

**ELLENBROOK BUS SERVICE**

*Statement by Minister for Transport*

**HON SIMON O'BRIEN (South Metropolitan — Minister for Transport)** [10.02 am]: I am pleased to announce the introduction of improved bus services to the Ellenbrook community. Commencing in mid-October 2010, changes will result in a substantial increase in the level of service to Ellenbrook. The Liberal–National government has recognised that for many years bus services to Ellenbrook have not met community expectations.

The member for Swan Hills, Mr Frank Alban, MLA, has advocated strongly on this matter. At the core of his community's concern was a lack of service frequency. At the heart of the government's plan is the introduction of a high-frequency spine service that will run every 10 minutes during peak periods and every 15 minutes in off-peak periods. This will provide an all-day service to Bassendean station, with every second bus extending to Morley bus station. Existing sections of bus services within Ellenbrook will be replaced with two local feeder routes to the main spine services. These changes will see Ellenbrook north and Coolamon east served by regular public transport for the first time. During peak periods, both routes will provide a 20-minute service connecting to the main spine services. The increased services for Ellenbrook represent a 44 per cent increase on existing services for this community. The new services will give Ellenbrook residents access to an additional 215 000 public transport kilometres per annum, plus four additional air-conditioned accessible buses.

It is important to note that these changes are an initial response to the public transport services in Ellenbrook. Further service improvements will be considered as part of a metropolitan service development program when funding becomes available. Furthermore, moneys relating to master planning for potential rail services to Ellenbrook remain as allocated in the budget for expenditure in 2012–13.

Consideration of the statement made an order of the day for the next sitting, on motion by **Hon Ed Dermer**.