

# Mangles Bay marina stalled

By MONIQUE MANNILE

ROCKINGHAM City Council is still waiting for its controversial Mangles Bay marina project to be given the green light by the State Government.

Last November the Environmental Protection Authority said the marina had the potential to be undertaken in an environmentally acceptable manner but raised concerns about seagrass, water quality, Lake Richmond and regionally significant terrestrial vegetation.

Since then the marina application has been awaiting approval from Planning and Infrastructure Minister Alannah McTiernan.

Rockingham Mayor Barry Sammels said Ms McTiernan was also considering an application for a privately funded jetty development at Wanliss Street, Rockingham and had told the council she would consider this first.

Disappointed that the council's application appeared to have come to a standstill, Cr Sammels said the project had already cost the council, State and Federal governments about \$750,000.

"It's sitting on a desk and nothing is happening. I'm concerned that despite all that money being spent, the council may have to go through another process. The council and steering committee are frustrated," Cr Sammels said.

Conceding there was room for both facilities in Rockingham, Cr Sammels said the marina was sorely needed by the community and it was time to stop stalling.

"I would like to see the Minister address both proposals on their merits and not sit on one while she addresses the other," he said.

A spokesman for Ms McTiernan said both applications were complex and did not have unanimous community support.

"Both are being given proper and appropriate consideration," the spokesman said.

If the marina application is approved, the next stage of the project would include detailed site-specific environmental and geotechnical investigations.