Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 13 March 2024] p777b-778a Mr Geoff Baker; Ms Rita Saffioti

CAUSEWAY PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST BRIDGES

Mr G. BAKER: Madam Speaker!

The SPEAKER: The minister for South Perth—sorry, the member for South Perth!

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: You are very important, yes.

128. Mr G. BAKER to the Minister for Transport:

I will have to move seats!

I refer to the Cook Labor government's efforts to deliver a more vibrant, connected city.

- (1) Can the minister update the house on the Causeway Link Alliance's work to deliver the new Causeway pedestrian and cyclist bridges, including the plans to create a new digital canvas?
- (2) Can the minister update the house on the status of other alliances?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

Gee, that one was quite hidden! I thank the member for South Perth for the question.

(1)—(2) On the weekend, we marked another major milestone in the delivery of the Causeway pedestrian and cycling bridges. We walked over the first part of the deck that has been laid on the bridge. The remaining 15 modules, ranging from 22 to 42 metres in length, will be lifted into place by the middle of this year. Of course, it is aimed at making the crossing safer and also more useable for the thousands of people who currently cross the Causeway on the 1960s slab that is about a metre wide and very unsafe. The new Causeway pedestrian bridge will be an iconic structure. Similar to the Matagarup Bridge, we wanted to make sure that it is an iconic structure that doubles as a tourism icon for the state, and that is why we have incorporated lights into the bridge. It will be very similar to the Matagarup Bridge, but even better with the ability to project across the cables.

We are delivering this as part of an alliance contract. As the member said, the alliance contract is going well, as are many alliances that we are delivering across the state. I will tell members which alliance is not going very well.

Mr R.H. Cook: Tell us.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: It is the one on the opposite side. In relation to the alliance of the Nationals WA and the Liberal Party —

Point of Order

Dr D.J. HONEY: I have a point of order.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members, I will just remind you that points of order are heard in silence.

Dr D.J. HONEY: This is drifting well off the original topic of the question.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cottesloe, I think you needed to listen to the original question that was asked. It was specifically asked by the member for South Perth.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The question was about alliances. As I said, there is no alliance in WA that could be more dysfunctional and broken. Watching the opposition has been like watching a series of *Succession* and seeing the Roy family tearing each other apart. Those who have watched the series know that we could not get a more dysfunctional family, and that is exactly what is in the opposition. No-one knows what will happen from one episode to the next. No-one knows who will be the leader at the end. Who could have predicted that the member for North West Central would swap from one side to the other? All those who know the series know cousin Greg. Do members remember cousin Greg? Cousin Greg in the upper house turned up on the doorstep and then found himself to be shadow Treasurer. I will not go into who we think Kendall is; that is a story for another day.

No wonder this dysfunctional family is prone to a takeover bid from outside Parliament when it is so broken and so dysfunctional. I am glad the alliances that we are delivering are working well—alliances between industry and government. There are six opposition members on the other side. It is a family that cannot get on with each other. A more dysfunctional broken alliance we will never meet.