

METRONET PROJECTS

**350. Mrs R.M.J. CLARKE to the Minister for Transport:**

I, too, would like to acknowledge the students from Brunswick Junction Primary School. It is always a pleasure having students here from my electorate.

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's record investment in job-creating transport projects across Western Australia, including the new Metronet Lakelands train station.

- (1) Can the minister update the house on the work underway to deliver this project?
- (2) What will it mean for our growing suburbs in the south?
- (3) Can the minister outline to the house how this project will support local jobs, local businesses and the local economy?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:**

- (1)–(3) I thank the member for Murray–Wellington for the question. The latest Metronet project to get underway is the new Lakelands train station. This train station will support the community around Mandurah and Lakelands and even through Pinjarra in the electorate of the member for Murray–Wellington. We have to do a lot to try to support commuters in the Mandurah area. There is a gap of about 23 kilometres between Mandurah and Warnbro. This new train station in the north Mandurah area will support the community that lives around the Lakelands district. Work is underway.

The train station will include 400 parking bays. It will include a new bus interchange, new storage for bikes and also a pedestrian overpass. That project, together with the multistorey car park in Mandurah, is all about making it easier to catch public transport through the entire area. Early next year, the government will also introduce the new two-zone cap in that area. That two-zone cap will see thousands of dollars of savings for people who live in the electorate of the member for Dawesville. These are all projects that support people catching public transport and they support jobs.

As the Premier outlined, we have a challenge when it comes to skills, but we are working with industry to support a pipeline of work, not just for today, but for the next five to 10 years. It is a program of works. Whether it be civil infrastructure or facilitating new developments, it is about supporting a pipeline of work, giving industry the confidence to train people, to employ Western Australians, to buy that equipment, and to make sure we can continue our economic recovery. The economic recovery has not stopped, and it is not going to stop. It is a long-term project to make sure we can continue to drive jobs. The Liberal Party believes the economic recovery is over, that we should stop projects and scrap the significant development pathway. That is the Liberal Party's policy. In today's grievance we heard the member for Cottesloe say that we should not support new developments because economic recovery is over. That is what Liberal Party members believe. No wonder no-one trusts them to be in government. They cannot be trusted.

**Dr A.D. Buti:** They can't be trusted to be in opposition!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** The member for Armadale is right, actually—do not trust them at all! That is a good point.

Opposition members think the economic recovery is over. However, the government is working with industry to sustain job creation, to ensure we have a pipeline of work and ensure we create new projects directly and facilitate new developments to create long-term jobs for all Western Australians.