

TRANSPORT — PENSIONERS, SPEED CUSHIONS AND ROAD ISSUES

1037. Mr C.J. Tallentire to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport

- (1) Does the budget estimate for 2009–2010 and the forward estimates include provision for funding free public transport 24/7 for all seniors card holders and other concessionary fare-users?
- (2) Given the Liberal Party plan to extend eligibility for the WA Seniors Card, what provision in the forward estimates has the Government made for funding further additional free public transport?
- (3) What provision has been made in the forward estimates for the purchase of additional railcars which would improve services to Gosnells on the Armadale line and on the Thornlie line?
- (4) Is it possible for a Disability Pensioner to get a SmartRider card without parting with any money? Can they use the free public transport for free?
- (5) Why is there no mention in the publicity nor the application form of the fact that a minimum \$5 must be loaded onto the card, or it will not be issued?
- (6) Is the Government denying the card to needy pensioners, who have no intention of travelling outside the free period?
- (7) Does the Western Australia Community Crime Prevention Program (anti-hoon) incorporate speed cushions?
- (8) What criteria are used by Main Roads to determine which projects are funded?
- (9) In my electorate, the City of Gosnells submitted a much-needed proposal for Stennett Street mobile speed humps? Why was this project bid not successful?
- (10) What volumes of traffic are projected over the forward estimates period to use the Nicholson Road — Garden Street, Langford/Thornlie crossing over the Kewdale-Fremantle freight rail line?
- (11) Irrespective of the potential extension of the Thornlie spur electrified line to Nicholson Road and Canning Vale, is a road overpass to ease traffic congestion being considered?

Mr M.J. COWPER replied:

- (1) No.
- (2) None. Plans to expand the current seniors card accessibility are under consideration.
- (3) New railcars are currently arriving, with the first three of the new three car sets entering service on 28 June. A further 12, three car sets will arrive over the next 18 months. These railcars are being utilised to increase the capacity on existing services, with three car sets adding capacity on the Joondalup and Mandurah lines and enabling a portion of the older cars to be cascaded onto the older lines. The first train to be increased from two to four cars on the Armadale line occurred in June 2009 and further positioning of cascaded cars will be in accordance with demand.
- (4) Yes, but they can only travel within the free travel entitlement windows.
- (5) The first SmartRider card for an Aged or Disabled Pensioner is free and no money is required to be exchanged; however should they try and use public transport outside the free travel time their card will not work.  
  
If a person believes they are being unfairly treated they should advise the Transperth Info Line on 13 62 13 so we can identify the agent and have it fixed.
- (6) No.
- (7) Yes.
- (8) There are a number of criteria utilised to select projects for the Hoon Speed Cushion program. The criteria were developed with a working group consisting of a number of local government representatives, including the City of Gosnells. The group developed Selection Criteria based on the following traffic parameters:
  - Burnout marks on the road;
  - Complaints to the Police;
  - High 85th percentile speeds;
  - High number of vehicles 20 km/h or more over the speed limit; and

- Traffic volumes less than 3 000 vehicles per day.
- (9) The projects are selected on a priority basis via the selection criteria. The program runs for four years and projects that were not successful for a given year can be re-submitted. Alternatively, Councils can internally fund projects that are not successful. The City of Gosnells submitted an application for Stennett Street (Southern River Road to Ashburton Drive). The project was assessed and ranked 15th among 35 submissions. The highest ranked eight submissions were successful.
- (10) The traffic volume estimates for Nicholson Road at the rail crossing south of Bannister Road are (Annual Average Weekday Traffic (AAWT) in both directions):
- | Year | Vehicles per day combined directions |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| 2011 | 45,000 — 55,000                      |
| 2021 | 50,000 — 60,000                      |
- (11) Main Roads and the Public Transport Authority are developing concepts for high risk level crossings for possible future funding. The work is currently in the early stages.