

ALBANY RING-ROAD — FEDERAL FUNDING

194. Mr D.T. PUNCH to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's \$35 million commitment towards a job-creating Albany ring-road.

- (1) Can the minister advise the house how much federal funding has been committed to this project to date?
- (2) Can the minister outline to the house what advice she has received about the competency of the federal member for O'Connor in securing support for this vital project?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

I thank the member for the question.

- (1)–(2) It is WA Labor that has put this project on the map. Before the election, the member for Albany said that this was a priority.

Mr D.C. Nalder: Is it in the budget?

The SPEAKER: Member for Bateman, I call you to order for the second time. You have not got control of the chamber. I would just like to let you know.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: We put it on the map. We have \$35 million and the business case has been developed and put forward. Let us go through this. When we won the election, no work had been done by the previous government. The business case stage 1 —

Mrs A.K. Hayden interjected.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: Like the Ellenbrook rail line—the one that the member for Darling Range, although she was a member for the East Metropolitan Region for eight and a half years, broke a promise on?

Mrs A.K. Hayden interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Darling Range! I call you to order for the second time.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The member for Darling Range walks around the hills of the metropolitan area like it is a cocktail party circuit but did nothing for eight and a half years.

Point of Order

Mrs A.K. HAYDEN: On the reference to cocktails, I have no idea what the minister is talking about.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member! It is not a point of order.

Mrs A.K. Hayden interjected.

The SPEAKER: I call you to order for the third time. If you keep talking, you are going home.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: She was a member for the East Metropolitan Region for eight and a half years and Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier for some of that time. What did she do about the Ellenbrook rail line?

Several members interjected.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: She went out and said that the funding for the new Midland rail station was in the budget. Does the member for Midland remember that?

Mrs M.H. Roberts interjected.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: She said that the funding for the new Midland rail station was in the budget.

Mrs A.K. Hayden interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Darling Range, you are on your last warning.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: It was in the budget and, under the member for Darling Range's government, the money was taken out. That is what happened. When the member for Darling Range interjects about the Ellenbrook rail line, she can expect us to respond.

On the Albany ring-road, we have submitted the business cases and are doing the work to make sure we have got Infrastructure Australia's attention. The Premier raises it in his correspondence to the Prime Minister and I raise it with the Deputy Prime Minister. We are working hard and I hope we can secure those funds. We will keep working until we do.

What does the federal member for O'Connor do? Nothing. He attacks the WA state government, the only party that puts it on the map, and he is running around trying to blame us for the fact that he has not done his job and put it on the agenda. I will tell Rick Wilson what; we are onto it. We will keep working and will make sure we bring home the funds for that vital bit of infrastructure.