

METRONET — SOUTHERN SUBURBS RAIL PROJECTS

**515. Mr C.J. TALLENTIRE to the Minister for Transport:**

I refer to the record investment in public transport and infrastructure by the Cook Labor government including significant rail projects in Perth's southern suburbs.

- (1) Can the minister update the house on the delivery of the transformative Victoria Park–Canning level crossing removal project and the construction of the Metronet Thornlie–Cockburn Link and Byford rail extension?
- (2) Can the minister outline to the house how these significant infrastructure projects are being facilitated?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:**

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for the question. We are embarking on the biggest transformation of the Armadale rail line in history. Some believe that the infrastructure in that corridor should never be touched again and it should be left alone—then others like us believe in investing in key areas in our network, including the Armadale line corridor. That is why we are investing in the transformation of the Armadale rail line corridor; removing level crossings through Victoria Park, Cannington and Armadale; building the extension to Byford, member for Darling Range; creating a new train station in Armadale, member for Armadale; and completing the Thornlie–Cockburn Link, members Southern River and Thornlie—a massive transformation.

As part of that transformation, we need to shut down the Armadale rail line up to Victoria Park for up to 18 months. To make sure that we minimise the disruption to the community, we will be undertaking seven new bus routes and five enhanced existing bus routes with 100 extra buses on the network. We are building technology across the system, including monitoring traffic to ensure that incidents can be responded to with a new incident response team. We are moving transit officers from the train line to the bus network and enhancing the security along that line by 20 per cent. We are building 1.2 kilometres of new infrastructure across the route to give buses priority. Members, that is a massive transformation. Although disruption is hard, I know that everyone in that corridor accepts and understands that this is the investment of a lifetime in that area. New train stations and the removal of those boom gates will save people time across the network. Throughout Victoria Park and Cannington, we are opening up six hectares of land for new community open space.

I know that the Liberal Party is opposed to the project.

**Mr D.A. Templeman:** They don't like it.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** They do not like rail networks. The Nationals in particular hate trains. I am glad that the Leader of the Opposition is here. Members will remember that when I go through the car park, I notice the stickers members have on their cars. I found a hat that the Leader of the Opposition dropped on his way from the Rockingham by-election. He seems to drop a lot of things in that car park, but a Liberal Party hat!

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

**Mr D.A. Templeman:** It's got your DNA on it. Don't you worry!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Luckily we have his DNA on record. Here is his hat.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, please, Leader of the House and Leader of the Opposition!

**Mr R.S. Love:** You made that yourself.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** I am very good with craft, member. I helped my daughter with her Book Week costume today. But I should have started with saying "Go, Matildas!" for tonight. It will be an incredible time and I know that the whole nation will be behind the Matildas. What an incredible game it will be this evening against our old enemies. I am already excited and nervous. We wish them all the best and hope to see them get to the World Cup final against Spain. We wish them all the best. They have done Australia proud. They have done us all proud. It has been an incredible time for the nation. It has captured the nation's spirit and we will be supporting our incredible team 100 per cent.