

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

ANSWERS TO CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS

27 July to 9 August 2018

(Extract from book 11)

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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

(from 16 October 2017)

Premier	The Hon. D. M. Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Minister for Emergency Services	The Hon. J. A. Merlino, MP
Treasurer and Minister for Resources	The Hon. T. H. Pallas, MP
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Major Projects	The Hon. J. Allan, MP
Minister for Industry and Employment	The Hon. B. A. Carroll, MP
Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Innovation and the Digital Economy, and Minister for Small Business	The Hon. P. Dalidakis, MLC
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, and Minister for Suburban Development	The Hon. L. D' Ambrosio, MP
Minister for Roads and Road Safety, and Minister for Ports	The Hon. L. A. Donnellan, MP
Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Minister for Sport and Minister for Veterans	The Hon. J. H. Eren, MP
Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Equality and Minister for Creative Industries	The Hon. M. P. Foley, MP
Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services	The Hon. J. Hennessy, MP
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence	The Hon. N. M. Hutchins, MP
Special Minister of State	The Hon. G. Jennings, MLC
Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation, and Minister for Local Government	The Hon. M. Kairouz, MP
Minister for Families and Children, Minister for Early Childhood Education and Minister for Youth Affairs	The Hon. J. Mikakos, MLC
Minister for Police and Minister for Water	The Hon. L. M. Neville, MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Racing	The Hon. M. P. Pakula, MP
Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Regional Development	The Hon. J. L. Pulford, MLC
Minister for Finance and Minister for Multicultural Affairs	The Hon. R. D. Scott, MP
Minister for Training and Skills, and Minister for Corrections	The Hon. G. A. Tierney, MLC
Minister for Planning	The Hon. R. W. Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary	Ms M. Thomas, MP

Legislative Council committees

Privileges Committee — Mr Dalidakis, Mr Mulino, Mr O’Sullivan, Mr Purcell, Mr Rich-Phillips, Ms Springle, Ms Symes and Ms Wooldridge.

Procedure Committee — The President, Dr Carling-Jenkins, Mr Davis, Mr Jennings, Ms Pennicuik, Ms Pulford, Ms Tierney and Ms Wooldridge.

Legislative Council standing committees

Standing Committee on the Economy and Infrastructure — Mr Bourman, #Mr Davis, Ms Dunn, Mr Eideh, Mr Finn, Mr Gepp, Mr Leane, #Mr Melhem, Mr Ondarchie, Mr O’Sullivan and #Mr Rich-Phillips.

Standing Committee on the Environment and Planning — Ms Bath, #Mr Bourman, Mr Dalla-Riva, Mr Davis, #Ms Dunn, Mr Elasmarr, Mr Melhem, Mr Mulino, #Mr Purcell, #Mr Ramsay, #Dr Ratnam, #Ms Symes, Ms Truong and Mr Young.

Standing Committee on Legal and Social Issues — #Ms Crozier, #Mr Elasmarr, Ms Fitzherbert, Mr Morris, Ms Patten, Mrs Peulich, #Dr Ratnam, #Mr Rich-Phillips, Ms Shing, Mr Somyurek, Ms Springle and Ms Symes.

participating members

Legislative Council select committees

Port of Melbourne Select Committee — Mr Mulino, Mr Ondarchie, Mr Purcell, Mr Rich-Phillips, Ms Shing and Ms Tierney.

Fire Services Bill Select Committee — Ms Lovell, Mr Melhem, Mr Mulino, Mr O’Sullivan, Mr Rich Phillips, Ms Shing and Mr Young.

Joint committees

Accountability and Oversight Committee — (*Council*): Mr O’Sullivan, Mr Purcell and Ms Symes. (*Assembly*): Mr Angus, Mr Gidley, Mr Noonan and Ms Thomson.

Dispute Resolution Committee — (*Council*): Mr Bourman, Mr Dalidakis, Ms Dunn, Mr Jennings and Ms Wooldridge. (*Assembly*): Ms Allan, Mr Clark, Ms Hutchins, Mr Merlino, Mr M. O’Brien, Mr Pakula and Mr Walsh.

Economic, Education, Jobs and Skills Committee — (*Council*): Mr Bourman, Mr Elasmarr and Mr Melhem. (*Assembly*): Mr Crisp, Mrs Fyffe, Ms Garrett and Ms Ryall.

Electoral Matters Committee — (*Council*): Ms Bath, Ms Patten and Mr Somyurek. (*Assembly*): Ms Asher, Ms Blandthorn, Mr Dixon and Ms Spence.

