[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

APPROPRIATION (RECURRENT 2021–22) BILL 2021 APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL 2021–22) BILL 2021

Second Reading — Cognate Debate

Resumed from an earlier stage of the sitting.

MRS L.A. MUNDAY (Dawesville) [7.13 pm]: Following on in my contribution on the appropriation bills, the Dawesville electorate is big on sport and recreation and —

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Just hold on for a second. The member for Dawesville is on her feet, so if we could have some order so that Hansard and the chair can hear from the member.

Mrs L.A. MUNDAY: The Dawesville electorate is big on sport and recreation and local projects are a huge part of the lifestyle. I am proud to deliver several election commitments as the local member. Recently, I was excited to visit the South Mandurah Tennis Club to discuss plans for two new courts that will be funded through our \$150 000 election commitment.

This will service the club's growing members and expand programs for individuals with special needs to cater for people with all abilities.

Halls Head Football Club will receive \$150 000 to upgrade its change rooms to be inclusive of the women's teams. The Eastport canals marina boat jetty will receive \$135 000 to create disability access. The South Mandurah Football Club will get \$60 000 for a new coaches' box and entry gate, and kitchen and canteen upgrades.

Mandurah Wildlife Rescue does an incredible job working with local vets and volunteers to rehabilitate injured and sick native animals so they can be returned to the wild. It has been allocated \$20 000 towards much-needed equipment. Men of the Trees Peel Branch is a not for profit that grows and plants native plants in the Peel region. Its current site is not powered and it will receive \$20 000 to power its site so that it can house growing seedlings in fridges. Halls Head Croquet Club is using our \$16 000 funding commitment to fund the lighting of one of its courts so that evening matches can take place. The Cut Golf Course, which runs The Cut—a new not-for-profit child mentoring and leadership program that uses golf to work with young people—will use our funding of \$9 000 to help the club purchase equipment for its free junior golf program.

AWARE, a native animal welfare support group, will receive \$5 000 for cages for animals, and heat pads, feeding bottles and pouches for marsupials. The South Mandurah Cricket Club with its new hybrid pitch will put the government's \$4 600 commitment to fund a Fortress 360-degree mobile cricket cage for training. The Mandurah Districts Ladies Dart Association—which I am looking forward to playing—is based in Halls Head and it will use \$4 200 for seven new dartboards. Finally, the South Mandurah Football and Netball Club will receive \$2 500 to improve safety at the club for the community by having a defibrillator on site, something that I am very proud to deliver, being a former paramedic. The McGowan Labor government and I are happy to see many community groups receive this funding because it will help our community to thrive.

Another incredibly important commitment of the McGowan government is to ensure that our young people receive quality education. The 2021–22 state budget will continue to invest in WA's TAFE and training sector, with a \$198 million investment each year in regional WA over the next four years. This will include delivering the new \$16.87 million hospitality training centre and hair and beauty training facilities at Mandurah TAFE, and continue the Lower Fees, Local Skills initiative that has cut fees by up to 72 per cent for 180 TAFE courses, which has made them more affordable and, as a result, has seen an increase of 24 per cent in enrolments across the Peel region already this year. This will service many students in my rapidly growing electorate so they can access varied training across different industries. It will help people to gain employment within the region close to home, diversify our local economy and strengthen youth engagement.

Primary schools in the Dawesville electorate will also receive a boost from our election commitments. The schools that will benefit include Ocean Road Primary School, which will receive \$30 000 for a nature playground for years 1 and 2 students; Glencoe Primary School, which will receive \$30 000 to upgrade and build a new play space for the senior students with age-appropriate equipment; Halls Head Primary School, which will receive \$30 000 to resurface the basketball courts, improving facilities at that local school; Falcon Primary School, which will receive \$25 000, with \$12 000 to be spent on a nature playground for the early years students and \$13 000 for an undercover area for the Kiss 'n' Ride drop-off area; South Halls Head Primary School, which will receive \$20 000 for playground upgrades; and Dudley Park Primary School, which will receive \$20 000 for a shade sail and new play equipment.

The McGowan Labor government recognises that investing in our children means investing in jobs for the future. Through our commitment to STEM disciplines in WA schools, we normalise these areas as well as diversify learning and drive leading innovation. Every student across the state will have access to education STEM and science

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

programs. In regional areas, this means \$1.5 million will go to Halls Head College and \$1.5 million will go to Coodanup College to deliver new STEM classrooms. The McGowan Labor government's primary school science program is another excellent example of our commitment to young people's education. This will see a boost in science resources in public primary schools. The Dawesville primary schools to receive funding under this program include Falcon Primary School, Ocean Road Primary School and South Halls Head Primary School, each of which will receive \$25 000 for the refurbishment of or to create science labs.

As well as investing in courses and programs for students, as a registered psychologist, looking at a student's education from a holistic approach is something that I have been advocating for long before becoming a member of Parliament. After meeting and speaking with the schools in my electorate over the past few months, our investment in mental health care for young people in our school system has become more apparent now than ever. One thing that has been consistent is the students' need for more psychologists to help them deal with anxiety and stress, particularly after the experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic. I am glad to see the McGowan government will invest \$42.2 million over the next four years for more than 100 additional psychologists in public and non-government WA schools, to provide support for students and promote positive mental health.

My electorate is over an hour and a half away from Perth in a car, not a plane, so improving access to and the affordability of transport systems has been a huge issue for a long time. As such, one of the most popular election commitments we campaigned for in the electorate of Dawesville was to reduce the cost of public transport by capping fares of all Metronet train and bus journeys at the cost of a two-zone ticket. Under the cheaper fares plan, the maximum price a passenger will pay on a two-zone ticket is \$3.90. That will mean a saving of over \$3 000 a year. This is the outcome of a \$60.6 million investment by the Labor government and it has been well received. We have had many emails from people eager to know when the changes will come and will take effect. I look toward to easing the cost-of-living pressure for the people in the electorate of Dawesville from 1 January 2022. That will build on our other commitments to help travel and congestion in the area, including \$14.5 million in the 2021–22 budget, and \$32.1 million overall, to build the new multistorey carpark at the Mandurah train station. That is already underway.

The Mandurah Estuary Bridge duplication is another incredibly important infrastructure project, with an investment of \$55 million from the state government and \$55 million from the feds to upgrade our roads and infrastructure. This will help ease congestion heading into the Mandurah area. To add to this, I have previously put forward a grievance to the Minister for Transport for an all-abilities fishing platform to be considered as part of the design. This will increase opportunities for recreational sporting activities, for people of all abilities, as a key part of the lifestyle enjoyed by the constituents of Dawesville. I thank Minister Saffioti for signing off on this new fishing platform for us.

