



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport, Regional
Development & Local Government Committee**

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 21 April 2009

Chair: Catherine King MP

Helping regional Australia respond to the global financial crisis

Geraldton, Busselton and Mandurah public hearings and forums

The House of Representatives Regional Development Committee is conducting a series of public hearings as part of its inquiry into the impact of the global financial crisis on regional Australia.

The Committee will be holding hearings in Geraldton, Busselton and Mandurah, Western Australia on the 29th and 30th of April and the 1st of May. Public hearing participants have been invited by the Committee to discuss a range of issues including the economic and social impact of the crisis on their communities and ways in which the Commonwealth Government can assist regional Australia during this period. Members of the public are welcome to observe the proceedings.

At the end of each public hearing, the Committee has set aside an open session where members of the public can raise issues with the Committee relating to this inquiry.

The Committee has also visited Tasmania and Victoria during the month of April. Further hearings will follow later in the year. Hearings in Western Australia are scheduled for:

- **Geraldton**, Wednesday, 29 April 2009, City of Geraldton-Greenough council offices, 63 Cathedral Avenue;
- **Busselton**, Thursday, 30 April 2009, Shire of Busselton – Council Chamber Room, 2 Southern Drive; and
- **Mandurah**, Friday, 1 May 2009. Mandurah City Council - Tuckey Room, 3 Peel Street

The **Geraldton** public hearing will be held between **11 am and 2.00 pm** with the public forum to follow.

The **Busselton** public hearing will be held between **9 am and 2.00 pm** with the public forum to follow.

The **Mandurah** public hearing will be held between **9 am and 1.30 pm** with the public forum to follow.

Complete hearing programs can be found on the Committee's website:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/itrdlg>

For media comment:

Please contact the Committee Chair, Catherine King, on 0409 855 946.

For background information:

Please contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 2352 or by email at itrdlg.reps@aph.gov.au