Environment, Natural Resources and Regional Development Committee — (*Council*): Mr O’Sullivan, Mr Ramsay and Mr Young. (*Assembly*): Mr J. Bull, Ms Halfpenny, Mr Richardson and Mr Riordan.

Family and Community Development Committee — (*Council*): Dr Carling-Jenkins and Mr Finn. (*Assembly*): Ms Britnell, Ms Couzens, Mr Edbrooke, Ms Edwards and Ms McLeish.

House Committee — (*Council*): The President (*ex officio*), Mr Eideh, Ms Lovell, Mr Mulino and Mr Young. (*Assembly*): The Speaker (*ex officio*), Mr J. Bull, Mr Crisp, Mrs Fyffe, Mr Staikos, Ms Suleyman and Mr Thompson.

Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Committee — (*Council*): Mr Ramsay and Ms Symes. (*Assembly*): Mr Hibbins, Mr D. O’Brien, Mr Richardson, Ms Thomson and Mr Wells.

Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Committee — (*Council*): Dr Carling-Jenkins and Mr Gepp. (*Assembly*): Mr Dixon, Mr Howard, Ms Suleyman, Mr Thompson and Mr Tilley.

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee — (*Council*): Ms Patten, Ms Pennicuik and Ms Shing. (*Assembly*): Mr Dimopoulos, Mr Morris, Mr D. O’Brien, Mr Pearson, Mr T. Smith and Ms Ward.

Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee — (*Council*): Ms Bath and Mr Dalla-Riva. (*Assembly*): Ms Blandthorn, Mr J. Bull, Mr Dimopoulos, Ms Kilkenny and Mr Pesutto.

Heads of parliamentary departments

Assembly — Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly: Ms Bridget Noonan

Council — Acting Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council: Mr A. Young

Parliamentary Services — Secretary: Mr P. Lochert

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
FIFTY-EIGHTH PARLIAMENT — FIRST SESSION

President:

The Hon. B. N. ATKINSON

Deputy President:

Mr N. ELASMAR

Acting Presidents:

Ms Dunn, Mr Gepp, Mr Melhem, Mr Morris, Ms Patten, Mr Purcell, Mr Ramsay

Leader of the Government:

The Hon. G. JENNINGS

Deputy Leader of the Government:

The Hon. J. L. PULFORD

Leader of the Opposition:

The Hon. M. WOOLDRIDGE

Deputy Leader of the Opposition:

The Hon. G. K. RICH-PHILLIPS

Leader of The Nationals:

Mr L. B. O’SULLIVAN

Leader of the Greens:

Dr S. RATNAM

Member	Region	Party	Member	Region	Party
Atkinson, Mr Bruce Norman	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Mikakos, Ms Jenny	Northern Metropolitan	ALP
Barber, Mr Gregory John ¹	Northern Metropolitan	Greens	Morris, Mr Joshua	Western Victoria	LP
Bath, Ms Melina ²	Eastern Victoria	Nats	Mulino, Mr Daniel	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Bourman, Mr Jeffrey	Eastern Victoria	SFFP	O’Brien, Mr Daniel David ⁸	Eastern Victoria	Nats
Carling-Jenkins, Dr Rachel ³	Western Metropolitan	Ind	O’Donohue, Mr Edward John	Eastern Victoria	LP
Crozier, Ms Georgina Mary	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Ondarchie, Mr Craig Philip	Northern Metropolitan	LP
Dalidakis, Mr Philip	Southern Metropolitan	ALP	O’Sullivan, Mr Luke Bartholomew ⁹	Northern Victoria	Nats
Dalla-Riva, Mr Richard Alex Gordon	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Patten, Ms Fiona ¹⁰	Northern Metropolitan	RV
Davis, Mr David McLean	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Pennicuik, Ms Susan Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	Greens
Drum, Mr Damian Kevin ⁴	Northern Victoria	Nats	Peulich, Mrs Inga	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Dunn, Ms Samantha	Eastern Metropolitan	Greens	Pulford, Ms Jaala Lee	Western Victoria	ALP
Eideh, Mr Khalil M.	Western Metropolitan	ALP	Purcell, Mr James	Western Victoria	V1LJ
Elasmar, Mr Nazih	Northern Metropolitan	ALP	Ramsay, Mr Simon	Western Victoria	LP
Finn, Mr Bernard Thomas C.	Western Metropolitan	LP	Ratnam, Dr Samantha Shantini ¹¹	Northern Metropolitan	Greens
Fitzherbert, Ms Margaret	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Rich-Phillips, Mr Gordon Kenneth	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Gepp, Mr Mark ⁵	Northern Victoria	ALP	Shing, Ms Harriet	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Hartland, Ms Colleen Mildred ⁶	Western Metropolitan	Greens	Somyurek, Mr Adem	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Herbert, Mr Steven Ralph ⁷	Northern Victoria	ALP	Springle, Ms Nina	South Eastern Metropolitan	Greens
Jennings, Mr Gavin Wayne	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Symes, Ms Jaclyn	Northern Victoria	ALP
Leane, Mr Shaun Leo	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Tierney, Ms Gayle Anne	Western Victoria	ALP
Lovell, Ms Wendy Ann	Northern Victoria	LP	Truong, Ms Huong ¹²	Western Metropolitan	Greens
Melhem, Mr Cesar	Western Metropolitan	ALP	Wooldridge, Ms Mary Louise Newling	Eastern Metropolitan	LP
			Young, Mr Daniel	Northern Victoria	SFFP

