

PERTH CBD — COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

120. Ms H.M. BEAZLEY to the Premier:

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's record investment in major community infrastructure projects around the Perth CBD, including the new Causeway pedestrian and cyclist bridges.

- (1) Can the Premier outline to the house how these major projects will encourage people to visit, study, work and live in the city?
- (2) Can the Premier advise the house how the new Causeway bridges will boost connectivity between the city and the wider Victoria Park community?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

- (1)–(2) It has been a big few weeks for Perth. We have had some of the greatest bands and performers in the world here. We have had Ed Sheeran, Harry Styles, Rod Stewart and Cyndi Lauper, and a bunch of others that I have never heard of before but apparently they are quite significant. We have had the recent UFC bout and we will shortly hold some of the games of the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup here in Western Australia.

Last week we started construction of something that is even more exciting, and that is the new iconic bridges that will join Victoria Park through to the Perth CBD. We consulted the local Whadjuk working group, which I think is termed the Matagarup Elders Group, on design and so forth, and the project will connect Victoria Park at the foreshore at McCallum Park to Heirisson Island and onto Point Fraser and the Perth CBD. It is jointly funded by the commonwealth and state with \$50 million each. It will be two cable-stayed bridges providing a six-metre-wide shared path so that people will be able to cycle and walk across there. We can imagine that all the people in Victoria Park and Cannington and suburbs beyond who ride their bikes or walk will be able to use that to access the city. It will provide a new route for activity around the city with Matagarup Bridge and around. I suspect that it will become a running and walking track once this is up and operational, and it will make the area safer because currently riding or walking across the Causeway is not as good as it could be. That is what will happen.

That is in addition to all the major projects the government has funded, which total around \$2 billion, including an Aboriginal cultural centre in the city, the repairs and upgrades to the Perth Concert Hall, the upgrade of the WACA, the upgraded His Majesty's Theatre, the Art Gallery of Western Australia rooftop activation, the Edith Cowan University inner-city campus and the East Perth power station and a range of other projects, including some initiatives for housing and homelessness services in the city. This is one of the great projects we are putting in place to continue to make Perth one of the world's great cities.