



MEDIA STATEMENT

RITA SAFFIOTI MLA
MEMBER FOR WEST SWAN



Monday 12 September 2011

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE DAMAGE DESERVES ATTENTION

Local MLA Rita Saffioti has teamed up with a Bennett Springs resident to try and stamp out illegal vehicle access to land adjacent to the housing estate by calling for permanent fencing to be installed.

The land is understood to be vested with the State Government and is accessed through broken fencing via Niltonia Lane in Bennett Springs.

Ms Saffioti said she was alerted to the issue by the concerned local resident and went to see the problem for herself in May.

“From my visit to the site and talking to local residents it was clear something had to be done to prevent this activity occurring, especially having the entrance so close to homes,” she said.

“Chains were cut, inadequate fencing had been removed and there was a clear lack of signage to deter people from breaking the fencing and entering the land.”

Ms Saffioti wrote to the City of Swan and the Minister for Water as there is a Water Corporation drainage asset located on the land.

“The Minister for Water responded to my request in August and indicated that fencing around the open drain would be repaired and signage would be erected,” Ms Saffioti said.

“The Minister indicated that the land area is controlled by Main Roads WA and my request for permanent fencing should be made through them.

“I promptly wrote to the Minister for Transport, who is responsible for Main Roads WA, outlining the concerns and requesting that the issue be resolved.”

Recently Ms Saffioti received a response from the Minister’s office explaining that the matter is the responsibility of the Minister for Police.

Ms Saffioti said the entrance to the land by off-road vehicles causes disruption to nearby residents and potentially harms the area.

“It is clear this land should not be used as an off-road circuit,” she said.

“I will continue to lobby the City of Swan and the State Government to ensure this issue is resolved.”

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