424664</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p>██████████</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>I am aware that City of Albany is currently considering management options for Nanarup Beach. As long-term residents in the Kalgan River area our family are regular visitors to Nanarup Beach and in particular, to Islet Pool at the west end of the beach. While we have a 4WD vehicle we typically park at the point where Taylor Inlet meets the beach and walk the 300m up the beach (to west) to Islet Pool, this complying with the signage. Have visited regularly over the last 10-15 years we are aware that a few years ago the sign on a large pole at the point where Taylor Inlet meets the beach was removed by vandals. This sign had informed the public that vehicle access to the west and to Islet Pool was prohibited. The removal of the sign seemed to “open the floodgates” to people in 4WDs driving up the beach to Islet Pool. As time has gone by this increasing and unmanaged 4WD usage has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Created unsafe conditions for compliant beach users (walking to Islet Pool) with 4 WDs driving past with little separation to people walking to Islet Pool, including family with children. I regularly accompany my 91-year-old mother along the beach to Islet Pool as it is one of the few places in the Albany area where it is safe for her to swim and with easy access/egress to the calm water in the pool. At many times of the year the beach is not wide enough for both 4WD and pedestrians and hence it is unsafe.</li> <li>Increased erosion of the beach and foredune area.</li> <li>Led to the small beach at the lovely Islet Pool area essentially becoming a parking lot jammed with 4WDs on summer days. The 4WDs leave little room for people who had walked to the pool and hence unable to stake a claim to some beach to relax. It changes the aesthetic value of Islet Pool from a lovely tranquil location to one resembling a parking lot.</li> <li>Led to large overnight parties (and sometimes with antisocial behaviour) resulting in the local community having to collect rubbish and bury the hot coals the next day.</li> </ul> <p>As part of my work as an Environmental Scientist in the coastal/marine field I have been involved with developing coastal management plans and am aware of their overall objectives of balancing various human uses with the aesthetic and environmental values of coastlines. The City of Albany should consider the management of Nanarup Beach with these objectives in mind. I believe that such a balance could be achieved by re-implementing (and resourcing appropriately) the following management of Nanarup Beach:</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p> <p>Undertake review of the Nanarup Beach Management Plan 1999 and develop a Dune Protection Plan.</p> <p>Continue to monitor and address anti-social activities as required</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4WD access permitted on beach areas east of Taylor Inlet.</li> <li>• 4WD access prohibited on beach areas west of Taylor Inlet, including Islet Pool.</li> <li>• Camping and lighting of fires prohibited at Islet Pool.</li> </ul> <p>Islet Pool is a rare and iconic location on the Albany coastline and there are only a few other locations of similar value (e.g. Little Beach). The City of Albany should consider the management of Nanarup Beach with this mind and whether the public and tourist perceptions and memories of visiting Islet Pool are of a tranquil and pristine pool/beach suitable for families and people of all ages or one more resembling a car park and the associated safety problems.</p>	
<p>Nanarup Beach (West)</p> <p>In summary opposed vehicle access to Nanarup Beach (West).</p>	<p><b>Document Reference: EF21424977</b></p> <p>Submitted by email.</p> <p></p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>Hi there I am emailing my concerns on allowing vehicle access to the west side of nanarup inlet. I for one have walked that side of the beach in summer time with four wheel drives tearing past me, the beach isn't very wide there, which when I hear a vehicle approaching I turn around to make sure I don't have to jump out of their way. It totally ruins the atmosphere of the beach. Not only is it an eye sore when there's cars side by side all the way up to the lagoon but it also causes corrosion to the beach and safety concerns.</p> <p>Please consider not allowing four-wheel drive access west of the inlet, there's plenty of room for vehicles around the inlet and up the east end of the beach. I feel like at least one small part of Nanarup can be left unspoilt by traffic.</p>	<p>Install Code of Conduct signage and provide clear information and education. Investigate options to install barriers to vehicles at the lagoon.</p>