

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

**683. Mrs M.R. MARSHALL to the Minister for Transport:**

I refer to the Cook Labor government's record investment in job-creating, congestion-busting transport infrastructure.

- (1) Can the minister please update the house on this government's efforts to improve connectivity for people in Perth's south, including through upgrade to the Kwinana Freeway and the delivery of the two-zone fare cap?
- (2) Can the minister outline to the house how this government's priorities compare with the priorities of the Liberal Party?

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:**

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for Rockingham for that question. Of course, we have undertaken major works throughout that south west corridor down to Rockingham. We have made major upgrades to the Kwinana Freeway, widening the freeway northbound from Russell Road and Roe Highway. We have delivered the smart freeway that is saving commuters time, in particular between Cockburn and the city. We have had major upgrades to High Street and Stirling Highway. We have just duplicated Armadale Road from Anstey to Tapper Roads. We have built the new Kwinana on-ramp at Manning Road. We have delivered the Murdoch Drive connection. Just recently, we built and finished the Thomas Road Bridge over the railway. We are now on the next part of delivery for that region, including the land acquisition for the new Anketell–Thomas Road corridor for Westport, and that work is underway. We are progressing, member for Dawesville, the Mandurah estuary bridge, and further announcements on that will be made very, very soon. We are bringing road maintenance back in-house for the metropolitan area, which will see new high-quality, well-paying jobs at the depots at Neerabup and Jandakot. Of course, we are spending more money in the City of Rockingham through our road commitments. We have capped public transport fares at two zones for Rockingham residents, saving people in Rockingham up to \$1 250 per annum, member for Rockingham.

While the Labor Party is building roads for the future, we have seen the Liberal Party build roads back to the 1960s yet again with the disgraceful comments by the candidate for the seat of Rockingham—disgraceful! We need to state those comments in this house again so people can fully understand what the Liberal Party's star candidate at the recent Rockingham by-election thinks about women and working women. This is what the candidate wrote —

I notice that Magenta —

The member for Rockingham —

keeps spruiking that she wants to start a family in the electorate soon... this question can't come from me but I think it's an important one to ask, if she does get elected and falls pregnant, will she resign her seat? Because that means 1+ years off the job and there's no deputy she can hand off to, meaning we'd be without an MP until she's finished having babies.

They are absolutely disgraceful comments. I do not know whether the Liberal Party has noticed, but people on this side can manage to do both. I had three children in my first four years of being a member of Parliament.

Let me now look at what the Leader of the Liberal Party said about this candidate. She called him an incredible man—amazing—saying Peter Hudson was an outstanding candidate. She said —

Never have I met a young man as remarkable and hard-working as Peter.

...

Our party is so proud of the work you've done representing the Liberal name and giving voice to the community of Rockingham.

It is a disgrace. Now it is like "Shock! Horror!" to find out he is a key member of "The Clan"!

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, please, members.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** As if she did not know that when she was standing next to him at the Rockingham by-election. Here they are with the key leaders of "The Clan". The Leader of the Opposition, with his Liberal Party hat, was out there with them, too! It is as though they did not know. Remember, when the member for Vasse became Leader of the Liberal Party, she said it was —

... a line in the sand, this is a reset for the Liberal Party, this is the reset that the Liberal Party desperately needs ...

I would not be putting my hand up for the job if I was not prepared to make the tough decisions.

The first test was preselection for the seat of Rockingham. Who did they give it to? It was a key member of “The Clan”! It is not as though it is a secret. They all knew it, and the Leader of the Liberal Party stood by him. She facilitated it and stood by him. We now see the exact nature of some of those people they preselect. As I said, it is local government election time, too. Members of “The Clan” are everywhere trying to get elected. It is like the *Gremlins* movie —

*Point of Order*

**Ms M.J. DAVIES:** I have a point of order.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, I ask you to sit for a moment.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, please. I remind members that points of order are held in silence.

**Ms M.J. DAVIES:** The question started in relation to road transport. We have strayed into many different areas. Given it is question time, I think we could potentially get on with the next question.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, I do not think local government really falls within the ambit of the question you were asked. I ask you to draw your answer to a conclusion, please.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** I will draw my answer to a conclusion; thank you, Madam Speaker.

Of course, it reminds me of the *Gremlins* movie in which they are all cute and they appear normal, and then, like members of “The Clan”, they all chafe at this appearance of trying to be normal out there in the community. Once they get elected, it is like when you add water—they turn into the gremlins they actually are! That is exactly how “The Clan” operates. They infiltrate the normal community. Of course, when they are in a position of power, they turn back to their normal forms. This has now been exposed. This was an email before the election —

*Point of Order*

**Ms M.J. DAVIES:** I have a point of order. Again, Madam Speaker, I draw your attention to the answer that the minister is providing. Nothing related to the question she was asked and she was asked to wind up.

**The SPEAKER:** The minister has drawn an analogy and she has stretched it a little—a lot, maybe. I have already asked the minister to draw her answer to a close. No more analogies or new lines of argument; just draw it to a close.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Thank you. I am surprised that that member would start defending some of the comments made in relation to women in this place. I am surprised she would stand up and try to defend those comments given her history in this place.

**Ms M.J. Davies:** I’m opposed to you using question time for your own purposes and ignoring the Speaker’s direction!

**The SPEAKER:** Minister!

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** I am surprised you are defending the comments of the candidate for Rockingham.

**Ms M.J. Davies** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** I would like to again draw this to a conclusion —

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, please pause. This is not an opportunity to broaden an argument with a member of the opposition. You are drawing your answer to a close, please.

**Ms R. SAFFIOTI:** Thank you. Of course, we continue to deliver for the people of Rockingham, including this fantastic new member for Rockingham.