

March 26, 2026

RE: Evaluation of environmental concerns around the choice of Matilda Bay or Nedlands Jetty (Jojo's) for the proposed Perth Transport Authority ferry terminal in Nedlands.

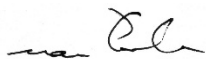
On review of the official documentation available around the proposed development of a ferry terminal in Nedlands, I am unconvinced by the evidence to dismiss the Nedlands Jetty site on environmental grounds.

Nedlands Jetty, as an existing structure already providing access to deep water for charter vessels, would be a superior location for the proposed ferry terminal. Reduced construction requirements of the existing jetty and reduced need to disturb existing moorings means that overall construction-related disturbance would be reduced at the Nedlands Jetty site. Conversely, the construction work required to develop the proposed Matilda Bay site would create considerable disturbance to the marine environment, with increased risk of acid sulphate soils exposure, sedimentation associated with pile driving and offshore construction, and potential coastal erosion along the sensitive sandy shore area of Matilda Bay.

The Matilda Bay site will impact 0.37 ha of seagrass, with the shallow waters requiring an extended jetty structure to reach deeper water. The immediate area around Nedlands Jetty is free of seagrass and the deeper water at this site would reduce ongoing impacts on the adjacent seagrass ecosystem from backwash and wake. The Matilda Bay and Nedlands Jetty locations are equidistant from the Pelican Point bird habitat, and I see no evidence to suggest that the Nedlands Jetty site would pose an increased risk to migratory seabirds. Navigation into the deeper water site at Nedlands Jetty would likely be less hazardous than into the shallower waters of Matilda Bay, with reduced risk of grounding at extreme low water events. The shallower waters of Matilda Bay mean that sediments around the terminal will be more vulnerable to ongoing wake from ferry traffic, potentially resulting in increased turbidity and coastal erosion.

Conclusion: On environmental grounds, the Nedlands Jetty site provides a superior option to the proposed Matilda Bay site. Reduced construction requirements mean a substantially reduced impact on the marine environment, and the deeper waters at Nedlands Jetty will reduce operational impacts during ferry operations.

Sincerely



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