

BUSSELL HIGHWAY — ACCESS TO CAPE NATURALISTE COLLEGE

**542. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:**

I refer to the section of Bussell Highway immediately adjacent to Cape Naturaliste College in Vasse Newtown and the number of pedestrians who are now required to traverse this major busy road.

- (1) What plans have been developed by the state government to construct a footbridge, underpass or the like to allow pedestrians safe passage across Bussell Highway to and from Cape Naturaliste College?
- (2) What is the time frame for construction of these measures?
- (3) If there are no such plans, will the minister please advise of existing traffic management studies conducted by the state government that suggest the need or otherwise for some form of suitable pedestrian crossing?

**Hon SALLY TALBOT replied:**

I thank Hon Barry House for some notice of this question to which I provide a response on behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure. The minister has responded in the following terms.

- (1) There are no plans for a footbridge or underpass under the existing highway. The Vasse Newton development, however, includes provision for a bypass of the existing Bussell Highway and subsequent downgrading of the existing Bussell Highway to a low speed town centre road catering for local traffic only. The bypass route is largely funded by the developer and will be constructed by the developer. Main Roads WA is contributing to the section of bypass that forms part of the proposed Vasse-Dunsborough route.
- (2) Construction of the bypass is planned for the summer of 2008-09 and is expected to be complete by mid-2009.
- (3) As indicated in (1), the proposed bypass will significantly reduce traffic volumes on the existing section of road, resulting in it becoming a low speed, low volume local road. It is not expected that pedestrians will have any problems crossing the road under this new environment. However, Main Roads will monitor the situation following construction of the bypass to ensure that an appropriate level of pedestrian safety is achieved.