

CAPITAL WORKS

277. Dr D.J. HONEY to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Given the heated construction market that the Premier just mentioned, in the forthcoming budget will the Premier undertake to present a capital program that is actually achievable, rather than making capital project announcements that are designed to grab a headline but cannot possibly be delivered anywhere near the promised delivery date?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

Once again, the Leader of the Liberal Party is not improving. Basically, if the member wants to tell us which capital works he does not want to have happen, he should tell us. Does he not want a new women's and babies' hospital in Nedlands? Does he not want major rail projects throughout the metropolitan area? Does he not want the biggest road construction program throughout regional Western Australia ever seen? Does he not want Bunbury Outer Ring Road? Does he not want Bussell Highway? Does he not want the Albany ring-road? Does he not want Manuwarra Red Dog Highway? Does he not want any of those? If the member does not want them, he should make a claim which ones he does not want.

Obviously, as I said to the member, our problems are because the market is so successful and so strong. I urge the Leader of the Liberal Party to get out there and have a look at some of these projects. The member might learn something. I heard earlier that the Leader of the Liberal Party let the people of Western Australia know about his travel program. I heard him say in the house earlier today, and I quote the Leader of the Liberal Party, "I travel extensively" throughout the state and last week I was in Maylands. That is quite an effort to go from Cottesloe to Maylands! The member must be very proud of himself. I can only assume he went there on a boat of one of his mates; otherwise, he would not deign to go anywhere near Maylands.

We will continue to invest in capital works around Western Australia, setting the state up for the long-term future, whether it is ports, electricity, roads, rail, water infrastructure, health or school infrastructure. Members will see in the budget tomorrow that this government will have the biggest capital works budget of any government in the history of this state.