

NORTH EASTERN CORRIDOR RAPID TRANSIT STUDY

559. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the Minister for Transport:

I ask this question on behalf of Hon Ken Travers, who has had to leave the chamber. I refer to the north eastern corridor rapid transit study announced by the minister.

- (1) What are the study's terms of reference?
- (2) What government body or agency will be overseeing the study?
- (3) Are any consultants or contract employees being used to assist the study in any way?
- (4) If yes to (3), who are the consultants or contract employees?
- (5) If yes to (3), what is the total cost of services provided by the consultants or contract employees?
- (6) What is the proposed time frame for completion of the study?
- (7) What are the estimated costs of the study?
- (8) How many government officers are involved in the study; from what department are the officers involved; and, for each officer involved in the study, what level are those officers?
- (9) In full-time equivalent terms, how many officers are involved in the study?

The PRESIDENT: Order! Before I call on the Minister for Transport to answer that question, I would invite those members who are continuing as members to reacquaint themselves with the standing orders, because I do not think my successor will be as lenient as I am.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. Now that Hon Ken Travers' urgent parliamentary business has concluded, I am delighted to give the member the answer.

Hon Ken Travers: I have been chasing up your press release, minister!

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: Good! The member might learn something from it! I will be interested to see what the member makes of this. The answer to the question, in the way the member has phrased it, is as follows —

- (1) The terms of reference of the study are —
 - (a) identify the short and long-term travel needs in the study area, including potential demands and travel patterns;
 - (b) identify the most effective means of serving the travel needs of the population and to increase the overall proportion of people using public transport services;
 - (c) investigate the range of modes that may be suitable to meet the travel needs of the population, and identify a preferred mode or modes to deliver these services;
 - (d) consider future land use development potential in the corridor, including opportunities for transit-oriented development at key transit nodes;
 - (e) investigate infrastructure needs and related traffic adjustments required to support the delivery of the recommended system or systems;
 - (f) identify broad costs for recommended option or options; and
 - (g) consider options for implementation of the transport system in this corridor, including opportunities for transition from the existing bus-based system.
- (2) The Public Transport Authority.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Parsons Brinckerhoff Australia Pty Ltd.
- (5) The estimated total cost is \$271 372.
- (6) The proposed time frame is 12 months from June 2008.
- (7) See (5) above.
- (8) Three Public Transport Authority officers—one part-time project manager and two part-time review function officers; one Department for Planning and Infrastructure officer—part-time, doing modelling work; and one Main Roads WA officer—part-time, doing modelling work.

Hon Sue Ellery: What sort of modelling?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: The Leader of the Opposition raises a good question. It is modelling in terms of modelling the transport task, not catwalk modelling.

Hon Ken Travers interjected.

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN: Thanks for the interjection, because I want the honourable member to get it right when he goes out and rabbits on to the media! The answer continues —

(9) Approximately one full-time equivalent.