

BYFORD RAIL EXTENSION

**742. Dr A.D. BUTI to the Minister for Transport:**

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's commitment to delivering the Metronet rail extension, which will support the creation of jobs, support businesses and connect the outer suburbs.

- (1) Can the minister update the house on the planning underway for the Byford rail extension?
- (2) Can the minister advise the house how the Byford rail extension will provide more transport and employment opportunities in those communities, which were neglected by the former Liberal–National government?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:**

I thank the member for the question.

- (1)–(2) The Byford rail extension is a key component of our Metronet plan. Today we have submitted our stage 1 business case to Infrastructure Australia. The Infrastructure Australia process is difficult, but we have to go through the process, so the stage 1 business case has been submitted. The Byford rail extension will provide further connections to the people of Byford, job and education opportunities and, of course, train access to the city. It is an eight-kilometre extension. We know that the population of Byford is growing rapidly and that is why Labor is committed to extending that rail line to Byford. We are on track to deliver the commitments we made at the last election.

I know that we support the people of Darling Range, do we not? We do not insult them, like the member for Darling Range does. We support the residents.

**Mr R.S. Love** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Moore, it is not your question.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** We support the people of Darling Range; they understand that Labor is delivering on its commitments and can be trusted to deliver rail line extensions, unlike the opposition. The then Leader of the Opposition, the member for Riverton, said in May 2017, “Byford—I don’t know much about that.” The then Leader of the Opposition, the member for Riverton, said that one of the major criticisms of the extension of the train line to Byford is that it will bring criminals down to Byford. That was a contribution made by the former Leader of the Opposition when we discussed rail lines in WA. It is another great project in our Metronet plan for WA that we will deliver.

**The SPEAKER:** I noticed some members in the chamber have some unparliamentary scarves on.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members, as I said earlier, seeing it is their last game, I will allow it.