



Planning process problem originates from these three factors

#### **Pre-existing disposition for shack removal by agencies**

- State wide Squatter Removal policy promulgated in 1989
- Midwest coastal shires implemented the policy during the 1990s
- Shire of Dandaragan (SoD) formally relinquished the Wedge & Grey areas to CALM in 1995
- Shacks administered by the SoD were removed at termination of leases in 2001, but the CALM administered shacks at Wedge & Grey gained a political reprieve via lobbying and developing alternative management proposals. Hence SoD dutifully implemented policy but CALM didn't.
- CALM produced the Wedge & Grey Master Plan 2000 based on no shack retention and zones for development and EPAC Report 21 in 2011 recommended removal
- Senior bureaucrats remain in the relevant agencies promoting the original intent

#### **Government Response for Compromise not enforced**

- CALM became DEC following the 2001 Labor election win and leases were extended for 2 x 5 year terms, then rolling 3 x 12 month terms, now 12 month licences. DEC maintained the mantra of shack removal despite the creation of a government Taskforce as an election commitment in 2005 to investigate management options for shack communities.
- The Taskforce only met once before the snap election called by Labor in 2008
- The incoming Liberal coalition scrapped the Taskforce due to the intransigence of the SoD.
- The Minister for Environment, Donna Faragher, after a proposal from WIPA in 2009 to accommodate site specific management models within the Squatter policy, decided in March 2010 that leases would continue until a compromise plan had been developed.
- Following continued resistance by DEC to progress the 'compromise plan' the shack associations generated 20,000 signature petitions and resulted in an Upper House inquiry into Shack sites with Report 21 being tabled in April 2011
- Government response to Report 21 recommendation 6 (W & G shack removal) was tabled in August 2011 as a compromise, 'with a level of shack retention that contributes to opportunities for public use'

#### **DPaW Planning process allowed to restrict options to achieve the government intention**

- In December 2001 CALM released an Expression of Interest for accommodation facilities as a tourism development opportunity at both sites. Both associations made submissions but CALM abandoned the exercise in 2005 citing lack of certainty of the Indian Ocean road as the reason.
- Indian Ocean Drive was opened in September 2010 and DEC planning activity was adhoc with minimal input opportunity during 2011 – 2013.
- DPaW unveiled its unilateral Zone Planning Proposal in February 2014 and invited submissions from stakeholders. Following feedback, but no consultation, a Preliminary Planning Report (PPR) was produced in June 2014 and submitted to the Minister
- We understand the Cabinet made a decision in January 2015 based on the June 2014 PPR
- DPaW proceeded to engage topic expert consultants during 2015 and no meaningful consultation to resolve roadblocks.
- Meeting with Premier's Office December 2015 to discuss planning concerns – consultation identified
- DPaW agreed to conduct a workshop in July at which stakeholders could present concept plans based on the brief identified in the June 2014 PPR.
- WIPA/GCCA delivered a combined presentation, but not the other agencies. Eventual feedback rejected the majority of the content and indicated a new brief was to be produced. This resulted in the September 2016 version which now raises further concerns by the associations.