

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
FIFTY-NINTH PARLIAMENT
FIRST SESSION**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Tuesday, 19 February 2019

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By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AC

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable KEN LAY, AO, APM

The ministry

Premier	The Hon. DM Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier and Minister for Education	The Hon. JA Merlino, MP
Treasurer, Minister for Economic Development and Minister for Industrial Relations	The Hon. TH Pallas, MP
Minister for Transport Infrastructure	The Hon. JM Allan, MP
Minister for Crime Prevention, Minister for Corrections, Minister for Youth Justice and Minister for Victim Support	The Hon. BA Carroll, MP
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, and Minister for Solar Homes	The Hon. L D'Ambrosio, MP
Minister for Child Protection and Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers	The Hon. LA Donnellan, MP
Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Equality and Minister for Creative Industries	The Hon. MP Foley, MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Workplace Safety	The Hon. J Hennessy, MP
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Ports and Freight	The Hon. MM Horne, MP
Special Minister of State, Minister for Priority Precincts and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs	The Hon. GW Jennings, MLC
Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation, and Minister for Suburban Development	The Hon. M Kairouz, MP
Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services	The Hon. J Mikakos, MLC
Minister for Water and Minister for Police and Emergency Services	The Hon. LM Neville, MP
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Minister for Roads, Minister for Road Safety and the TAC, and Minister for Fishing and Boating	The Hon. JL Pulford, MLC
Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Veterans	The Hon. RD Scott, MP
Minister for Local Government and Minister for Small Business	The Hon. A Somyurek, MLC
Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Resources	The Hon. J Symes, MLC
Minister for Training and Skills, and Minister for Higher Education	The Hon. GA Tierney, MLC
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence, Minister for Women and Minister for Youth	The Hon. G Williams, MP
Minister for Planning, Minister for Housing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs	The Hon. RW Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary	Ms M Thomas, MP

Joint committees

Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee

(Council): Mr Gepp, Mrs McArthur, Ms Patten and Ms Taylor.

(Assembly): Mr Burgess, Ms Connolly and Ms Kilkenny.

Heads of parliamentary departments

Assembly: Clerk of the Legislative Assembly: Ms B Noonan

Council: Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council: Mr A Young

Parliamentary Services: Secretary: Mr P Lochert

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FIFTY-NINTH PARLIAMENT—FIRST SESSION

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Deputy President

The Hon. WA LOVELL

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The Hon. GW JENNINGS

Deputy Leader of the Government

The Hon. J SYMES

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The Hon. DM DAVIS

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Ms G CROZIER

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Bath, Ms Melina Gaye	Eastern Victoria	Nats	Melhem, Mr Cesar	Western Metropolitan	ALP
Bourman, Mr Jeffrey	Eastern Victoria	SFFP	Mikakos, Ms Jenny	Northern Metropolitan	ALP
Crozier, Ms Georgina Mary	Southern Metropolitan	LP	O'Donohue, Mr Edward John	Eastern Victoria	LP
Cumming, Dr Catherine Rebecca	Western Metropolitan	Ind	Ondarchie, Mr Craig Philip	Northern Metropolitan	LP
Dalidakis, Mr Philip	Southern Metropolitan	ALP	Patten, Ms Fiona Heather	Northern Metropolitan	FPRP
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Garrett, Ms Jane Furneaux	Eastern Victoria	ALP	Rich-Phillips, Mr Gordon Kenneth	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Gepp, Mr Mark	Northern Victoria	ALP	Shing, Ms Harriet	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Grimley, Mr Stuart James	Western Victoria	DHJP	Somyurek, Mr Adem	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Hayes, Mr Clifford	Southern Metropolitan	SA	Stitt, Ms Ingrid	Western Metropolitan	ALP
Jennings, Mr Gavin Wayne	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Symes, Ms Jaclyn	Northern Victoria	ALP
Kieu, Dr Tien Dung	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Taylor, Ms Nina	Southern Metropolitan	ALP
Leane, Mr Shaun Leo	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Terpstra, Ms Sonja	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Limbrick, Mr David	South Eastern Metropolitan	LDP	Tierney, Ms Gayle Anne	Western Victoria	ALP
Lovell, Ms Wendy Ann	Northern Victoria	LP	Vaghela, Ms Kaushaliya Virjibhai	Western Metropolitan	ALP
McArthur, Mrs Beverley	Western Victoria	LP	Wooldridge, Ms Mary Louise Newling	Eastern Metropolitan	LP

Party abbreviations

AJP—Animal Justice Party; ALP—Labor Party; DHJP—Derryn Hinch's Justice Party;

FPRP—Fiona Patten's Reason Party; Greens—Australian Greens; Ind—Independent;

LDP—Liberal Democratic Party; LP—Liberal Party; Nats—The Nationals; SA—Sustainable Australia;

SFFP—Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party; TMP—Transport Matters Party

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Questions on notice

Answers to the following questions on notice were circulated on the date shown. Questions have been incorporated from the notice paper of the Legislative Council. Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers. Headings reflect the portfolio of the minister answering the question.

