

METRONET — JOBS

**961. Mr C.J. TALLENTIRE to the Minister for Transport:**

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's efforts to keep the WA economy strong through its record investment in transport infrastructure.

- (1) Can the minister update the house on this government's investment in Metronet and how the delivery of the single biggest rail expansion in Perth's history is supporting local jobs?
- (2) Can the minister advise the house whether she is aware of anyone who does not support this investment in Metronet and other job-creating transport projects?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:**

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for that question and for his commitment to Metronet, local jobs, local companies and local work. Of course, we are delivering a record amount of rail infrastructure in Western Australia that has never been seen before. We have eight projects underway and there are more to come. Let us go through those projects and see who opposes those projects in Western Australia.

First of all, let us start in the member for Thornlie's area. The Thornlie–Cockburn Link is a much-needed project that the other side could never deliver. In 2008, the former member for Southern River —

... told *The West Australian* he had unsuccessfully lobbied the Government's leadership to commit to the line in the lead-up to the 2013 State election. "I think they figured that the polling showed I was doing extremely well," he said.

In 2015, he said —

"I'm hoping that within five years we'll either get a commitment to it or even construction starting ...

I say to the former member that construction has started under this government.

The Yanchep rail extension is underway. The member for Butler and I have been out there a few times.

**Ms L. Mettam** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Vasse, I call you to order for the first time.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** The Yanchep rail extension was opposed by the Liberal Party. In 2018, the Leader of the Opposition said —

I am curious to hear the minister's explanation of why Yanchep was progressed ... There is plenty of land up there, but not many houses, and not many people living there at the moment ...

Again, the Liberal Party opposed the Yanchep rail line.

I turn to Bayswater train station. What did the Liberal Party commit to the Bayswater train station? It committed a new ramp and a toilet!

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** As part of its \$1.8 billion Forrestfield commitment, the opposition committed \$4 million to a new ramp and a toilet! We have committed over \$200 million to rebuild a brand-new Bayswater station, a whole new precinct.

Shall we go through the Morley–Ellenbrook line again? The Liberal Party failed to deliver its election commitments.

**Ms L. Mettam** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Vasse!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** The Liberal Party failed to deliver twice. It broke a promise to the people of Ellenbrook and that entire corridor. Even after the last election, the member for Riverton said —

"It is out there prioritising a rail line to Ellenbrook, which isn't needed for 10 years ...

**Ms L. Mettam** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Vasse, I call you to order for the second time. You'll miss out on the crayfish, the way you're going!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** The member for Bateman said —

"If you look at the population, it just isn't there to sustain a capital investment at this point in time ...

The Liberal Party was opposed to the Ellenbrook rail line.

The Denny Avenue level crossing is underway—another massive project for Kelmscott and Armadale. The car park at Mandurah station is underway.

The Byford rail extension was opposed by the Liberal Party. It does not want us to deliver the Byford rail extension. That is an incredible position taken by the Liberal Party. It is running a campaign against the extension of the Byford rail line. Today, it presented a petition calling for us to get on with it. It went out there to do a media event and then opposes the rail line. I do not understand that. Can members opposite not match what they are doing on a Sunday with what they are doing on a Thursday?

Of course, then we have the Forrestfield–Airport Link, which is being delivered by this government. It started under this government. Over four kilometres of track has been laid.

Yes, member, there are people in WA who do not support Metronet. They are members of the Liberal Party! They are fighting, opposing and criticising while we have thousands of Western Australian workers out there delivering a record program of investment.

**Ms L. Mettam** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Vasse! Wow, you are on three! Just let me get my book so I can get ready to send you home.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** I have seen a few meetings of Liberal Party members today, not involving the Leader of the Opposition. I think they have seen the polling results, members! I have seen a few groupings out there, all very, very hushed.

Several members interjected.

*Point of Order*

**Mr Z.R.F. KIRKUP:** Mr Speaker —

**Mr D.A. Templeman:** Where's your manila folder?

**Mr Z.R.F. KIRKUP:** The point of order is specifically in relation to the relevance of the question that was asked of the minister.

**The SPEAKER:** No, I think it is okay—just. The member for Vasse is enjoying it.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** They are very nervous on the other side. As the Minister for Culture and the Arts said, I think they have all been given the manila folder with the polling results. I have seen them all having meetings. The minister asked which group the member for Dawesville is in. From what I can see, I do not think it is the Leader of the Opposition's group.

*Point of Order*

**Mr Z.R.F. KIRKUP:** My point of order, again, relates to the relevance of the question that was asked.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Hang on. I will hear the point of order in silence.

**Mr Z.R.F. KIRKUP:** The minister was specifically asked a question about Metronet projects. I do not believe her statements are very relevant.

**The SPEAKER:** I think you are drifting away, minister. Just drift back to the question.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** I will pivot back!

**Mr D.J. Kelly:** Metronet was mentioned in the polling!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** I think the minister is right.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister for Water, I know you like to have a say, but I want to hear it. I call you to order for the first time.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** I will pivot again.

**Mr D.J. Kelly** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** I call you to order for the second time.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** The minister was right; it was asked about in the Liberal Party polling.

Only one party can be trusted to deliver Metronet, jobs and rail lines for our future, and that is Labor.