

PEEL DEVIATION

571. Hon MURRAY CRIDDLE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

- (1) What budgetary provision has the State Government made for financing the Peel deviation to complement the federal Government's announcement of \$150 million for this development?
- (2) What is the time frame for expenditure on construction of the Peel deviation?
- (3) When is it expected that tenders will be called for this project?

Hon KEN TRAVERS replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) As the honourable member would be aware, state funds of \$11.85 million were allocated to Main Roads Western Australia towards the Peel deviation-Kwinana Freeway extension project in the 2004-05 budget and forward estimates. At the time that state and federal budgets were brought down, the Commonwealth had given no indication that it would contribute to the project. The Commonwealth subsequently announced in early June 2004 that it would fund \$150 million. This is still somewhat short of the estimated \$170 million required for half the project.

Hon Barry House: It's a helluva lot better than your \$11 million!

The PRESIDENT: Order, members!

Hon KEN TRAVERS: That is pathetic coming from the member who tried to mislead the electorate before the last election.

The PRESIDENT: The parliamentary secretary should not answer the interjections.

Hon KEN TRAVERS: The minister points out that a future Latham Labor Government has already committed to providing the full commonwealth half share. Main Roads is currently negotiating with its commonwealth counterparts at the Department of Transport and Regional Services on the details of the funding arrangement. Once these details have been agreed, the State will be in a position to allocate the balance of its proportion of the funds required.

- (2) The project should be able to begin in 2007.
- (3) Main Roads anticipates being in a position to invite expressions of interest in early 2006. Commencement of the project is dependent on the completion of detailed planning, land acquisition and environmental approvals before physical works can commence.