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Letters

PARKING MADNESS

THE Public Environmental Review documents for Port Rockingham Marina have finally been released and it does contain some real surprises.

On a warm day there isn't a parking place to be found along Rockingham Beach Road from Railway Terrace to Victoria Street.

According to the review, once the marina is built an extra 5857 vehicles a day will be looking for a car park on the same area.

Where are they going to park?

Somehow the traffic study enclosed in the report reckons that these extra 5857 vehicles will only require an extra 420 car bays. Where do the rest go?

Some they will explain away as only short-term parkers, but most people who come to use a boat or go to a restaurant or micro brewery stay for a number of hours, if

not the whole day.

Even if you accept this mythical figure, where are the extra 420 car bays coming from?

The review dismisses this problem by stating that the City of Rockingham will accept on-street parking (with a cash-in-lieu payment).

The report then shows how it can create more bays along the waterfront by bulldozing some of the dunes, encroaching on the grassed playground areas and thus creating an extra 215 bays – provided marina patrons are willing to walk up to 500 metres from their cars.

So we now have the developer proposing to provide 215 bays with 5857 vehicles competing for them.

Is the council really going to endorse this madness?

**Geoff Simpson,
Rockingham.**