Tuesday, 19 February 2019

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

1. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Roads (for the Minister for Public Transport): In relation to Montmorency Railway Station—
 - (1) Why is work on upgrading the car park now waiting for environmental permits from the Federal Government.
 - (2) What is the estimated cost of the station upgrade and when is it now due to be completed.

ANSWER:

The proposed upgrade of the car park at Montmorency Station has required an environmental assessment. During the course of this assessment, native vegetation protected under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 was identified.

VicTrack and the Department of Transport are currently assessing options to deliver the car park upgrade at Montmorency Station.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

2. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Roads (for the Minister for Public Transport): What is the estimated cost of the promised Ringwood East Railway Station car park upgrade and when is it due to be completed.

ANSWER:

The Government will make it easier for commuters to find a car park, building over 11,000 new spaces at stations across the state.

The \$150 million *Car Parks for Commuters Fund* will see new carparks being built at some of our busiest metropolitan and regional train stations.

This commitment is on top of the \$60 million that was provided in the 2018–19 State Budget for over 2,000 new and upgraded car parking spaces to be built at key stations across the network.

Planning is underway for our government’s current car parking commitments, including for Ringwood East Railway Station. Works will commence once the necessary approvals are in place. Further commitments will be made in due course.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

3. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**— To ask the Minister for Roads (for the Minister for Public Transport): What is the estimated cost of the promised 40 new and upgraded car parks at Jordanville Railway Station and when are they due to be delivered.

ANSWER:

The Government will make it easier for commuters to find a car park, building over 11,000 new spaces at stations across the state.

The \$150 million *Car Parks for Commuters Fund* will see new carparks being built at some of our busiest metropolitan and regional train stations.

This commitment is on top of the \$60 million that was provided in the 2018–19 State Budget for over 2,000 new and upgraded car parking spaces to be built at key stations across the network.

Planning is underway for our government’s current car parking commitments. Works will commence once the necessary approvals are in place. Further commitments will be made in due course.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

4. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Roads (for the Minister for Public Transport): Will the Government consider undertaking a business case for extending the Route 75 Tram to or beyond Knox City as advocated for by the new Member for Bayswater.

ANSWER:

The Andrews Labor Government recognises the important role that trams play in meeting the travel needs of people living in Melbourne’s suburbs and continuously reviews the entire tram network.

When deciding if a route should be extended, a range of factors are considered including the predicted number of users, suitability of the road network for tram operations, travel time, geography, connectivity with other public transport services and the costs of providing the service.

The extension of this route will be considered as part of any future network reviews of the corridor.

SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT

15. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Local Government (for the Minister for Suburban Development): Where does the Government intend to develop the two promised new pocket parks in the Eltham electorate and in what year will they be completed.

ANSWER:

The question you raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. Your question will need to be redirected to the Hon Lily D’Ambrosio for response.

SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT

16. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Local Government (for the Minister for Suburban Development): Where does the Government intend to develop the promised new pocket park in the Ivanhoe electorate and in what year will it be completed.

ANSWER:

The question you raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. Your question will need to be redirected to the Hon Lily D’Ambrosio for response.

SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT

17. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Local Government (for the Minister for Suburban Development): When will the promised dog park in the Eltham electorate be funded, how much is it expected to cost and when will it be completed.

ANSWER:

The question you raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. Your question will need to be redirected to the Hon Lily D’Ambrosio for response.

SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT

18. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Local Government (for the Minister for Suburban Development): When will the promised dog park in the Ringwood electorate be funded, how much is it expected to cost and when will it be completed.

ANSWER:

The question you raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. Your question will need to be redirected to the Hon Lily D’Ambrosio for response.

SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT

19. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Local Government (for the Minister for Suburban Development): When will the promised \$625,000 to assist towards repurposing Laveter House into a dedicated respite service be funded.

ANSWER:

The question you raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers. Your question will need to be redirected to the Hon Luke Donnellan for response.

SUBURBAN DEVELOPMENT

20. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Local Government (for the Minister for Suburban Development): When will the promised \$1 million towards the upgrade of the Blackburn Sikh Temple be delivered.

ANSWER:

The question you raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Multicultural Affairs. Your question will need to be redirected to the Hon Richard Wynne for response.

ROADS

34. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Roads: When will the promised \$72,000 electronic speed limit signs outside Ivanhoe Grammar School on Lower Heidelberg Road be installed and when will the project be completed.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government has allocated \$72,000 under the School Area Safety Program for the installation of electronic speed limit signs outside Ivanhoe Grammar School on Lower Heidelberg Road.

I am advised VicRoads has completed site inspections, prepared concept plans and that the process of procuring the signs has commenced.

I am advised VicRoads expects the electronic signs to be installed during 2019.

ROADS

35. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Roads: When will the promised \$120,000 electronic speed limit signs outside Charles La Trobe P1–12 College in Macleod be installed and when will the project be completed.

ANSWER:

The Victorian Government has allocated funding of \$120,000 under the School Area Safety Program for the installation of three electronic speed limit signs adjacent to Charles La Trobe P–12 College in Kingsbury Drive, Macleod.

