

METRONET — LAKELANDS TRAIN STATION

**366. Mrs L.A. MUNDAY to the Minister for Transport:**

I refer to the WA Labor government's record investment in expanding public transport services across Western Australia.

- (1) Can the minister advise the house how this government is making public transport more attractive for commuters living in the Peel region, including through the new Metronet Lakelands train station?
- (2) Can the minister advise the house whether she is aware of anyone who opposes the government's investment in public transport or Metronet more broadly?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:**

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for her question. It was great to see her out there on Sunday, together with the Premier and the members for Mandurah and Murray–Wellington, celebrating the new Lakelands train station. What a day it was! Over 2 000 people came out to enjoy the day. Of course, this station is serving the very rapidly growing area around Lakelands station, and, of course, because of our commitment to affordability, a trip from Lakelands is now very affordable. Our new two-zone fare cap is saving people in that area around \$9 a day when travelling to Perth and back. There are 1 700 extra bus services a week, 400 parking bays, cycling facilities and pedestrian connections. It was an overwhelming response and an incredible day for the families around Mandurah. I thank all the members in this house. I acknowledge this federal government and the previous federal government for its commitment to Metronet, for its funding commitments and its ongoing relationship to support what is a transformational project. Of course, the people in Lakelands and the people along the Mandurah and Yanchep rail line will soon see the first locally made Western Australian train coming past them, and stopping, obviously, as well. Hopefully they will stop! Last week, we launched the fully fitted out new C-series railcar. We are bringing back railcar manufacturing to Western Australia. It is a beautiful looking railcar train set. It is spacious inside, with better disability access and more capacity, and it is easier to get on and off. It really will be a new train set that will serve the Western Australian community for many, many years to come.

Of course, we know that the opposition still does not like Metronet, even though the National Party is trying to pitch itself to those densely populated areas. We know that even yesterday, member for Cottesloe, there was disappointing commentary on Metronet and public transport.

**Dr D.J. Honey:** You're 15 million down on 2015. You haven't even recovered it.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, please!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** And you do not listen; that is the problem.

The member does not listen, because if he compares WA's public transport patronage with the entire nation, we are the strongest. Our patronage has bounced back the strongest after COVID. We have a very strong patronage. Of course, what it means is accessibility to education outcomes and accessibility to work, giving everyone in the suburbs—it does not matter where they live—opportunities to access work, education and medical facilities. I am very proud. I congratulate everyone from the Lakelands community who came out and very much enjoyed a very special day in the Mandurah region.