

INFRASTRUCTURE — FEDERAL FUNDING

17. MR S.J. PRICE to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's success in securing its fair share of federal funding for Western Australia's unprecedented pipeline of major infrastructure works.

- (1) Can the minister update the house on how the \$1.3 billion in federal funding that the government has secured will support the delivery of Metronet as well as this government's record investment in both metropolitan and regional roads?
- (2) Can the minister outline to the house what these major road and rail upgrades will mean for local jobs and the state's economic recovery?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

I thank the member for Forrestfield for that question. Can I also congratulate you, Madam Speaker, on your election as the Speaker of this house.

- (1)–(2) The McGowan government has a proven track record in delivering infrastructure throughout Western Australia. In our first four years of government, we set about delivering a record amount of infrastructure, which created jobs and opportunities for Western Australians. Since the election, we have rolled up our sleeves and done it again. We have negotiated with the federal government and secured \$1.3 billion in new funding for Western Australia.

Ms S.E. Winton: How much?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: Member for Wanneroo, \$1.3 billion. That not only will allow us to reduce congestion, support Metronet and improve regional road safety, but also means that we will have a pipeline of infrastructure not for the next year or two years, but for the next five to six years. That means more jobs and training opportunities for Western Australians. That is why we continue to seek federal funding to create that pipeline of work.

A number of excellent new initiatives were announced today. I was there with the member for Forrestfield and, of course, the Premier, along with the federal Attorney-General, Michaelia Cash; Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Hon Ben Morton; Ken Wyatt; and Steve Irons. There will be a number of new initiatives. There is another \$350 million to support Metronet, particularly with the lifting of the rail through Cannington, for two new stations and for the removal of level crossings. The member for Armadale will be happy with the new funding that will be spent throughout Armadale and, of course, regional WA. There is \$200 million to upgrade Great Eastern Highway and \$160 million to support our farming communities through WA agriculture supply chain improvements. These are real initiatives that support our economy and also our population. There will be funding for the new Perth Airport north precinct that will allow for further industrial development around the airport. There will be money for the Toodyay Road upgrades, which, again, is a major priority that we set out to the commonwealth. Of course, member for Dawesville—I will try to find you—there will be \$55 million to deliver the estuary bridge. That was an election commitment that we made about eight weeks ago. We have secured the funding for that and will be delivering that project, member for Dawesville.

Mr R.S. Love: Great work by the commonwealth government!

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The member for Moore is the third shadow Minister for Transport we have had. I suspect he is using the same methodology—knock everything, criticise everything—that was used by previous shadow transport ministers. I suspect this new shadow Minister for Transport will do the same; he will knock and criticise everything that we are doing.

We should all be proud that the government is achieving outcomes for Western Australians. We are creating jobs, supporting Metronet, improving regional road safety and reducing congestion throughout our suburbs.