Our government is also focused on delivering community safety initiatives. As of last month, the McGowan government reinstated the \$400 safety and security rebate for WA seniors as part of its \$12 million program in the state budget. As I have said previously, Dawesville has an older demographic than the average, with about 45 per cent of my electorate aged over 65 years. This is why the safety and security rebate is incredibly important for my community. This will give seniors peace of mind in their home and act as an effective deterrent. My electorate office has been receiving multiple calls and, according to my staff, people have been lining up all day wanting to know more about the rebate.

Another community safety issue that many residents have raised with me is targeting hooning and antisocial behaviour in Dawesville. After meeting and having discussions with local constituents, it is clear how important this is to local residents and how it is causing disruption and distress. The member for Mandurah and I have listened to and heard this, and we have made a joint commitment to provide \$200 000 towards covert cameras to target hoon drivers in the Peel region.

All of this builds on the government's commitment to provide existing community safety measures within WA. This is seen through the investment of \$1.78 billion for the WA Police Force. The ongoing recruitment drive is one of the largest of its kind of any of the states and will give WA the highest number of officers per person out of all the states. This includes an investment of \$2 million for upgrades to Mandurah Police Station. Through the WA recovery plan, we can see the McGowan government's commitment to implementing community safety measures.

Dawesville is a coastal area in the southwest region where residents and tourists alike enjoy our beaches, estuary views and recreational activities such as fishing and boating. However, these are becoming increasingly fragile areas and it has been great to see funding allocated from our government to protect and preserve these areas. The McGowan government is committed to protecting WA's coastline and has allocated an additional \$18.5 million in the state budget to a program to manage the impacts of coastal erosion over the next five years. The program now has total funding of \$33.5 million over the next five years and will help to address key issues outlined in the 2019 Assessment of coastal erosion hotspots in Western Australia, of which there are three in Dawesville. A number of dedicated residents in my electorate have already raised with me their concerns about coastal erosion in the Dawesville area.

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

In addition, over the next few years this Labor government will make a committed effort to ensure that the Peel region thrives both economically and recreationally in the most environmentally responsible way. I am proud to be part of a massive joint election commitment with the members for Murray–Wellington and Mandurah to deliver funding of \$2 million for the Peel–Yalgorup wetland trails and another \$2 million for Yalgorup National Park. These amazing unutilised natural resources are right on our doorstep. The \$2 million contribution to the wetlands trail will go towards improving launch infrastructure for those of all abilities, enhancing the thrombolite experience and the shared-use trail. The \$2 million funding for Yalgorup National Park will activate recreation and ecotourism, while also providing better access to the area. I am proud to be a part of the Peel Labor team that is making these investments in our area, which will be enjoyed by generations to come.

I am very proud of the 2021–22 state budget delivered by the McGowan Labor government and the government's commitment to invest in the Peel region, and particularly the growing electorate of Dawesville. It is clear that the McGowan government has not forgotten about regional areas in this budget and has worked to ensure that we have the same level of access to, affordability and availability of, service delivery. I again thank the Premier; Treasurer for his investments in the state budget for the people who live in Dawesville. I commend the bills to the house.

MS C.M. TONKIN (Churchlands) [7.26 pm]: It is with enormous pride that I rise in support of the Appropriation (Recurrent 2021–22) Bill 2021 and the Appropriation (Capital 2021–22) Bill 2021 as a member of this government. It is with particular pride that I do so in the presence of my grandchildren Felix, Andie and Louis. This is a budget not only for now but also for their future and the future of all our children and grandchildren. To its core, this is a Labor budget that invests in resilience for our people, communities, economy and environment. It is a budget that I believe is great for my electorate of Churchlands.

The opportunity to deliver this budget has not happened by accident or good luck. It has been enabled by prudent financial management, which has been the hallmark of the McGowan Labor government since it was first elected in 2017. The budget is also enabled by the business, investor and consumer confidence that our effective, consistent and rational approach to managing the COVID-19 pandemic has engendered. This confidence has driven economic activity that has resulted in increased revenue for the state. This revenue has enabled the paying down of state debt and the capacity to invest for the future.

For more than 25 years, my career in public procurement both in Australia and internationally focused on achieving the best value for money from government spending. I am passionate about getting the most out of every cent that is spent. That has not changed now that I am the member for Churchlands. It is in my DNA. Getting the best value for money is not just about cost, quality and managing risk; it is about expenditure that is crafted to deliver the government's key social, economic and environmental policies. This budget delivers these in spades. It is about improving the quality of life for all Western Australians. It is about keeping us safe, healthy and economically strong in the face of the COVID pandemic. It is about investing in health and mental health services, supports and facilities. It is about improving the quality of public educational opportunities and facilities and providing affordable access to training to address current skills shortages and to provide skills for the jobs of the future. It is about creating jobs and diversifying the economy through investment in future industries and local value-adding and manufacture. It is about providing key productive infrastructure to facilitate the development of creative businesses and industries, and it is about developing our digital capabilities and systems.

It is also about reducing carbon in our atmosphere; managing the increasing impact of frequent extreme weather events; transitioning to renewables, including solar, wind, and green hydrogen; and about protecting our native forests, diverse native vegetation and our fragile coastline. It is about sequestering carbon in plantation softwoods and other land and sea-based carbon sinks, as well as geocarbon sequestration. It is about futureproofing our water supply in the face of a drying climate.

It is about respecting and valuing the culture, knowledge and contributions of the traditional owners of the land on which we live, and it is about limiting cost-of-living pressures and increasing concessions for vulnerable and older members of our community. It is about enhancing resilience and wellbeing, and investing in social housing. It is about respecting, valuing and supporting those who have served the public as police, teachers, nurses, doctors and public servants. These are all policies that reflect Labor values—the very best value for money for all.

What does this mean for the people of Churchlands? Prior to my election, I listened to members of my community and identified a number of priorities that I would pursue, with their support and engagement. We have formed five working groups to address wetland and bush habitats; the quality of life of ageing members of our community, of which I am one; access to preventive mental health services and support; leveraging technological innovation and local manufacturing to address climate change and create green jobs; and to address traffic congestion and road safety, especially around our schools.

How does this budget address these priorities and deliver for the people of Churchlands? Our wetlands and bush habitat working group members seek to protect and enhance our magnificent wetlands, bush habitats and fragile

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

coastal dunes. These are people who value our natural environment and understand the implications of the impacts of climate change. They have warmly welcomed the government's leadership through its \$750 million climate action fund. The government's commitment to ending logging in native forests has also been warmly received in our community, as has the allocation of funds to address coastal erosion hotspots.

