



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**9 June 2009**

---

### **SHIRE AND DEVELOPER WORK TOWARDS COMPROMISE ON SMITHS BEACH**

The Shire of Busselton today released its recommendations on the Development Guide Plan (DGP) for Smiths Beach, to be considered by Council at its next monthly meeting on 15 June.

These recommendations have been prepared following extensive consultation and mediation between the Shire, a number of government agencies and developer Canal Rocks Pty Ltd as part of the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) appeal process.

Shire officials have recommended that Council resolve to consider these recommendations, which propose a significant reduction in the size of the development and a major increase in the area of the site under conservation.

Canal Rocks Chairman, David McKenzie said that the recent discussions with Council have produced a positive outcome that is acceptable to both the developer and the Shire's planning team.

"Whilst we believe the plan we put forward to Council last year would produce a much stronger outcome for everyone, in this instance we have agreed to compromise in order to move the project towards completion.

"We are pleased that the Shire has recognised the potential of the proposed development of this zoned site and believe the revised plan will still deliver significant benefits to the local community and state economy, particularly in terms of tourism," said Mr McKenzie.

Council's approval of the revised plan could avoid the need for further debate on the plan through the SAT process.

"If the revised plan is accepted in full by Council, it is likely that all parties will avoid substantial, additional costs and time debating the DGP at length before the SAT.

"Approval of the revised plan in full by the Council will signify a successful mediation process and an outcome that is acceptable for all parties," said Mr McKenzie.

**ENDS**

Media Enquiries: Please contact Nichola Holgate or Lauren Aylmore at Linc on 08 6363 7000.