



## Parking levy could make homes car parks

• Politics

**BY HAMISH HASTIE**

The front yards of nearby Crown casino residents could soon become car parks if the casino chooses to pass the costs of the Perth parking levy onto its patrons when the complex becomes a part of the City of Perth in 2015 says Member for Victoria Park Ben Wyatt.

The Perth parking levy is a State Government initiative under the Perth Parking Management Act to raise money to fund the CAT bus system.

He said the cost of \$697 per parking bay each year could force the casino, new Burswood stadium, Charles Gairdner Hospital and UWA to implement paid parking across the board or charge drivers more to use their parking facilities.

He said this would cause people to park on the streets,

which wouldn't be City of Perth land.

"Troy Buswell has said he wants the Perth levy boundaries to flow to the new CBD boundaries, now what that will mean will be UWA, Charles Gairdner hospital and Crown entertainment complex will be charged nearly \$700 a year per parking bay," he said.

"Assuming Crown make the decision to charge people to park their car at Crown, in my electorate, Lathlain, Burswood, Victoria Park, will be swamped with people parking their car to then walk to Crown or the new stadium."

Mr Wyatt called on the State Government to implement a CAT bus service to the complex and Curtin University using the extra funds raised from the levy.

"My argument, and one of

the reasons that I oppose losing that part of the peninsula to the City of Perth is all the revenue will go to the City of Perth whilst all the issues and expense will be left to the ratepayers of Victoria Park," he said.

"So at the very least a CAT bus service should be provided running between the CBD and Crown and between the CBD and Curtin in light of the fact that it's the people of Victoria Park who will wear the standard of living consequences of the Perth parking levy creeping into our area."

A Department of Local Government and Communities spokesperson said it was too early to detail what parking arrangement would apply after that time.

Crown Perth declined to comment.



*Member for Victoria Park called on the State Government to start a CAT bus service to Victoria Park if the Perth parking levy applied to the Crown complex and new stadium. Photograph – Matt Devlin.*