This budget includes a local commitment of \$700 000 to improve the quality of water drainage entering Lake Monger, or Galup. This will be achieved by redesigning, rehabilitating, decontaminating and revegetating the swales at the eastern end of Galup, which take runoff from the freeway and water drainage from the Towns of Vincent and Cambridge and the City of Stirling. This is also very important because the overflow from Lake Monger drains into the Swan River.

There is also a commitment of \$300 000 to revegetate Perry Lakes when water flows into these lakes from the redirected Herdsman main drain, under a Town of Cambridge project. Our green jobs working group focuses on technological innovations and local manufacturing based on three themes: electrify everything, green steel and aluminium, and carbon sequestration. The budget addresses our group's aspirations because it includes provisions for electric vehicle charging around the state; development of a green hydrogen industry; a substantial investment in renewable energy projects, including standalone power systems and wind turbine manufacturing; and investments in innovation and future industries. We have some amazing innovators in our electorate, so watch this space!

The budget also invests in the technological innovators of the future by providing a boost to STEM education in our local schools, including funding to convert a classroom into a science lab at Churchlands, Wembley Downs and Wembley Primary Schools; funding for science equipment grants at Churchlands, Doubleview, Floreat Park, Kapinara, Wembley Downs and Wembley Primary Schools; and an amazing \$3.5 million commitment to build two new STEM classes at Churchlands Senior High School. Technological innovators are also developed through exposure to nature. The funding of a much-needed nature playground and associated outdoor classroom at Lake Monger Primary School may well be the making of some future biological scientists.

Mental health issues have come to the fore lately because of the uncertainties and stresses associated with the pandemic that have given rise to a lot of anxiety in our community. At the same time, as a community, we are much more willing to acknowledge and discuss our mental health and to seek help. Therefore, the additional \$495 million in this budget allocated to mental health services and support is very much welcomed by our preventive mental health working group members and by the wider Churchlands community. Our working group has been supporting a fourth year Curtin social work student who has been placed in my office. She has produced a directory of local preventive mental health services and supports. We will launch the directory during Mental Health Week. We are very grateful for the work of this student and to Curtin University for this collaboration. We recently sponsored an accredited mental health first aid course with the participation of 16 members of our community, the majority of whom are teachers and teaching assistants. With the support of our social work student, we are now consulting the schools in our area to see what else we can be doing to support preventive mental health for young people.

One of the best ways to de-stress is to socialise in the community. The Leederville Sporting Club, alias "The Bowlo", has reinvented itself as a vibrant social hub for the 30 to 40—somethings of the West Leederville and Wembley areas. It even welcomes 60-plus-somethings like me! It is a joy to pop down to the Bowlo at the weekend, and I have been roped into sponsoring its weekly meat tray raffle for January and February next year. It is an old tradition that has come into its own for a new generation. The club membership now stands at over 600, up from 100 about 18 months ago. This budget delivers a local commitment to upgrade the facilities at the club, including features to make it safer and more friendly for children and people with disabilities. The Bowlo is definitely the place to be. Stress associated with insecure housing is an issue that affects mental health, and insecure housing is an issue that affects people in my community. This stress will be alleviated by a record \$875 million investment to deliver more housing properties throughout Western Australia, representing the single largest one-off funding injection for social housing in the state's history. It will take the total housing investment over the next four years to more than \$2.1 billion. Kids, that is a very large number—lots of zeros on that—to fund around 3 300 social houses.

Our working group, which focuses on improving the quality of life of older people in the Churchlands community, has been identifying community resources for older people with the help of our parliamentary research program student. During October, we will host four consultations in different parts of the electorate to hear what older people say about factors that affect their quality of life. I am personally inviting each of the 9 000-plus older members of our community to attend and have their say. About 30 per cent of the people of Churchlands are over 60 years of age and many of them will be eligible to benefit from the \$12 million allocated for the safety and security rebate delivered in this budget. This budget will allow Seniors Card holders to claim up to \$400 per household towards the purchase of eligible home security equipment. This will reinstate a program that was abolished in 2015 by the then Liberal–National government.

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

Traffic congestion and road safety are vexed issues in the Churchlands electorate. Many of these issues arise at the boundaries of the two councils that cover the electorate and have implications for Main Roads WA and involve traffic associated with schools in the area. Our traffic working group, members, has come together to share ideas about how these issues may be resolved. These are complicated matters to address and their resolution will take time. In the meantime, one way of reducing congestion and road safety problems around our schools is to encourage children to ride bicycles. Wembley Downs Primary School has been participating in the Your Move program and has significantly increased the number of students riding to school each day. The member for Nedlands and I have been very impressed with this outcome, which is why we are encouraging primary schools in our electorates to participate in Your Move. Encouraging cycling not only can lead to reducing traffic congestion and promoting safety by reducing the number of cars on the road, but also it is a very healthy endeavour. That is why I am pleased that this budget includes \$265 million over the next four years for upgrading cycling and pedestrian infrastructure and \$64 million for the principal shared path network. After I break in my shiny new knee replacements early next year, I will be dusting off my United Nations—blue Danish shopping bike to cycle around my electorate. I like to practise what I preach.

In conclusion, I would like to say that this great Labor budget is a great budget for everyone in this state and will deliver handsomely for the people of Churchlands. Felix, Andie and Louis, this one is for you.

MS H.M. BEAZLEY (Victoria Park) [7.44 pm]: It gives me great pleasure to rise today to speak to the McGowan government's 2021–22 state budget, the Appropriation (Recurrent 2021–22) Bill 2021 and the Appropriation (Capital 2021–22) Bill 2021. I take this opportunity to congratulate the Premier on delivering his first budget as Treasurer and for that budget reflecting exactly what Labor stands for—developing and delivering quality education, world-class health care and local jobs.

I stand here proud to be a member of the McGowan government and proud of our economic governance during a once-in-a-lifetime global pandemic—or at least I hope it is once in a lifetime! At a time when economies around the world are faltering due to COVID-19, our financial discipline and investment in stimulus packages have produced growth of 5.7 per cent in our domestic state economy, eclipsing that of the other states and Australia as a whole. Indeed, the McGowan government's response to COVID is one of the most successful models deployed by nation states across the world and our upwards trajectory is forecast to continue, with growth of 3.5 per cent predicted in the 2021–22 financial year. At the same time, the McGowan government has reduced net debt to \$31.2 billion, the third drop in three years, and has a projected surplus of \$2.8 billion for this financial year. When we consider the events occurring around the world and the ruin that COVID has wrought on some of the world's largest economies, these numbers are nothing short of remarkable. Our strong economic position was not achieved by penny-pinching and conservatism. It was achieved through decisive action at a critical time and the enactment of our Labor values by investing in our local businesses and communities to ensure that they had the capacity to withstand the pressures that the flailing global economy, state lockdowns and border restrictions inflicted.

