

TRAFFIC — MONITORING DEVICES

377. Mr R.S. LOVE to the Minister for Transport:

I have a supplementary question. Contrary to what the minister just said, the information was illegally gathered, so will she apologise to the drivers of Western Australia and remove the stored information from those 180 monitoring stations?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

They started in 2016, so will the Leader of the Opposition apologise? This is a definition issue about the words “main road” and “highway”, and we are changing that to “road”. Honestly, the Leader of the Opposition comes in here and asks us to upgrade a road. Okay. What is the evidence? The Leader of the Opposition comes in here and asks us to upgrade a local road. Local roads and main roads interact very closely in how we manage traffic flows. Is the whole idea that we should make investment decisions in the absence of information? Smart freeways is about managing traffic flows using IT. We have traffic lights that monitor these situations. We will have a situation in which buses can talk to traffic lights to make sure that they can move freely throughout the suburbs. I was briefed yesterday. I asked whether there was any evidence of anyone being tracked. The answer was no. All they are saying is that the definition is “highway and main road” and that needs to be changed to “road”. And the rollout of all the sensors was done in accordance and agreement with all the relevant local authorities.

The SPEAKER: That concludes question time.