

WESTPORT — FUTURE OF FREMANTLE PLANNING COMMITTEE

**280. Mrs L.M. O'MALLEY to the Minister for Ports:**

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's commitment to a new container port for Perth that will create jobs, meet our long-term trade needs and get trucks off suburban roads in my electorate. Can the minister outline to the house how this government's planning for Westport will also look at future economic development opportunities for the future of Fremantle, and can the minister advise the house how this government's responsible, sustainable and job-creating plan compares with the efforts of the Liberal and National Parties?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:**

I thank the member for the question. Of course, the McGowan government is getting on with the job of planning and developing a new port in Kwinana and also developing a vision and a future for Fremantle. At the 2017 election, we set forward an agenda to not build Roe 8–9 and to build a new container port, plus also now to look at the vision for Fremantle. Member for Bicton, I am happy to announce that we are establishing a new Future of Fremantle Planning Committee. That committee will look at how Fremantle should look into the future. We have already made some significant decisions. For example, the A-shed will be redeveloped into a new brewery and, of course, a new film studio will be located in that area. But we know that a lot of stakeholders, industry groups, the community, the council and of course the local members want to be involved in developing a vision for the future.

Of course, we are getting on with the job and delivering our commitments. Last night, we saw yet again a demonstration of how pathetic the Liberal Party is on this issue in this state. Let me go through the record. The Liberal Party was in government for eight and a half years, but it could not deliver Roe 8–9. Then, in opposition, it could not even commit to Roe 8–9, even though it was a core election commitment. It could not commit enough funding to build even one-third of Roe 8–9. Last night in this house, on what was the biggest election battle in both 2017 and 2019, the opposition could not even vote against the Beeliar wetlands bill! The Liberal–National Parties did not vote against the Beeliar wetlands bill, the one that they were absolutely protesting against. Do members know what? There was no-one here! There was one member, the member for Cottesloe. He was outside the chamber for a bit, which is fair enough, and then he sat in the corner. When we got to the second reading, third reading and consideration in detail stages of the bill, the opposition did not vote against the bill. It was the biggest issue that the Liberal and National Parties—the Liberal Party in particular—had raised and the opposition could not be bothered to turn up for a couple of hours of debate on a Tuesday night. The member for Vasse, who was the spokesperson against the Beeliar wetlands bill—“Honk for Roe 8”—could not be bothered to sit in the chamber and debate and vote against the bill. Yet again, this demonstrates just how lazy this opposition is. I am glad opposition members did not vote against the bill, but members of either the Liberal or National Parties cannot now say anything about Roe 8–9 because they could not —

**Dr D.J. Honey:** Just wait!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Just wait?

Several members interjected.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** I was waiting last night for a division on the bill and I got nothing, members. I am glad that the member for Cottesloe interjected. Many people were in the chamber last night; it was an extremely good night here in this chamber.

**Dr D.J. Honey:** A bigger percentage of our members were here than you had!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** I actually doubt that. If only there had been a division, we could count back, but we did not have a division.

Of course, what we outlined, which the member for Cockburn also outlined, was that when the member for Cottesloe was in charge of the Kwinana Industries Council, its position paper and letters all claimed that the new port in Kwinana was a must for economic development in Western Australia. It was a must!

**Mr D.A. Templeman** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Leader of the House, it would be great if you could set an example.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** In a letter from the Kwinana Industries Council to the Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References in 2015, when the member for Cottesloe was actually the president of the Kwinana Industries Council, he said —

Over many years there has been bipartisan agreement over successive governments that there needs to be an Outer Harbour built in Cockburn Sound adjacent to the KIA, the State's premier industrial area.

**Dr D.J. Honey:** Zinger!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** A zinger? I thought it was pretty good. The member is now claiming that there is no way Cockburn Sound should be the home of the new container port. For year after year when he was president of the Kwinana Industries Council, he was demanding a new port in Kwinana. That is pretty good, member for Cottesloe. I thank him for turning up last night because the person next to him, who was the spokesperson against this bill during the election campaign, could not be bothered, and members of the National Party, who have also argued for Roe 8–9 and against the Beeliar wetlands, also could not be bothered to turn up.