Anyone who thinks of my electorate of Victoria Park will likely think of its bustling cafe and retail strip along Albany Highway, artistry and other hubs. As a former small business owner who weathered the global financial crisis, I understand the challenges and stress of meeting business overheads in an unfriendly and uncertain economic environment, while protecting the jobs of valued staff. There is no doubt that the restaurant owners, clothing retailers, small bars, bookshops, gift stores and other diverse local businesses that occupy my electorate were worried about the future of their business, staff and families in the face of the COVID pandemic. The McGowan government protected both small businesses and their employees' jobs with the implementation of safety nets in the form of lockdown, payroll and rent assistance grants—an investment of \$4.4 billion to date. I know how important these grants were to the livelihoods of so many of my constituents and I commend the Treasurer, the Minister for Small Business and the Minister for Finance for the inclusion of a further \$1 billion in this budget to support businesses and the community.

Incredibly, at a time when many economies are shrinking and work is drying up, our 2021–22 state budget predicts that an additional 34 000 jobs will be created in our state this year, many through the initiatives implemented by the McGowan government's economic recovery plan, which this budget continues to fulfil. Job vacancies are at the highest level they have been in years. This is a reflection of our growing economy and the endurance of our mining sector, but they also speak to an area of priority of the McGowan government—addressing skills shortages and becoming a manufacturing economy. The closure of Australia's borders to international visitors, as well as the ongoing restrictions at our state's borders and on interstate travel, has shown us all how critical local manufacturing and production is to our economy. Now more than ever we need skilled Western Australian workers so that we can use our strong resources sector to drive local manufacturing and production in areas like technology, agriculture, defence and renewable energy.

My electorate is lucky to be home to both Curtin University and South Metropolitan TAFE, and I know that many of those TAFE students will welcome this budget's \$121 million investment in training initiatives. This includes

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

\$32 million in funding to subsidise the wages of 300 apprentices and trainees, \$9.9 million to support TAFE college lecturer industry placements, \$25 million for state-of-the-art TAFE equipment and \$32.4 million to get 300 new building and construction apprentices and trainees working on state government projects. Since coming to government in 2017, the McGowan government has slashed TAFE fees. We have also created 8 000 new vocational education and training places in schools, reflecting a spend of almost \$30 million. The McGowan government listens and responds to what is needed in this space. Recently, we convened a skills summit of 150 business and industry organisers, union and non-profit leaders and much of the cabinet to determine the challenges and opportunities ahead, and we are pursuing them.

In my inaugural speech as the newly elected member for Victoria Park, I spoke about my focus on education and how coming from a family of teachers and spending a decade working in education has meant that I very clearly understand the power that education has to address intergenerational poverty. I am proud to be a member of a government that regards education as a top priority. There is increased funding for education in this budget, with \$6 billion set aside for education.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a stressful time for all of us and our kids. In July, there was the largest study of school student wellbeing ever undertaken in Australia. The DETECT schools study, a partnership between the Telethon Kids Institute and the state government, found that 40 per cent of secondary students were experiencing moderate to severe levels of stress. In response, our Labor government has committed \$104 million to provide additional psychologists in public and private schools. We are investing in our schools by continuing to deliver our government's \$200 million schools maintenance blitz, with a further boost of \$26.1 million. In my electorate alone, over \$2 million of upgrades are underway at my local schools.

This budget will also deliver \$750 000 in funding to Kent Street Senior High School to upgrade classrooms to deliver STEM education, and \$175 000 will be delivered to six local primary schools in Victoria Park to fund STEM science labs and equipment grants. This funding will go to my old school, East Victoria Park Primary School, as well as Victoria Park Primary School, Lathlain Primary School, Millen Primary School, Wilson Primary School and the East Victoria Park Education Support Centre. This is part of our Labor government's investment of \$486 million in funding to upgrade school infrastructure for STEM classes. We will also deliver commitments I made to schools in the 2021 state election campaign, including new basketball courts for Wilson Primary School at a cost of \$150 000 and East Victoria Park Primary School at a cost of \$160 000.

I am proud that the McGowan government is a government that listens and acts. In response to calls from the community for more nurses, this budget provides funding for 500 new nurses and 100 new doctors to be employed at our public hospitals, with the creation of 332 new beds across WA, including 109 mental health beds. We have boosted health and mental health funding by a massive \$1.9 billion to meet unprecedented demands on our services.

In my role as member for Victoria Park, I have many conversations with members of my community about the global pandemic, in which some express fear about contracting the virus and others express fear that their own illnesses or health may suffer as hospitals potentially become clogged with COVID patients. I well understand what it is like to be frightened for your future health care, having suffered with a rare blood disorder in my 20s. At one stage, my prognosis was very grim, and it was the world-class research and care provided by our public hospitals that helped me overcome my illness and regain my life. Our public health system is critical to not only the health of individuals, but also our state as a whole.

The McGowan government has prevented a scenario in which our health system drowns under the weight of the pandemic by imposing strict border restrictions and strategic lockdowns. As someone whose life was saved by our public healthcare system, I am delighted that Labor's budget is delivering a \$100 million emergency department support package. I also note the \$1.8 billion that has been committed to the new women's and babies' hospital at Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre. With a strong interest in maternal health and child development, I have been working closely with #ngalaraisinghappiness in my electorate. I congratulate the Treasurer and the Minister for Health for their commitment in this sphere.

As well as my own health issues, members of my immediate family and one of my staff members live with disability. This has made me keenly aware on a daily basis of the challenges that people with disability face in their lives. The McGowan Labor government is committed to addressing the inequalities that arise from this. In my first year as a local member in this government, I was delighted to facilitate more than \$315 000 to Sussex Street Community Law Services Inc in East Victoria Park towards its disability justice advocacy service. Sussex Street is among eight organisations that will share in \$3.44 million to deliver advocacy services that support people with disability in Western Australia. As part of the McGowan Labor government, I was also proud to deliver a \$70 000 election commitment to the WA Disabled Water Ski Club in my electorate to fund a new accessible waterski boat. An inclusive society is one that goes beyond providing safety nets for people living with disability; it is about creating opportunities so that they can enjoy the same civic activities as those of us who do not live with disability.

