

AUBIN GROVE TRAIN STATION

**367. Mr J.M. FRANCIS to the Minister for Transport:**

On behalf of the residents of my electorate of Jandakot, I thank the minister for his recent announcement that this Liberal–National government has a fully costed, fully funded plan to build a new train station at Aubin Grove.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Armadale, I formally call you to order for the first time today. If there is a point you want to make in this place, there are other ways of doing it.

**Mr J.M. FRANCIS:** Can the minister please update the house on what residents in my electorate of Jandakot can expect at this station and the benefits of this commitment over the half-baked, half-thought-out plan proposed by the Labor Party?

**Mr T.R. BUSWELL replied:**

I thank the member for Jandakot for having both me and the Premier out to his electorate over the last few months and highlighting the challenges around public transport. Can I say just quickly that there is a lot of money going to the rail network in Perth—\$240 million to push the line to the north to Butler, \$165 million to buy 45 extra rail carriages, \$360 million to sink the railway line through the middle of the city to facilitate the Perth City Link et cetera. Lastly, we saw two things out of this announcement of \$80 million to build the Aubin Grove train station. We saw a government committed to delivering well-planned and well-thought-out transport proposals. As the member for Jandakot would be aware, the \$80 million delivers him this: a train station and car parking to accommodate 2 000 people, which will be the largest Park ‘n’ Ride on the Perth metropolitan rail network. In addition —

**Mr F.M. Logan** interjected.

**Mr T.R. BUSWELL:** We will get to you in a minute, member for Swanbourne!

In addition, in line with advice from the Public Transport Authority, when we build a station, we go out and buy six more rail carriages because that is what it says we will need to account for the extra growth in stoppage from having another station on the line. That is what we get for \$80 million. The good folk of the member for Jandakot’s electorate can compare that directly with the half-baked plan of a half-baked opposition because this is what it offered to do for \$45 million—build a station, put in 900 car parking bays and buy the sum total of zero extra rail carriages.

**Mrs M.H. Roberts:** That’s not true!

**Mr T.R. BUSWELL:** Is it not true? Where does it say in the press release, member for Midland, that the opposition will run extra rail carriages? It quite simply does not! It is true because it is not there; if it was not true, it would be there. So what can they get?

Several members interjected.

**Mr T.R. BUSWELL:** What do the member for Jandakot’s constituents get —

**Mrs M.H. Roberts** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Midland!

**Mr P. Papalia** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Warnbro, I formally call you to order for the first time today. I just want to make some progress in question time—that is all, members.

**Mr T.R. BUSWELL:** That is what the member for Jandakot’s constituents get: it is like the Slim Dusty equivalent of the pub with no beer; it is the train station that people cannot park at and they will not be able to fit on the train. That is what the opposition has offered. I am sure that the member for Jandakot will go to some length to assist the members of his electorate to understand the difference. I am sure he will. I thought it was half-baked and I now know it is half-baked because the first things I saw were the comments of the shadow Minister for Transport, Hon Ken Travers. He dragged his knuckles down to Cockburn station on Sunday —

*Withdrawal of Remark*

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** I ask that the Minister for Transport withdraw that imputation he absolutely makes in this house. It is unparliamentary and unbecoming, I might add, of any parliamentarian to stand in this place and say the things that he does.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Mr T.R. BUSWELL:** The member was down there and said that the problem with this announcement is that people will not be able to fit on the trains. We are buying extra trains, but people will not be able to fit on the trains. That is false. The Labor plan for the station at Aubin Grove is for no additional rail carriages to be purchased. The other very interesting —

Several members interjected.

**Mr T.R. BUSWELL:** That is a very good point, member for Jandakot, as we invest \$50 million to build nearly 4 000 extra car parking bays on the very line on which the opposition built half-baked stations last time.

I will just close with the following. I thought it was a half-baked plan until I saw comments made by the member for Cockburn that appeared in the *Cockburn Gazette*, in which he was quoted as being a local resident. His local train station is Swanbourne—halfway between his house and the Boatshed, where he goes to buy his expensive imported caviar! This is the workers' friend! Let us understand one thing: his local station is Swanbourne. Members should not be confused; we are not building 2 000 car parking bays at Swanbourne. He also said, in relation to our plan, that there was no money in the budget for it, whereas Labor had identified a source in the future fund. In other words, he has automatically admitted that he is prepared to raid the future fund—money set aside by this government and this generation of Western Australians for future —

Several members interjected.

**Mr T.R. BUSWELL:** The member made an assumption, and I am happy to go out and promise every single cent out of the billion dollars that will go into the future fund, but the fatal flaw in the member for Cockburn's assumption is that he will be able to get the money out. A couple of things need to happen for him to be able to do that; he would have to be able to access it through the legislative mechanism, and I do not think he will be able to. Secondly, he will have to win government and get over this side of the house, and I know that is not going to happen.