

EELUP ROTARY, BUNBURY — INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS

**336. Hon ADELE FARINA to the minister representing the Minister for Transport:**

I refer to the recent decision to install four sets of traffic lights at the Eelup Rotary instead of building the promised flyover, and the associated works, which involve the realignment of Estuary Drive with Austral Parade, the installation of traffic lights at the intersection with Koombana Drive, and strong community opposition to the proposed works.

- (1) Why has the government reneged on its election commitment to build a flyover in Bunbury, when it has built flyovers in the metropolitan area?
- (2) Will the government hold a public meeting on the proposed modifications in order to give the community an opportunity to be heard before making a final decision on the proposed modifications?
- (3) Will the minister confirm that no decision has been made in relation to the associated works—the realignment of Estuary Drive with Austral Parade, and the installation of traffic lights?
- (4) If yes to (3), given that the associated works are necessary as a result of the installation of four sets of traffic lights at the Eelup Rotary, will the minister detail all other options under consideration to address the problem created by the government's decision to install traffic lights at the Eelup Rotary instead of building the promised flyover?
- (5) If no to (4), why not?
- (6) Why has the minister refused my request for a briefing from Main Roads on the proposed modifications, to enable me to respond to constituent inquiries?

**Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. In fact, the answer will be briefer than the question.

**Hon Adele Farina:** I'm sure it will be.

**Hon SIMON O'BRIEN:**

- (1) The state government is committed to providing a flyover at this location. However, at a \$100 million-plus cost for the interchange option, a decision was made to identify and deliver a lower cost interim at-grade treatment which fitted with the ultimate grade separation and could deliver more immediate safety and capacity benefits for the community. Unlike its Labor predecessor, the Liberal-National state government is interested in achieving results to improve road safety, not political point-scoring, so the more immediate option is being progressed, while the longer-term goal is still intact.

**Hon Adele Farina:** You promised to build it during this term of government!

**Hon SIMON O'BRIEN:** Does the member want to hear the answer? The timing and requirement for the construction of the ultimate flyover will be dependent on traffic growth and other variables such as residential growth, construction of the port access road, and the proposed closure of Estuary Drive.

- (2) Main Roads has already carried out extensive investigations to identify the best interim solution.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) This option is not an element of the Eelup roundabout upgrade and the works are not necessary as a result of signalising Eelup roundabout. The proposal will, however, alleviate the significant existing congestion on Estuary Drive at its intersection with Koombana Drive.

The signalisation of the Estuary Drive intersection with Koombana Drive cannot be undertaken due to the close proximity to Eelup roundabout and potential for traffic to bank back into the roundabout. This situation is not changed by signalising Eelup roundabout.

- (5) Not applicable.
- (6) The request for information has not been refused, and a briefing can be arranged by the Minister for Transport's office when convenient for all involved.