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## **Labor MPs Must Back Community On Roe Extension**

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton called on Labor Members of Parliament to support the Extension of Roe Highway from the Kwinana Freeway through to Stock Road.

"Labor MP's representing electorates in the south west metro area, including Willagee, Warnbro, Cockburn and Kwinana should not continue to deny their constituents access to good transport," said Dr Nahan.

"They know that many of the services currently provided at Fremantle Hospital will be transferred to the new Fiona Stanley Hospital when it's completed in 2014. They know that many of their constituents will be among the 20,000 people working in the Murdoch Precinct by the end of the decade. They know that truck traffic on suburban roads is excessive and dangerous."

"Although the Labor Party has finally abandoned its long held total opposition to the expansion of Roe Highway beyond the Kwinana Freeway, it has only agreed to do so for a small stretch of less than a kilometre from the Freeway through to Murdoch Drive."

"While that in itself is a quantum leap for Labor, given their past stance of total rejection of the Roe 8 Extension, it is still not enough for their constituents who desperately need that east-west access."

Dr Nahan said the Labor hierarchy has changed its position in recognition of the need for adequate access from the Kwinana Freeway to the Murdoch precinct, including the new state-of-the-art Fiona Stanley Hospital.

"However, there is no sense in restricting the Roe Extension to just Murdoch Drive because it will be costly and inadequate; it will still leave suburban roads clogged with expanding heavy truck traffic and most importantly, it will deny their constituents adequate road access to the Murdoch precinct," said Dr Nahan.

"In recent years, Labor's concerns about the Roe Extension have centered on environmental and heritage issues but these are being addressed currently by the EPA in a Public Environmental Review, which is the highest level of environmental and heritage assessment that can be done."

"Once that review is completed by early 2012 and the Roe 8 Extension has the EPA's environmental tick of approval, I ask State Labor politicians, particularly those who have seats in the south west metropolitan area, to do the right thing by their constituents and the State, and support the full Roe 8 Extension."

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