

TRAVELSMART PROGRAM

Statement by Member for Yokine

MR R.C. KUCERA (Yokine) [12.50 pm]: I wish to draw to the attention of the house that the successful TravelSmart program will be brought to suburbs in the Yokine electorate over the coming weeks and months. TravelSmart aims to decrease the number of car trips our community makes, in favour of public transport, cycling or walking. To do this, each householder in the target area is contacted by phone or in person to determine current car usage. Options are then presented to give the householders realistic choices that would result in their car being left in the driveway and not used for travel. Public transport information maps and incentives are also offered, including personalised bus timetables. The current project includes 12 000 residents in the Yokine electorate, in the suburbs of Coolbinia, Inglewood, Dianella and Yokine. It is hoped, based on previous results in other areas, that this program in just this part of the Yokine electorate will result annually in 900 000 fewer car trips, or about two fewer car trips a week for each household; nine million fewer car kilometres; a reduction of 2 500 tonnes in greenhouse gas emissions; 400 000 more walking trips; 150 000 more cycling trips; 150 000 more public transport trips; and 200 000 hours more physical activity. The program will obviously result in many benefits for the environment, public health, traffic management and road maintenance. I commend Minister MacTiernan and her TravelSmart team at the Department for Planning and Infrastructure. I also thank very much the City of Stirling and other local governments that have taken the opportunity to support this initiative. I look forward to seeing TravelSmart continue to be rolled out across the metropolitan area in the near future.