



Friends of Forrestdale

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MEDIA RELEASE
PROPOSED EXTENSION OF KEANE ROAD, FORRESTDALE

The Friends of Forrestdale (Inc.) welcomes the release for public comment of the state Public Environmental Review for the proposed extension of Keane Road in Forrestdale.

The Friends are opposed to the extension of Keane Road through Bush Forever site 342, an ephemeral wetland. We support the comments made by Professor Stephen Hopper, Visiting Professor at the University of Western Australia, former Director of Kings Park and Botanic Gardens and an eminent botanist:

Ephemeral wetlands are a special favourite of mine. I have worked in particular on gnammas on granite outcrops since the 1970s, as well as being actively involved in rare flora conservation for damplands, and in helping securing Brixton St Kenwick as a reserve when I worked in CALM [now DPAW]. Such damplands are truly unsung biodiversity jewels of international significance, at risk from many perspectives. Perth itself is one of the most biodiverse cities on Earth, and its ephemeral damplands are at the sharp edge of conservation concern given their rarity and vulnerability. In this context putting a road through the Anstey-Keane damplands would be ill-advised indeed when suitable alternatives could be implemented.

For further information and comment, please contact Dr Rod Giblett, Secretary of the Friends of Forrestdale on the phone numbers above or by email r.giblett@ecu.edu.au