I am advised VicRoads has completed site inspections, prepared concept plans and that the process of procuring the signs has commenced.

I am advised VicRoads expects the electronic signs to be installed during 2019.

ROADS

36. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Roads: When will the promised \$700,000 pedestrian operated traffic lights along the Donaldson’s Creek Shared Trail in Ivanhoe be installed and when will the project be completed.

ANSWER:

The Government is committed to delivering the pedestrian crossing on Livingstone Street in Ivanhoe. Funding allocation for this project will be subject to the normal budgetary process with advice on project implementation timeframes given thereafter.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, GAMING AND LIQUOR REGULATION

39. **Ms WOOLDRIDGE**—To ask the Minister for Local Government (for the Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation): When will the Government legislate to abolish the so-called dry areas in the eastern suburbs.

ANSWER:

The amendments required to abolish the dry areas located within the Cities of Boorondara and Whitehorse will be included with other amendments to the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998* identified during the review of the Act being undertaken by the Department of Justice and Community Safety. These amendments will be brought before the Parliament as soon as is practicably possible.

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

- 41. Mr DAVIS**—To ask the Minister for Roads (for the Minister for Transport Infrastructure): How much had been expended up until 30 September 2018 on preparatory planning and construction work on the Metro Tunnel.

ANSWER:

Over the course of the Metro Tunnel Project since 2015, extensive works have been undertaken to progress this transformational public transport project. These include:

- Detailed design and development works
- Rigorous EES planning processes
- Procurement of the four major work package contracts
- Property acquisitions
- Hundreds of geotechnical investigations
- Site preparations, including building demolitions and tree removals
- Many hundreds of underground services relocated to make way for the five new stations
- Excavation of 11-storey deep shafts in the CBD
- Construction of acoustic sheds to contain noise and dust
- Tram lines on St Kilda Rd were shifted
- New tram lines and stops constructed on Toorak Rd & St Kilda Rd
- Extensive community and stakeholder consultation, and
- Business support activities.

In 2018 alone, the Metro Tunnel Project achieved several significant milestones, including:

- Over 3000 people worked almost six million hours on the Project
- More than 800 piles were driven into the ground
- More than 10,000 tonnes of steel were used across the Project
- A total of 28,900 cubic metres of rock and soil was excavated
- Archaeologists uncovered around 1.1 million artefacts dating back 180 years as part of Victoria’s biggest ever archaeological dig
- The first of four huge Tunnel Boring Machines is on its journey to Melbourne from overseas, and
- A special digger began work in the A’Beckett St shaft, excavating the cavern for the new State Library station.

Information relating to expenditure on the Metro Tunnel Project can be found in the 2018–19 Victorian Budget. The Metro Tunnel Project is on track for completion by the end of 2025, a year ahead of schedule.

ROADS

- 57. Mr RICH-PHILLIPS**—To ask the Minister for Roads: In relation to the Government’s commitment published in Labor’s Financial Statement 2018 to build a safer pick up and drop off zone for Flemington Primary School:

- (1) How much capital funding will the Government allocate to the project in—
 - (a) 2019–20;
 - (b) 2020–21;
 - (c) 2021–22;
 - (d) 2022–23; and
 - (e) beyond 2022–23.
- (2) In what year will this project be completed.
- (3) Does this project rely on a specific commitment of funding by the Commonwealth Government, and if so, how much.

ANSWER:

Funding allocations for a drop off/pick up zone for Flemington Primary School are subject to the normal budgetary process. Advice on project implementation timeframes follow thereafter.

No Commonwealth funding has been committed for this project.

ROADS

58. Mr RICH-PHILLIPS—To ask the Minister for Roads: In relation to the Government’s commitment published in Labor’s Financial Statement 2018 for ‘New Bike Lanes to make St Kilda Road safer for everyone’:

- (1) How much capital funding will the Government allocate to the project in—
 - (a) 2019–20;
 - (b) 2020–21;
 - (c) 2021–22;
 - (d) 2022–23; and
 - (e) beyond 2022–23.
- (2) In what year will this project be completed.
- (3) Does this project rely on a specific commitment of funding by the Commonwealth Government, and if so, how much.

ANSWER:

Funding allocation for new bike lanes to make St Kilda Road safer is subject to the normal budgetary process. Advice on project implementation timeframes follow thereafter.

No Commonwealth funding has been committed for this project.

ROADS

59. Mr RICH-PHILLIPS—To ask the Minister for Roads: In relation to the Government’s commitment published in Labor’s Financial Statement 2018 for ‘Livingstone Street Signalised Pedestrian Crossing’:

- (1) How much capital funding will the Government allocate to the project in—
 - (a) 2019–20;
 - (b) 2020–21;
 - (c) 2021–22;
 - (d) 2022–23; and
 - (e) beyond 2022–23.
- (2) In what year will this project be completed.
- (3) Does this project rely on a specific commitment of funding by the Commonwealth Government, and if so, how much.

ANSWER:

Funding allocation for a signalised pedestrian crossing at Livingstone Street is subject to the normal budgetary process. Advice on project implementation timeframes follow thereafter.

No Commonwealth funding has been committed for this project.