

MARGARET RIVER, BUSSELL HIGHWAY STUDENT CROSSING

275. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

- (1) Is the minister aware of the safety concerns and increasingly urgent calls from the Margaret River community for improvements to the student crossing on Bussell Highway between Margaret River Primary School and Margaret River Senior High School?
- (2) Is there any provision in the Main Roads WA budget for improvements in this area via a student underpass or some other method?
- (3) If yes to (2), how much and when will the project be undertaken?
- (4) If no to (2), why not?

Hon ADELE FARINA replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Yes, and as the honourable member was advised in reply to his question 473 of 24 June 2004, a number of improvements have been made at this location in recent years aimed at improving safety for students crossing Bussell Highway. The minister will be meeting representatives from the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River to discuss this and other issues in the coming week.
- (2) Main Roads is currently undertaking an assessment of the viability of an underpass on Bussell Highway for Margaret River Primary and High Schools and an estimate of cost to provide such a facility. Following the assessment, further discussion will be held with the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River and the schools concerned. The estimated cost of an underpass would be in the order of \$750 000 to \$1 million. Funding will be considered depending on the outcome of the assessment.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4) Not applicable.