

WESTPORT TASKFORCE — ROE 8 AND 9

707. Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Why will the Premier not just build Roe 8 and Roe 9 to ease congestion and road safety issues —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members! Members on my right, your Premier is about to be on his feet. I want to hear what he has to say.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Why will the Premier not just build Roe 8 and Roe 9 to ease congestion and alleviate road safety concerns in the southern suburbs?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

Members might recall that we took a plan not to build those roads to the state election, and we were elected on that plan. This was an issue a few weeks ago. Members opposite have no new issues, so they are bringing up something about which all the questions were answered three weeks ago. On the Tuesday of Parliament, they roll out this!

We were elected on the plan we took to the election. We have implemented the plan. We did not want to destroy the Beelihar wetlands or waste nearly \$2 billion. Instead, we have secured that money from the commonwealth government and it is being spent on 20 or so road projects across the metropolitan area and regional Western Australia. Under the previous government's plan, which it did not implement, regional Western Australia would have got nothing. A range of projects is being funded as a consequence of our plan. The opposition's plan involves toll roads. I know that because the Leader of the Liberal Party said that. One of the great things about Western Australia is that we do not have poker machines or toll roads. Under Labor, it will stay that way. Under the Liberal Party—who knows what would happen?