¹ Resigned 28 September 2017

² Appointed 15 April 2015

³ DLP until 26 June 2017;

Australian Conservatives until 3 August 2018

⁴ Resigned 27 May 2016

⁵ Appointed 7 June 2017

⁶ Resigned 9 February 2018

⁷ Resigned 6 April 2017

⁸ Resigned 25 February 2015

⁹ Appointed 12 October 2016

¹⁰ ASP until 16 January 2018

¹¹ Appointed 18 October 2017

¹² Appointed 21 February 2018

PARTY ABBREVIATIONS

ALP — Labor Party; ASP — Australian Sex Party; DLP — Democratic Labour Party;
Greens — Australian Greens; Ind — Independent; LP — Liberal Party; Nats — The Nationals;
RV — Reason Victoria; SFFP — Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party; V1LJ — Vote 1 Local Jobs

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ANSWERS TO CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS

Answers have been incorporated in the form supplied by the departments on behalf of the appropriate ministers and received by Hansard in the period shown.

30 July to 9 August 2018**Western Victoria Region**

Question asked by: Mr Morris
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 23 May 2018

ANSWER:

It is concerning that the Member continues to politicise road safety projects in the Ballarat region while having no solutions of his own.

The Government is getting on with the development of project options by working with Sturt Street traders and other key stakeholders, and will then seek feedback from the broader community.

South Eastern Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Ms Springle
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 23 May 2018

ANSWER:

It is pleasing to hear that the Friends of Braeside Park group will turn 30 in 2019, and I commend both Parks Victoria and Friends of Braeside Park for all their hard work and dedication in making Braeside Park a wonderful place to visit.

Advice from the Major Road Projects Authority (MRPA) is that the latest designs for the Mordialloc Freeway show that the nursery and rangers' office within Braeside Park are not directly impacted by the freeway alignment. MRPA is working closely with Parks Victoria management on the interface of the freeway with the Braeside Park boundary, and how the office can remain operational during and after construction of the Mordialloc Freeway.

As part of the Environment Effects Statement being undertaken for the project, the community will be invited to review and provide feedback on the potential impacts investigated and assessed. Additionally, a Community Reference Group has been established for the project, for which members from the Friends of Braeside Park have been selected to be a part of. Matters such as this can be raised and discussed at these Community Reference Group meetings.

Western Victoria Region

Question asked by: Mr Ramsay
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 23 May 2018

ANSWER:

I am advised by VicRoads that they have recently completed pavement testing and is analysing these results. A more detailed scope of works for a long-term treatment will be developed for funding consideration.

I am also advised that in March 2018, VicRoads undertook patching to sections of this area of pavement and where appropriate, placed advisory signage to notify road users of the immediate hazards.

Further pavement patching was completed in 17 July to remove undulations, and VicRoads will continue to monitor this section of Birregurra Deans Marsh Road.

South Eastern Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Ms Springle
Directed to: Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Asked on: 5 June 2018

ANSWER:

The Mordialloc Freeway will cut ten minutes off a trip between the Mornington Peninsula Freeway and the Dingley Bypass. Building it to a freeway standard will also take tens of thousands of vehicles off busy local roads — easing congestion on roads like the Nepean Highway, Boundary Road, Wells Road and Springvale Road.

