

BYFORD RAIL EXTENSION

409. Dr A.D. BUTI to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's commitment to delivering the Byford rail extension, which the previous Liberal government refused to commit to for eight and a half years. Can the minister update the house on this job-creating project and outline what it would mean for the people of Darling Range; and can the minister outline to the house why the government will not follow the advice of the Leader of the Opposition and scrap this project?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

I thank the member for this question. We are committed to extending the rail line to Byford. This is part of our Metronet plan—part of the plan that we took to government. I was proud to be there on Sunday, standing next to the member for Armadale, the Premier and our excellent candidate for the seat of Darling Range.

Dr M.D. Nahan interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition, I will show you the way home if you keep going on the way you are going.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The Leader of the Opposition thinks that we should somehow be embarrassed that we are getting federal government funding for our projects. We are proud of it. We want more and more and more. That is the point. We will pursue and get more and more funding for projects like this.

We all know the Liberal Party's stance on this issue. It has never supported the Byford extension.

Several members interjected.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The member for Bateman said that it was in their transport plan; then why, last year when he was asked about the Byford rail extension, did the Leader of the Opposition say, "Byford, I don't know that much about"? It was so much a part of the Liberal Party's plan! Remember, the Leader of the Opposition did not know where Byford was until a couple of weeks ago when his GPS stopped working and he landed in Byford, fell out of the car and said, "Where am I?" The Liberal Party ignored the place for eight and a half years and had no intention of building a rail line to Byford.

Mrs L.M. Harvey interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Scarborough!

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: It had no intention of building a rail line to Byford and it just cannot handle that we have a plan that —

Mrs L.M. Harvey interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Scarborough, I warned you three times. I call you to order for the first time.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: In eight and a half years, there was not one page of planning on this project. Even as late as today, what did the member for Bateman say about Metronet? He said that the problem with Metronet is that it largely enhances urban sprawl. The Liberal Party does not support delivering infrastructure —

Mr D.C. Nalder interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Bateman!

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: He has said on numerous occasions that Metronet chases urban sprawl. What he and the Liberal Party did —

Mr D.C. Nalder interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Bateman, come on; just listen, please.

Mr D.C. Nalder interjected.

The SPEAKER: Yes, and I am quoting you. You cannot interject.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The opposition allowed enormous growth in the outer suburbs, but it did not deliver the infrastructure to match. For eight and a half years —

Dr M.D. Nahan interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition, I will not warn you again.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: Remember the Leader of the Opposition last week? He spent 40 minutes in private members' business on his feet and he could not outline one achievement, one project, that the Liberal Party had delivered in the seat of Darling Range. In 40 minutes, he could not outline one achievement. We are very proud of our Metronet

plan. We have a plan to deliver rail to Byford, and I know everyone in Darling Range knows that only one political party in Western Australia is committed to that project, and that is the Labor Party.