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

One of the highlights so far in my brief time as a local member was helping to announce funding of \$5 million to Guide Dogs WA. Members may not realise that all guide dogs in Western Australia are bred interstate. This funding will allow for a world-class breeding program here at home, as well as an accredited guide dog training course, only the second of its kind in our country. I am incredibly proud of our support for Guide Dogs WA, which is based in my electorate of Victoria Park.

Undoubtedly, one of the key planks of the Labor government's economic recovery plan is our \$30 billion investment in infrastructure, to be delivered over the next four years. With the state's borders closed, this will be a major stimulus to our local economy and workforce and it will add to the 107 000 jobs that have been created since we came to power in 2017. This has been made possible by careful fiscal management. One of the government's biggest infrastructure projects is the delivery of Metronet, our world-class public rail network. This state budget includes a \$5.7 billion investment in Metronet projects. Victoria Park, like many communities across the state, will directly benefit from this investment. The oldest train line in our state, the Armadale line, runs through the centre of my electorate and provides a direct conduit for my constituents to travel to Perth city and all over the metro area. The funding for the removal of three level crossings in my electorate, and two nearby in the electorate of Cannington, which are funded in this budget, will be welcomed by my constituents. The local level crossings are those at Mint Street, Oats Street and Welshpool Road. Department of Transport figures reveal that the boom gates at the Mint Street level crossing alone are down, on average, for six hours a day. Raising the rail and removing the level crossing will remove this inconvenience and the accompanying traffic congestion and provide world-class transport infrastructure that allows for the creation of new public space. The Metronet level crossing removal project represents an enormous investment in Victoria Park. I am committed to ensuring that the project develops in consultation with the people of my electorate and serves their needs in a way that enhances their amenity.

My constituents will also welcome Labor's \$136 million investment in the Leach Highway–Welshpool Road interchange. This intersection is one of Perth's most congested and is ranked as the worst intersection for crash frequency across the entire state. The project will deliver a new bridge, taking Leach Highway over Welshpool Road to create a grade separation interchange, in addition to a new roundabout at the current Leach Highway–Welshpool Road intersection. Construction of this new intersection is already underway.

One of the great by-products of delivering infrastructure upgrades is our commitment to local content. The Leach Highway–Welshpool Road interchange is being delivered by the Leach Welshpool Alliance, a local Western Australian contractor. As part of the contract, this alliance has spent almost \$4 million with businesses within a 20-kilometre radius of the project, including the fantastic Aboriginal-owned and run Jatu Clothing and PPE in Carlisle in my electorate. The Leach Highway–Welshpool Road intersection is part of an \$11.7 billion spend in this year's budget on major road projects, upgrades and maintenance.

Although my constituents will no doubt be overjoyed by the spending on our local roads and public transport, Victoria Park is an electorate that has embraced cycling, with shared cycle paths such as the Rutland Avenue project funded by local and state governments. There has therefore been a lot of local interest in our Labor government's new \$49.8 million Causeway pedestrian and cyclist bridge, which will connect Victoria Park to the Perth CBD. The existing Causeway was built in 1952 and has been widely recognised as posing a hazard to the safety of cyclists and pedestrians. The new bridge will be six metres wide, with dedicated pedestrian and cycle lanes, and completely separates these path users from vehicle traffic.

A sign of Western Australia's economic strength is the high demand and growth we are experiencing in the housing sector. Building approvals rose by 88.7 per cent in the last financial year, supported by our government's building bonus. We have seen high demand and growth in the housing sector. In my own electorate, the suburb of St James has been one of the top five suburbs in the Perth metro region for growth year on year, with 10 per cent growth over the last year.

[Member's time extended.]

Ms H.M. BEAZLEY: Although this is great news for many, increasing house prices can impact upon housing affordability, as we all know, and that affects our most vulnerable citizens. In response, our McGowan government has invested \$884 million in the social housing economic recovery package, lifting the total McGowan government investment in social housing and initiatives to address homelessness to \$2.5 billion over four years.

New initiatives that will impact upon Victoria Park include a \$750 million social housing investment fund and \$6 million for a local government partnership fund for homelessness to partner and co-fund homelessness initiatives tailored to local government areas' needs. I have a number of passionate, committed housing providers in my area that I have been working with closely to address housing affordability. I was particularly delighted to fulfil my election commitment of \$60 000 to Connect Victoria Park. Connect is a wonderful organisation that provides social programs and low-cost housing to local seniors. This funding will be used to install and upgrade energy efficiency

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

measures in its properties, including LED lighting, solar and battery storage. Connect estimates that this investment will save it approximately \$100 000 over the next decade alone.

Our Victoria Park community is serviced by both Kensington and Cannington Police Stations, and I commend the officers at both stations for their dedication and commitment to the safety and security of our community. I am pleased to be part of a government that supports our frontline workers, including police. This support includes a record investment in the 2021–22 state budget, which includes funding for modern equipment, operational capabilities and new and upgraded police stations to accommodate hundreds of new officers. Police will receive an increased operating budget of over \$1.6 billion in 2021–22, plus a further \$83.6 million capital investment for the refurbishment and expansion of police stations to accommodate some of the additional 950 police officers being delivered by our government.

As part of this budget, we have also fully funded, once again, the \$400 rebate to assist WA Seniors Card holders with the purchase and installation of home security equipment. This \$12 million program can cover anything from home alarm and CCTV systems to mains-powered smoke alarms. It is an incredibly popular initiative with seniors in my community and I was very pleased to let them know that it has been funded once again, after being cut by the previous Liberal–National government.

As the member for Victoria Park, I am proud that a priority for my community is the preservation and enhancement of our local and global natural environment, and climate action. As well as being a part of a government that appointed our state's first Minister for Climate Action, we are also investing in climate action in this budget. Our new \$750 million climate action fund will help transition Western Australia to net zero emissions by 2050. This includes \$350 million to expand the softwood plantation estate to store carbon and support jobs and to protect our south west native forests from logging from 2024.

The climate action fund also includes \$206 million for renewable energy initiatives to fuel WA's future, a \$118 million fund to invest in future climate-related initiatives, \$50 million to drive new renewable hydrogen initiatives and much more. The McGowan government's \$750 million climate action fund is in addition to our \$21 million electric vehicle fund. As part of our electric vehicle action plan, WA will be home to the longest electric highway in Australia. This network will include up to 90 fast-charging stations and backup chargers at 45 different locations, connecting Perth and regional WA, stretching north to Kununurra, south to Esperance and east to Kalgoorlie.

