

John Castrilli MLA



Work continues on important projects

When I was re-elected in 2008 I made commitments on a range of projects which I pleased to say have all been either achieved, or are well underway and I am continuing to work hard to see them fulfilled.

The advancement of the Bunbury Waterfront Project recently took a step forward with the approval of zoning amendments which will allow planning to move ahead for two key waterfront areas.

The process to achieve a land swap to protect bushland in College Grove is moving closer to completion. While I acknowledge the community's frustration that there has been no "end date" set for the process, the negotiations are very complex and cannot be rushed through.

Importantly, the moratorium on clearing has meant this bushland has been protected during the course of the land swap discussions.

Meanwhile, planning and modelling work to address traffic issues at the Eelup Roundabout is continuing and I am confident that Main Roads will soon be able to start physical work at the site to progress Stage 1 of the flyover project.

Two important advancements were made recently towards seeing a local high-care facility built to accommodate young people with acquired brain injuries or degenerative neurological conditions.

A builder has been appointed, and the South Bunbury Rotary Club also made a significant donation towards the facility, which will be managed by the MS Society of WA.

There are also countless new issues, both large and small, which crop up at my office every day and it remains a privilege to be able to assist Bunbury residents with their enquiries.

Range of initiatives help seniors

Since 2008 a range of important new initiatives have been introduced to assist seniors with living costs, and to continue playing an active role in our community.

The Cost of Living Rebate helps seniors meet living expenses and a total of more than \$42 million has been paid to over 245,000 WA Seniors Card holders.

To help seniors with safety and security in their homes, the State Government also introduced the \$200 Security Rebate for home security devices. This was recently boosted with an additional \$200 rebate for the purchase and installation of electrical and fire safety items.

More than 7000 applications for these rebates have been processed, worth \$1.4 million.

Another important helping hand is the Country Age Pension Fuel Card which has assisted thousands of seniors and disability pensioners with \$500 worth of fuel or taxi travel each year.

Travel assistance has also been provided through free local bus transport during off-peak times.

If you need more information on any of these initiatives please contact my office on 9791 3636.