

INDIAN OCEAN DRIVE — STAGE 2

Hon KEN TRAVERS to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the opening of stage 2 of Indian Ocean Drive.

- (1) How many kilometres are still to be sealed, and what other roadworks are still to be completed?
- (2) Does the opening of Indian Ocean Drive prior to the completion of all works have any safety implications?
- (3) Can the minister confirm that local governments were originally advised that the opening would be in November?
- (4) Is the minister concerned about the impact the change in date has had on the marketing campaign proposed by the Shires of Gingin and Dandaragan?
- (5) Who made the decision to change the opening date and why?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for notice of the question. Sunday's event was a great community celebration and a great result —

Hon Ken Travers: You didn't invite the community!

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: — for all involved in delivering this great new piece of infrastructure ahead of time and within budget. I will answer the member's specific questions.

- (1) The original scope of works for the Lancelin–Cervantes stage 2 project is complete. The current roadworks being undertaken to upgrade what is known as the existing Pinnacles Drive section still has about 8.5 kilometres to be sealed. This work is separate to the original project scope. Other than very minor works, which are off the main alignment, there are no other works associated with this project.
- (2) No; safe traffic management practices, as are normal for working on an existing section of road, have been deployed for the additional works.
- (3) The original target project finish for the Lancelin–Cervantes stage 2 project was July 2011.

Hon Ken Travers: Yes, but answer my question. Were the local governments advised that it was going to be in November?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: Mr President, only Hon Ken Travers could find something negative about this whole matter. Surely only he could be so bleak and miserable as to try to find a downside to what has been a great success story.

I will continue my answer to part (3) of his question, if he wants to listen, which was “Can the minister confirm that local governments were originally advised that the opening would be in November?” The original target project finish for the Lancelin–Cervantes stage 2 project was July 2011; however, due to the good progress of the works, the anticipated completion date was revised on a number of occasions over the life of the project. Local governments were advised of these indicative dates pending further clarification. I continue —

- (4) The government liaised closely with the Shire of Dandaragan about the timing and location of activities to celebrate the opening of Indian Ocean Drive. The shire decided to hold a family day celebration at Cervantes on Sunday afternoon, which was attended by many local residents and visitors. I went along with my wife, and we were welcomed by the shire president and the community. Hon Brian Ellis was there; Hon Mía Davies was there; Hon Philip Gardiner was there; Hon Liz Behjat was there; Hon Jim Chown was at the opening—there were a range of friends there.

Hon Sue Ellery: There is a limited time to answer a question.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: He wanted to interject and get some more information, so I will give it to him!

It was a great occasion. My answer to part (5) of the question is —

- (5) Invitations were issued for the event to occur on Sunday, 19 September, and those arrangements proceeded as planned.