

# SWA SUMMIT No. 2 – TOWARDS 100

22 June 2021

## Joint Communique

### Overview

The Sustainability Waste Alliance (SWA) recently convened its second Towards 100 summit, alongside the South West Gateway Alliance (SWGA) to update Stakeholders, explore pressing challenges and determine next step priorities of the Recycle First Plan for Bunbury Outer Ring Road (BORR). The BORR project continues to progress through its design phase, with construction works underway at the Raymond Road, Willinge Drive and Paris Road/Clifton Road intersections. Construction is set to accelerate in late 2021.

For SWA, a range of collaborations, negotiations, tender processes and consultancies are underway across each of the six Waste Focus Materials – crushed recycled concrete (CRC) from construction and demolition waste, food and garden organic derived compost (FOGO), yellow bin and Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) sourced recycled crushed glass (RCG), crumb rubber derived from tyres and conveyor belts, an array of recycled plastic road products, and non-potable irrigation water recycled from wastewater.

The development and procurement pathways are different for each focus material, due to varying market characteristics, including local availability, industry scale, and capital works at different stages of development, which are expected to grow local recycling capacity as part of an emerging Circular Economy. A process accelerated by BORR. These characteristics and considerations include:

- A commitment to incorporate 30% crumbed rubber in road seals, which will be sourced from Perth due to economies of scale and relatively low carbon emission and transport costs.
- CRC can be sourced locally, through an existing Roads to Reuse accredited supplier. The challenge is securing sufficient construction and demolition waste to make the most of this opportunity, while delivering value for the project. Engagement with industry and local government is well under way with a Towards 100 Pilot as a demonstration project.
- A significant opportunity exists to secure compost locally through a planned compost facility expansion that has achieved partial funding of \$6 million from the Australian Government and \$6 million from Local Government. Discussions are progressing between multiple Stakeholders, including Treasury, the South West Development Commission, the Waste Authority, Main Roads and SWGA, to finalise a business case, secure a long-term offtake commitment and develop funding and delivery mechanisms.
- The capacity of industry to supply recycled plastic road products is being explored through an expression of interest process identifying products sought by SWGA. The current focus is star pickets, but there are many other opportunities including an innovative technique that utilises plastic as a replacement for traditional steel reinforcement lattices in non-structural concrete.
- Draft Local Government and Main Roads specifications have been developed for RCG applications in roads. An agreement recently signed between WA Return, Recycle, Renew, Bunbury Harvey Regional Council, SWGA and SWA is facilitating the development of a business

case to determine the viability of locally sourced and processed RCG for large scale applications on BORR and Local Government roads. Independent verification of alternative procurement options (Market-Led Proposals) is under way to assure procurement decisions are fully informed.

- A recent government investment in additional Bunbury wastewater treatment capacity, to deliver non-potable water to the Waterloo Industrial Estate adjacent to the BORR alignment, is a potential source of non-potable construction water to the southern half of the project.
- SWGA has an agreement in place with Harvey Water for the supply of construction water to the sites in the northern and central sections of the project. Upgrades to existing infrastructure (funded by the SWGA) have commenced and further headworks will develop as the project progresses. This water is being provided as an alternative to drawing groundwater from bores.

SWA, SWGA and other key stakeholders continue to collaborate in pursuit of optimal value for money procurement, as well as good outcomes for waste recovery/recycling, environmental protection and regional South West jobs, in support of WA's Recovery Plan and Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030.

## Next Steps

A series of priority actions were identified by summit participants. The more urgent of these include:

1. Refining specifications to open up new sources of supply to increase the available quantity of construction and demolition waste for local crushing and incorporation into the BORR project.
2. Developing a long-term offtake agreement for FOGO derived compost for use in the project and in future Main Roads and Local Government South West road projects, as the basis of an up-front capital contribution to facilitate construction of an expanded local compost production facility at Stanley Road Kemerton.
3. Development of a business case and Market Led Proposal for a South West RCG processing facility.
4. Development of a Towards 100 Pilot (further details to come from SWA).

Medium term actions include:

1. Publication of an Expression of Interest for recycled plastic road products sought by SWGA for incorporation into the project.
2. Finalising the SWA Strategic Business Case to ensure Stage 1, 2 and subsequent Investments are prioritised.

Additional communiques will follow as outcomes are progressed.