

LEACH HIGHWAY, BUS STOPS

174. Hon Jim Scott to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure

- (1) How many bus stops exist along Leach Highway in the -
 - (a) westbound lanes; and
 - (b) eastbound lanes?
- (2) How many of these bus stops are embayed -
 - (a) in the westbound lanes; and
 - (b) in the eastbound lanes?
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the 1997 ShawMac study 'Leach Highway Traffic Management Study' recommended that most bus stops along Leach Highway should be embayed if possible?
- (4) Is the Minister aware that the report recommended that this should occur within 5 years?
- (5) How many bus stops have been embayed along Leach Highway since January 1998?
- (6) Which ones are they?
- (7) Are there plans to embay any Leach Highway bus stops over the next 12 months?
- (8) If yes, which ones?

Hon G.T. GIFFARD replied:

- (1)
 - (a) 26.
 - (b) 25.
- (2)
 - (a) 2.
 - (b) 5.
- (3) Main Roads engaged Shawmac in 1997 to undertake a review of the operational performance of Leach Highway between Stirling Highway and Tonkin Highway with particular regard to improving truck movements (rather than specifically trying to improve public transport efficiency). The report identified a number of possible road improvements, including the general provision of bus embayments.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) Following consultation with Transperth approximately four years ago, Main Roads no longer includes the construction of bus embayments on highways and main roads as a general requirement. Transperth and most bus drivers do not support the provision of bus bays because of the delays incurred by buses using the bus bays as they try to re-enter the traffic stream. This can result in severe delays to route timetables and discourage the use of public transport. Accordingly no further embayments have been constructed on Leach Highway. The ShawMac report also recognised that "bus traffic has the potential to increase capacity of the highway by moving large volumes of people efficiently thereby minimising the number of passenger vehicles on the road".
- (6) Not applicable.
- (7) Currently the construction of two new bus embayments is under consideration. The final design will be subject to Transperth agreement.
- (8) Both proposed bus embayments are located east of Webb Street, one on each carriageway near the Rossmoyne High School.