If members know Victoria Park, they will know it as the historic home of car yards. When I was a kid, it felt like I could not walk a hundred metres in Vic Park without coming across a car yard. I can still remember the car yard ads that rang out on my Mum's old Corona's radio, "Just over the Causeway in Victoria Park." Many of those car yards are still in Vic Park today, and they now sell electric vehicles. Having the longest electric highway in Australia—due to be fully operational by early 2024—helps not only our environment, but also local businesses in my community. Right now, one of the inhibitors to electric vehicle sales is the availability of charging stations. Our government has addressed that. Now we just need the federal government to back us in, and catch up with the US and Europe, by putting in place the incentives needed for manufacturers to supply more electric cars to our market.

I have spoken comprehensively about how the McGowan government's 2021–22 state budget positively affects my community in Victoria Park. I will finish on this note of thanks. Victoria Park has one of the highest, if not the highest, proportion of public servants living within our boundaries. I am very pleased to be able to assure them that, due to our government's disciplined fiscal management and superior COVID response and their own fantastic commitment to the strength of our state, we have brought forward the state's wages policy review. This review was scheduled for 2023. As part of this budget process, the wages policy review started this week. I look forward to the McGowan government continuing to deliver for the workers of our state.

Madam Acting Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to commend the 2021–22 state budget to the house.

MRS J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI (Kingsley — Parliamentary Secretary) [8.07 pm]: Madam Acting Speaker, I promise to behave this time.

I rise to make a contribution to the Appropriation (Recurrent 2021–22) Bill 2021 and the Appropriation (Capital 2021–22) Bill 2021. I would like to start with a number of election commitments that were made in my electorate. Those members who were here in 2017 will know that my speech on the budget demonstrated that the prior eight years for the Kingsley electorate was one of famine, shall we say, because the electorate was delivered nothing. In fact, I went through the previous four budgets prior to the McGowan government's election in 2017 and found that not one dollar had been spent in the electorate on any kind of upgrade or infrastructure. I am very happy to tell members that that has changed dramatically. Through a number of community campaigns, we were able to ensure that there was a lot of investment in the electorate.

I will start with Greenwood College. When I was first elected, Greenwood College invited me to be on the school board, so of course I said yes. Within five minutes of the first meeting starting, I realised why I was there. There

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

had been no investment in Greenwood College in about 40 years. Although the teaching standards are exemplary, the actual buildings were falling down around the students and teachers, so we started a campaign to get a new gymnasium. Greenwood College is a volleyball specialist school, so that would lend itself to the school having a state-of-the-art gymnasium, but, unfortunately, the gymnasium at Greenwood College is not fit for purpose. I will use the wrong terminology because I am not a volleyball player, but when they spike the ball, it gets stuck in the roof because the roof is too low. It is not fit for purpose. They cannot even fit the whole school population into the gymnasium. I worked with the school board and the P&C and the students themselves. We had the Premier come down. We had the Minister for Education and Training come down a number of times. We even had Tanya Plibersek from the federal opposition to demonstrate the need within the school community. We also did a petition and an email campaign that I am sure got on the nerves of the Minister for Education and Training, but it demonstrated the community seeing not only the need for a new gymnasium, but also the needs flowing throughout the school. The funding of \$13.9 million that we have given Greenwood College in this election commitment is on top of the \$2.5 million that we gave it during the COVID recovery initiatives last year to upgrade the science blocks.

The \$13.9 million election commitment is to build a new gymnasium, or sports hall, as it is called nowadays, and utilise the existing gymnasium by creating a performing arts space there, which will then free up the current performing arts space for a new STEM centre. We can see how that will all flow through the school. Very unfortunately, the current performing arts and dance space has a number of structural poles in the middle of it, which will be great for a science building because we can run the electricity down the poles, but it is not so great when someone is trying to do contemporary dance in the middle of the room; it is quite dangerous. We will have a new gymnasium, we are refurbishing the performing arts space, we are creating a STEM centre and we are increasing student services, and then there is some money left over for some badly needed upgrades and maintenance around the school. I am very proud that we have been able to deliver this money for the Greenwood College community, but it certainly does not sit on my shoulders alone. The Greenwood College community should be commended for its engagement on this issue and its doggedness with me to make sure that we delivered for the community.

Greenwood was the beneficiary of a number of commitments throughout the election period. We are very happy to have announced a new Metronet Greenwood train station multistorey car park, which is valued at \$38 million. I know my colleague the member for Carine is very happy with that, as are the members for Landsdale and Hillarys. People in the northern suburbs use the train line to move north and south and into the city and back again. Having a multistorey car park at Greenwood train station will assist in ensuring that the public transport system is well patronised. The 700-bay multistorey car park is well needed at Greenwood train station. Although we can go there now post-COVID and get a car park, pre-COVID that was a major issue for not only the commuters on the line, but also the local residents around Greenwood train station. A number of them came to me early in my first term to talk about the fact that numerous people would park their cars on their verges before going to the train station because the train station did not have enough car parking. By providing more parking, we will futureproof that train station.

For members who have not ventured to the northern suburbs, Yellagonga Regional Park, member for Landsdale, is a beautiful and unique part of the northern suburbs. A number of electorates border the park and are in very close proximity to it. It is a little piece of paradise in the middle of suburbia. The Friends of Yellagonga Regional Park do a great job working with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and the two local governments, the City of Wanneroo and City of Joondalup, to maintain the park. But it really needed a bit of life injected into it to ensure that a variety of people could use the park. A number of colleagues and I got together to look at the different things that we would like to see in Yellagonga Regional Park. For my small portion of the park, one thing that the local community was looking for was activation around Luisini Winery. Luisini Winery is a National Trust heritage-listed building that was used for a number of years by the Luisini family. All around Madeley, Landsdale, Kingsley and Greenwood were vineyards that used to supply the winery. The winery has not been active for a number of years, but the building is still there, and there is a car park next to it. A number of young families came to me asking for additional playgrounds in and around Yellagonga. One of our important commitments was to build a playground near the Luisini Winery in the hope that eventually, if that place is activated, we would have some great infrastructure there. Part of the commitment was to put in boardwalks and a heritage and cultural walk around Luisini Winery. This is a really important part of the commitment for northern suburbs MPs. It is part of acknowledging that we have two cultures, or two lots of heritage, in the northern suburbs, as we do in the rest of the state, and using that to weave in a really nice walk so people can get to understand the two cultures that we have in Yellagonga. We have Aboriginal heritage and culture and European heritage and culture. Money was put into this announcement of a heritage and cultural walk also.

