

STATE DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT UNIT

**749. Mrs J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI to the Minister for Planning:**

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's efforts to drive greater investment in the Western Australian economy. Can the minister outline to the house how this government's efforts to cut red tape and support our economic recovery through the state development assessment unit is supporting local workers and local businesses, and can the minister advise the house whether she is aware of anyone who opposes these efforts to support local jobs?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:**

There seems to be quite a good little conversation happening. I am not sure whether to interrupt, member for Southern River. Do you think I should interrupt?

**Mr D.A. Templeman:** He's trying to extract his foot from his mouth!

*Withdrawal of Remark*

**The SPEAKER:** Leader of the House, I ask you to withdraw that.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** I withdraw.

**Ms J.J. Shaw** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** You can withdraw, too, if you like, member for Swan Hills.

**Ms J.J. SHAW:** I withdraw.

**The SPEAKER:** You should not be supporting a statement that someone has been asked to withdraw, and it was unparliamentary to interject that when a member was consulting me.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you to the member for Kingsley for that question. Of course, as part of our economic recovery, as part of driving jobs, we are all about making sure that we create and facilitate new developments around the state, both in our infrastructure program, and, of course, in attracting and facilitating private sector investment. As members know, we put some planning reform through the house, and that planning reform included the new pathway for significant developments. I am very pleased to report that over \$1.5 billion of new development has been supported through that state development assessment unit process. There are new jobs and opportunities, and, importantly, we all know that there is a significant construction boom happening now, but what this pathway does is support jobs into the future. New approvals will allow our economy to continue to grow and to create new opportunities. Those opportunities are across the state. They include the new State Football Centre in Queens Park; residential aged-care facilities; the expansion of the Cockburn Gateway shopping centre, something that has been discussed for many, many years; a wharf extension in Henderson; student accommodation; hotel developments; multistorey apartment buildings; an LNG plant at Mt Magnet; and a shopping centre in Dawesville, so there are opportunities across the state.

This pathway was so important to give Western Australians the confidence to continue to invest in this state. Of course, it was the member for Cottesloe—the Leader of the Liberal Party, who does not pay much attention to things that are happening in this house unless they relate to Hon Nick Goiran—who rejected and opposed these styles of pathway. He rejected and opposed them, and what does he do? He goes out there, and every time a new development gets off the ground and there is a sod turning, who is in the front row, supporting, welcoming, hanging out with developers at these events?

Several members interjected.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** The “King of the Sod”—that is quite interesting! The hypocrisy of coming in here and accusing the Labor Party—me and other members—of all types of things, yet when the sod is being turned, when the apartments are being sold, he is there in the front row, welcoming, clapping, supporting and saying, “I don't oppose this development”, even though he has opposed every process we have put forward to support jobs and infrastructure.

Members, I am very proud of what we have been able to achieve so far and what is also in the pipeline in relation to the new projects that have been approved. As the Premier outlined today, this is about creating jobs in WA. It is about maintaining investment confidence and knowing that our economic recovery does not finish tomorrow, but has to continue for years on end. These types of pathways, this type of reform, together with the reforms outlined by the Minister for Local Government, are all about cutting red tape and making sure that we can deliver jobs and opportunities.