The land reservation for the Mordialloc Freeway has been in place since 1979 with the majority of the land needed to build the freeway already owned by VicRoads. The amount of land left to acquire is approximately one third of the land needed to build the freeway. There is a Public Acquisition Overlay that has been in place for almost 40 years, which allows this land to be acquired. There are no residencies on the land to be acquired within the freeway reservation.

Sufficient funds have been allocated in the budget for the Mordialloc Freeway to complete the land acquisition required to construct the Freeway.

Southern Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Ms Crozier
Directed to: Treasurer
Asked on: 7 June 2018

ANSWER:

A record level of infrastructure investment is currently underway in Victoria with investments in rail, roads, schools and hospitals around the State. The positive impact of this investment is growth in jobs and economic activity in Victoria. The increase in construction activity is resulting in some constraints which the Government is proactively addressing to ensure certainty for the future pipeline of infrastructure projects.

The 2018-19 Budget provided the Earth Resources Regulator with additional funding to support demand pressures from increased activity in the extractive resources and mining sector and to deliver regulatory reforms. On 15 June 2018 I launched the \$15.7 million Helping Victoria Grow: Extractive Resources Strategy to ensure a steady supply of materials to the building industry and support the state's infrastructure boom. This will help projects such as the Metro Tunnel Project continue to meet construction timelines and be ready to provide services to the growing community. As part of the strategy, the Earth Resources Regulator will also undertake strategic resource assessment and land use planning to ensure extractive resources needs are met for Victoria's construction pipeline.

The Government is getting on with delivering key infrastructure projects for all Victorians.

Southern Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Mr Davis
Directed to: Minister for Police
Asked on: 8 June 2018

ANSWER:

Victorian councils and community groups work with the State Government and Victoria Police every day to support community safety outcomes.

Since November 2014, the Andrews Labor Government has invested in more than 550 crime prevention projects and initiatives — each focused on community led solutions to crime issues.

Each one of these projects and initiatives is evidence based and informed by local knowledge, including advice from Victoria Police. The Eaton Mall Pedestrian Safety Project is just one example of a community led solution that will deliver community safety outcomes.

I visited Eaton Mall in July 2017 and was briefed by Monash City Council, Victoria Police and local traders about an increase in dangerous motor vehicle driving, particularly around the mall.

In response Monash City Council applied for and was successful in receiving a \$250 000 grant to deliver the Eaton Mall Pedestrian Safety Project as part of the Public Safety Infrastructure Fund 2017-18.

The grant is helping to improve pedestrian safety and deter anti-social and dangerous vehicle movement throughout the mall with the installation of fixed and moveable bollards across three intersections at the mall.

In developing the project, Monash City Council consulted widely with a range of local groups and was supported by Link Health and Community, President of the Oakleigh Traders and Business Association, the local Victoria Police Inspector, and Steve Dimopoulos MP, Member for Oakleigh.

Representatives of these key partners in the Eaton Mall Pedestrian Safety Project attended the announcement of the project funding on 21 May 2018. I look forward to meeting with these organisations again following the delivery of this community led project.

The Andrews Labor Government's 2018–19 Budget commitment of an additional \$25 million crime prevention package will ensure we can continue to deliver more community partnerships with Victorian councils, community groups and Victoria Police into the future.

The Government's record investment in police and community safety is making a real difference, driving down crime by 9.5 per cent in Victoria for the year ending 31 March 2018.

Western Victoria Region

Question asked by: Mr Morris
Directed to: Premier
Asked on: 19 June 2018

ANSWER:

As its name suggests, responsibility for Ballarat Council's CBD Parking Action Plan lies with Ballarat Council.

In recognising the need for more free parking in the city — and in order to help the Council in reaching its promised 4367 free car parks — our Government allocated \$2 million to the City of Ballarat, contributing an extra 1000 new car parks in Ballarat city's centre.

That's on top of the brand new three-storey commuter car park — contributing 405 spaces — for Ballarat's commuters, and our funding for the construction of 540 park and ride spaces along local public transport routes.

As always, we remain genuine in our efforts to work with Council on improving parking in the city — and as always, we encourage the Council to listen and respond to the needs of local people.

If you have any further questions about Ballarat Council's *CBD Parking Action Plan*, I suggest you direct them towards Ballarat Council.

Western Metropolitan Region

Question asked by: Mr Finn
Directed to: Treasurer
Asked on: 22 June 2018

ANSWER:

Work is currently underway for the acquisition of the site. It is intended that the site will be purchased at a price as determined by the Valuer-General Victoria, consistent with the Government's Land Transactions Policy and Guidelines.