

LLOYD STREET UNDERPASS

615. Mr F.A. ALBAN to the Minister for Transport:

The minister recently visited the eastern suburbs to open the \$8 million state government-funded Reid Highway–Lord Street intersection project. Another project in the area in which the local community is vitally interested is the planned Lloyd Street underpass. Can the minister please advise the house of the status of this very important project?

Mr D.C. NALDER replied:

I thank the member for his interest in this project and other projects that we are undertaking and completing for the improvement of the Swan region. The proposed Lloyd Street underpass under the freight railway line is an important component of the new Midland Public Hospital that we are in the process of completing. I am pleased to advise that, following a tender process, I have approved the award of a \$53.1 million design and construction contract to McConnell Dowell. Traffic on Lloyd Street will no longer be held up by lengthy delays, particularly by freight trains moving through. Early works, including service relocations and clearing, are likely to start this month. The new underpass is on time and on budget, and I can assure the member that it will be in operation by the end of 2015, to coincide with the opening of the hospital. The Lloyd Street underpass is yet another demonstration of the Liberal–National state government’s commitment to delivering important and improved services and infrastructure to the Western Australian community, and particularly to the eastern suburbs.