

HILLARYS BOAT HARBOUR — BUS SERVICE

Statement by Member for Hillarys

MR P.A. KATSAMBANIS (Hillarys) [12.50 pm]: I draw all members' attention to the need in my electorate of a direct bus route to the Hillarys Boat Harbour and marina complex. The boat harbour and marina is the biggest tourist attraction in my electorate and one of the most popular tourist attractions in Perth. Traders and small businesses that operate from the boat harbour rely heavily on the foot traffic generated by locals, people who live across Western Australia, and interstate and overseas tourists. Currently, the only public transport option to the boat harbour is to catch the 423 bus from Warwick or Stirling train station, which operates on weekdays only. Catching the bus from Stirling train station, for example, requires 42 stops before a person can get off at the Hillarys Boat Harbour on West Coast Highway. This is a slow and cumbersome public transport alternative for a tourist or a local person who wants to visit the marina.

Traders and business operators at the boat harbour and marina, like the broader community, are experiencing challenging economic conditions. Without a direct bus route to the boat harbour and marina, the task of attracting people to use public transport is made even more difficult. The introduction of a direct bus route from either Greenwood train station or Whitfords train station to the boat harbour is needed, and I call on the government to ask the Public Transport Authority to commence work on a feasibility study for this route, and perhaps consider extending it east along the ever-growing Hepburn Avenue.