

The Westport Program



Westport is the WA Government's long-term initiative to plan for a new container terminal in the Kwinana Outer Harbour, as well as the road and rail networks servicing the terminal.

Fremantle Inner Harbour, Perth's current container terminal, has served our State well for the past century. However, trends towards larger vessels and increased congestion on key road routes in and out of Fremantle means it will be more challenging to move containers through the area.

Planning and building a port of this scale takes time, that is why Westport is starting now.

A port is more than just infrastructure, it is a gateway to domestic and international trade. Most of what we buy and what we have in our homes comes to us through containers. Ports support WA's exports industry as well as local businesses, providing materials needed for construction and production.

Beyond benefits to industry, consumers, and the State's economy Westport is guided by a strong commitment to sustainability. Westport's ultimate vision is for a world-class container port and trade network, built with nature in mind, that unlocks Western Australia's future economic prosperity.



Planning for the future

As major port projects take time to plan before construction can even begin, work is underway now to determine what, when and how a new terminal with a supporting road and rail network is needed.

Westport is currently developing a business case that the State Government will use to decide on how, and if, to progress the project.

The business case will advise the best timing and means to transition trade from the Inner Harbour in Fremantle to the Outer Harbour in Kwinana.

Once in a century opportunity

Westport will consider new technologies and how this project can create future benefits for the workforce, economy, industry, community, and the environment.

How we work

The Westport Program will be delivered by following our three core values:



Collaboration: Working together within our team, across government and with our stakeholders.



Outcomes focused: Good planning with well-defined outcomes, seeking innovative solutions.



Clarity: Clear processes and communications, planned and proactive activities.

Westport's timeline



OBJECTIVES

Develop a robust business case



Future planning

The business case will outline Westport's thinking on why, when, and how the new port and logistics network should be developed to improve trade for Western Australia.

The business case will recommend what the new terminal and road and/or rail network should look like and how it should operate as well as an optimal commercial framework, to provide maximin benefits.

Through a supply chain and integrated design process, the recommendation will consider an efficient, resilient, sustainable and commercially viable solution for WA.

Collaborative engagement



Working with Traditional Owners

Westport is working with Noongar people to consider how this project can benefit their community, and ensure cultural values are respected. Guided by Westport's Noongar Advisory Group, Westport is developing a Noongar Opportunities Strategy.

Working with stakeholders

To design infrastructure that is fit for purpose we are working with industry, academics, local governments, community groups, and government agencies.

Talking with those who work across supply chain and freight industries will help us to identify inefficiencies in the current system and new opportunities.

Plan with nature



Planning for a sustainable port

Westport is planning for a port that can leave a legacy of positive environmental, social and cultural outcomes. Underpinning this work is one of the largest ever research programs in Cockburn Sound, delivered by the Western Australian Marine Science Institution.

Westport will also develop a mitigation strategy to address the development's environmental, cultural and social impacts.

Leverage wider benefits



Asking the big questions

It is an exciting time to be planning long-term infrastructure, with game-changing developments emerging in the transport and energy sectors. Technologies such as electric vehicles, hydrogen power and automated rail, could be the norm in the next 50 years. That's why we are planning for innovation, embedding flexibility into our design.

Looking at the bigger picture

The Westport development is just one part of the WA Government's larger strategic plan for the Western Trade Coast and Fremantle. With this in mind, we are working closely with the teams behind the Global Advanced Industry Hub and the Future of Fremantle project.

Provide certainty for planning and investment



Providing certainty and clarity

We recognise that this project means a lot of uncertainty for industry, businesses, and the community.

As part of our current work, we are seeking statutory protections of land needed to enable the future development project, to provide better certainty for landowners and developers.

Uphold Trust and good governance



Embedding best practice principles

Integrity and best practice governance are key to Westport's success. To support this Westport commits to a high standard of governance and reporting.

How are we planning for one of WA's biggest infrastructure projects this century?

Westport's long-term goals will guide the development of the business case and definition design, and inform the detailed design, procurement processes, infrastructure construction, and transition to Kwinana.

These goals will help ensure that new terminal and freight network can support future economic growth and deliver long-term value for WA.

Westport Goals

What do we want the new terminal to achieve?

Criteria

What will this look like?



1. Better trade outcomes for exporters, importers, and the economy

- 1.1** Efficient – operating costs for movement of containers across the network
- 1.2** Reliable – predictability and visibility of shipment movements
- 1.3** Resilient – capacity to better withstand, and recover efficiently from, disruptions
- 1.4** Scalable – capacity to expand or adapt to meet forecast trade and population growth
- 1.5** Flexible – ability to adapt to future market trends and operator innovation



2. Local economic growth and jobs are created

- 2.1** Western Trade Coast's growth is enabled
- 2.2** New technological innovation is introduced Western Australian technological innovation is leveraged
- 2.3** High quality jobs and training are created



3. Acceptable impact on the State's finances

- 3.1** Value for money
- 3.2** Attractive to private investment through commercial and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) opportunities
- 3.3** Minimised impact on utilities and business



4. Plan, build and operate the most sustainable port in Australia

- 4.1** Cockburn Sound is protected
- 4.2** The container Supply-Chain is carbon neutral
- 4.3** Infrastructure development and operations are sustainable



5. Benefits to the community and indigenous peoples

- 5.1** Recreational values protected or enhanced
- 5.2** Indigenous and non-indigenous heritage is protected and promoted
- 5.3** Aboriginal economic opportunities are delivered



6. Safety for workers and the community

- 6.1** Safe interaction between freight network and the community
- 6.2** Safe port operations



Further Information

To find out more about the Westport Program, our vision, and our goals visit www.westport.wa.gov.au