Although widening of the freeway was not an election commitment, it is a project that a number of us in the northern suburbs have fought very hard for. For anyone getting onto the freeway anywhere between Hodges Drive and Hepburn Avenue, it can be a very long drive into the city. That drive was made somewhat better with the widening of the freeway around Cedric Street, but for the members for Landsdale, Joondalup, Burns Beach, Hillarys and

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

Carine, and me, all our constituents pretty much drive into a bottleneck the second they get onto the freeway. This widening project is really important for creating a quicker commute for community members so they can have more time at home with their families.

A really important part of this widening the freeway project is the sound walls that are being built. I have spoken at length in this house about the impact of the freeway on the amenity of residents in Greenwood, Kingsley and Woodvale and the need for sound walls there. I referred to the fact that they were left out in the cold when the previous widening works were done by the former government and sound walls were not put up, or when clearing was done of the native bushland to put in additional parking at the train stations but sound walls were not put up. This is a really important part of the project and is another win for the community. My community really got behind this. I had 70 people turn up to a community street corner meeting. It is a little bit scary when 70 people turn up to talk about an issue, but it was really encouraging to find that we were on the right track. We knew that this was a really important issue for the community and we were trying to do something about it. I thank the Minister for Transport for listening to my community and for acknowledging that even though the freeway widening goes only as far as Hepburn Avenue that the installation of the principal shared path and a sound wall is imperative. I thank the minister for acknowledging that.

Some of the other important upgrades in my community were for the other local high schools. We gave a funding commitment for a STEM centre at Woodvale Secondary College, which was short of science rooms. That was a really important commitment so that it could deliver high-quality STEM education for the kids in Woodvale. Warwick Senior High School and the West Coast Secondary Education Support Centre are co-located in Warwick. Combined, they received a number of commitments. One of the most important of those for the West Coast Secondary Education Support Centre was funding of \$2 million to upgrade its pool and change rooms, which may sound like a small thing, but considering the implications for the students who have a physical disability and the teachers attempting to give those students a full secondary education life, having adequate change rooms available to them is very important. The co-located site is also getting additional money for a performing arts centre and will receive a STEM centre.

I am a massive advocate for youth in our community. I understand that a lot of the time youth get a bad rap for hanging round, for doing nothing or for causing trouble and antisocial behaviour and the like. A lot of the time that is because there is nothing for them to do. I had a couple of local kids speak to me about the need for an additional skate park in the City of Joondalup. They were keen to have it in Woodvale. At the last election, we made a commitment of \$250 000 for a skate park in Woodvale. Little did I know that skate parks cost a lot more than that, so this time we made a commitment for \$800 000 for a skate park in Woodvale. I am pleased to be working with the City of Joondalup on this project. It is important that we provide our kids with the capacity and drive to do something other than play computer games or hang around and get themselves into trouble. Often that is not their intent; they are just bored and hang around. I will always remember a quote one of the kids said to me, which was, "If your community doesn't have a skate park, then your community is the skate park." That was a great point. If the kids do not have a facility, they will create places to skate or ride a BMX or whatever it is. It is on us to make sure that we provide those facilities for them, because if they skate down our street and they get hit by a car or if they scratch someone's car, it reflects badly on them or they will be injured. It is up to us to provide them with the space to do these things. I was happy to provide this \$800 000 commitment for a skate park in Woodvale.

When I was younger, I was a scout, not a girl guide.

Ms M.M. Quirk: Dyb dyb dyb, dob dob dob.

Mrs J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI: I was too old to be a cub, but I was a founding member of the 1st Joondalup Scout Group, which I know the member for Joondalup engages with at times. Some of the most memorable moments in my life were being in the scouts and challenging myself, taking risks and learning resilience. The things that the scouting movement can instil in a child are to be treasured. I was pleased to be able to announce \$600 000 in funding to upgrade the Calectasia Street hall, which is where the Goollelal Greenwood Scout Group meets and stores its equipment. We gave a small commitment at the last election to create a better storage facility, but this will be a much-needed upgrade for the hall, which is quite old and badly in need of an upgrade. I am very pleased that we were able to provide that.

Last Saturday, I had the privilege of attempting to turn on the lights at Timberlane Park, which is a local park in Woodvale. Prior to the last election, through the good financial management of the McGowan government, we were able to provide the City of Joondalup with funding of \$165 000 to put in lights.

[Member's time extended.]

Mrs J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI: These are not training lights but game-quality lights at Timberlane Park. Anyone who lives in the City of Joondalup or who has children who attempt to play sport in the City of Joondalup will know that there is a massive constraint on playing fields there. By providing this lighting, we will actually extend the life

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

of the training facility or active playing field at Timberlane, because the older kids and adults can be scheduled to train into the evening because of the safety provided by these lights. We had a turning-on-of-the-lights ceremony last Saturday. Unfortunately, it was one of those moments when technology failed. I pressed the light to let there be light, but there was no light. Radley, who is the president of the Woodvale Football Club, attempted divine intervention. He told us to put our hands in the air and then asked us why we were doing that.

Ms M.M. Quirk: To make light work!

Mrs J.M.C. STOJKOVSKI: Thank you, member for Landsdale; many hands make lights work! However, that did not work either, so we got the mayor on the phone to get the lights turned on. I thank Mayor Jacob for getting the lights turned on and working with the state to provide this really great community project.

Upgrades are also being made to Warwick Bowling Club. Warwick Bowling Club is one of those bowling clubs in the state that is actually growing. It has a growing member base and great corporate bowls. It is a really community-minded club. Its members go out to Warwick Senior High School and the West Coast Secondary Education Support Centre to teach the kids how to bowl and how to teach other people to bowl. It is a really great community club. The City of Joondalup is undertaking quite an extensive renovation of Warwick Bowling Club, for which we were able to secure the icing on the cake—\$100 000 to help create an enclosed barbecue space that the club will be able to hire out to increase its financial sustainability into the future, and increase the club's lighting; it will go from having training lights to playing lights, which is very important for the longevity of the club.

I have lists and lists of all the commitments we made to our local primary schools. I am not going to go through them all, but will highlight some of the really important ones. Hamersley came into my electorate at the last election. I was really pleased to be able to make a commitment to Glendale Primary School of \$160 000 to upgrade the student toilet blocks. That is something they have been asking for for a while, and we were able to deliver it. I worked with the member for Balcatta, who formerly had Hamersley in his electorate, to deliver that for the school. We were also able to deliver a \$120 000 commitment to Dalmain Primary School to resurface its basketball courts. A number of schools received smaller grants for iPads, projectors, contemporary learning environments, rain tanks and nature play. One of the schools wanted an extension for the walkway cover near its undercover area so that parents would not get drenched while watching assemblies and kids could easily get around the school without getting wet. I was really pleased to be able to deliver all these small commitments to our schools.

