



MID WEST DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MEDIA STATEMENT

19 September 2011

Regional support for Morawa's SuperTown status

A crowd of more than 120 congregated at the Morawa Town Hall on Wednesday 14 September to help officially launch Morawa as one of WA's nine regional SuperTowns.

The Regional Centres Development Plan (SuperTowns) program is a State government initiative to enhance and stimulate growth in key regional towns in the southern half of the State, with the WA population expected to double over the next 30-40 years.

Minister for Regional Development, the Hon Brendon Grylls MLA, explained at the launch that Morawa would share in \$85.5 million in Royalties for Regions funding this year to fast track development of priority infrastructure to capture economic growth and cater for population expansion.

Shire of Morawa President, Ms Karen Chappel, said the Shire was committed to the SuperTown initiative and would do their part by engaging and consulting with the community to ensure the SuperTown vision for Morawa is a joint one.

"Morawa will embrace this opportunity", Ms Chappel said.

"We have a strong community, always committed to improving education, health and making life better for those who choose to live here.

"We have strong economic drivers in our agricultural industry and resources sector and acknowledge the real prospect of substantial growth for Morawa.

"The opportunity is now for us to look ahead and plan for our future to make the best of our situation."

Mid West Development Commission CEO, Steve Douglas, said it was fantastic to see so many people, many from neighbouring shires, Geraldton and Perth attend the launch and show support for Morawa's SuperTown status, which will provide significant flow on benefits for the region.

"Having a vibrant service centre in Morawa with improved services and facilities will benefit communities throughout the North Midlands, contributing to the overall strength of the region and its ability to attract and support growth," Mr Douglas said.

"Strategic investment by government through this initiative, and others such as the Mid West Investment Plan, will enhance the liveability of the North Midlands and ultimately stimulate further investment from the private sector in terms of industry, housing and other major development.

"The next step is for Morawa, its neighbours and stakeholders to develop a vision for the community, with all residents having a chance to influence Morawa's unique identity and help shape its future."

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