Our community groups are also extremely important to the social fabric of Kingsley. I was very thankful to the Minister for Child Protection for coming out to the electorate to announce funding of \$16 000 to the Grandparents Rearing Grandchildren WA group on behalf of me and the member for Joondalup. The minister understands the importance of this group and the work that it does. That is clear in some of the bigger election commitments we have made for funding these grandparents, but this small election commitment meant that they could buy enough computers, laptops and phones to run their growing organisation. I know the member for Nedlands was not involved in that, but Grandparents Rearing Grandchildren holds a very special place in her heart, so I am sure she was very happy with that announcement.

A number of members in the northern suburbs have little athletics clubs that attend Kingsway Little Athletics Centre, including the member for Landsdale, the member for Wanneroo and me. We joined together to make a really important commitment to obtaining new timing gates for the Kingsway Little Athletics Centre. Given that little athletics is just about to start again for the year—our club started training on Monday night—this is really great for the Kingsway Little Athletics Centre to have these timing gates rolled out for the start of the new season.

I could continue for the next eight minutes because the budget, just in my electorate—I did not even get onto all the other great things the budget will deliver—is a really great news story, but I am aware that other members would like to make a contribution. I will conclude tonight by saying that this is a fiscally responsible budget that delivers on community needs, and we should be very proud of what the McGowan Labor government is doing for the Western Australian community.

MR P.J. RUNDLE (Roe) [8.31 pm]: I rise to speak on the Appropriation (Recurrent 2021–22) Bill 2021 and the Appropriation (Capital 2021–22) Bill 2021. This will be about the third or fourth time I have been on my feet today, so I will try not to extend this for too long, but I want to make some comments about the state budget—some positive and some negative. As I said at the start of my last speech, as regional members we are looking for equity in health, education, law and order, telecommunications and housing. Unfortunately, parts of this budget have been found wanting in that regard. The member for Kingsley said that after eight years of a Liberal—National government she felt her electorate had been left out and that there was not anything there for it; I know how she feels, because things are very thin on the ground for the electorate of Roe. I will return to that shortly.

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

I want to briefly reflect on the Leader of the Opposition's speech, in which she identified some real issues developing now that are very similar to what played out in a previous Labor government. Back in the early to mid-2000s, Hon Jim McGinty described the Royal Flying Doctor Service as a special interest group. That was the first sign of arrogance creeping in with that government. At the same time as the then Treasurer, Hon Eric Ripper, was posting surpluses, the state's health system was going to rack and ruin. We have exactly the same situation now. There is no real spending on our regional inland schools, nothing is happening with Government Regional Officers' Housing for our essential workers and there is no taxation reform. There is a real arrogance creeping in, and I am concerned. I would like to warn some of the newer members here about the arrogance that is creeping in. It is important that they take note of that, because the people of Western Australia are starting to see it.

I know the Premier has his 78 per cent approval rating, or whatever it is, but we can see the way our regional communities are being treated. A classic example is the way the communities of Manjimup and Nannup were treated with the \$750 million climate change package. That is exactly the same as what happened with that previous Labor government, which focused on the green vote. It banned uranium mining and genetically modified crops and focused on issues to appeal to its city-based green vote, when it should have been focusing on things like housing and the health system. It is quite incredible. I was really interested yesterday when the Leader of the Opposition gave her budget response. I just could not believe how similar it was. Then, to top it off—we saw it today—the electoral reform; reducing regional representation; one vote, one value; exactly the same as the Jim McGinty playbook. It is quite incredible. The health system; appealing to the green vote; reducing regional representation; arrogance; posting surpluses while the health system is falling apart. It is quite amazing to me. I was really taken aback with the similarities and the arrogance that is coming through. Those are some of the similarities that I have seen.

I am actually worried for some of the newer members, like the member for Warren–Blackwood. She has come in here with great enthusiasm, and then what happens? She gets landed with this package right in the middle of her electorate that she obviously had no idea about, and now she is going to spend the next three and a half years trying to patch up the electorate of Warren–Blackwood. I can tell the member right now that she may as well enjoy this term of Parliament, because I think the voters of Warren–Blackwood will be awake to it. The sawmilling companies that have invested millions of dollars, and the workers and the communities there, are not happy. We saw them out there on Monday at that rally. It might be okay for the member for Fremantle to appeal to the green vote in the seat of Fremantle, but I can tell members that it is not going to go down well in Manjimup. I pass on my condolences to the member for Warren–Blackwood, because she is going to spend the next three and a half years running around Manjimup, Nannup, Pemberton—all of those smaller towns—trying to patch things up. It is a real tragedy, because I sense some good enthusiasm from the member for Warren–Blackwood, but her ministers have let her down and they have let her electorate down. That is just a side issue, but it is something that blended in very well from the Leader of the Opposition's contribution yesterday.

I go back to the electorate of Roe. I have been trawling through the budget papers, and what have I found? I have found \$14.6 million to clad one of the iron ore sheds at Esperance port. That is the major budget item for the electorate of Roe. That is just a maintenance item for the port of Esperance. That is what I can talk about with the electors of Roe, "This is what you've got. This is what this government has given to you: cladding on the iron ore shed down at the Esperance port." I do not see that generating too many jobs. I am quite concerned, to be honest. Anyway, it seems to be one system for one group and one system for another. People who happen to be in an inland seat like Roe, Central Wheatbelt or the like are in strife if they are represented by a member of the opposition.

That is the major item for my electorate. There were some other things. One that I find quite upsetting is Esperance Senior High School. I have spoken about this before. Members opposite are going, "Look, isn't it fantastic! We've got the new performing arts centre in Baldivis happening; we've got this performing arts centre over here and this undercover area there." I tell members what, the students and staff at Esperance Senior High School deserve an upgrade to that facility. It is not up to scratch. Two-thirds of that school needs to be replaced. It is a real disappointment that funding has not appeared in this budget. On a brighter note, the Minister for Education and Training was in Esperance a couple of weeks ago to open up a previously announced project, the TAFE campus in Esperance. That was a good news story. Hon Terry Redman provided \$10 million from royalties for regions and Hon Liza Harvey provided \$10 million from Training and Workforce Development. It is a \$20 million project announced in 2016 and I congratulate this government for following through and completing the project. It was great to see the Minister for Education and Training there and that she went and had a look at Esperance Senior High School. She was there with Hon Shelley Payne from the other place and I strongly encourage Hon Shelley Payne, Hon Sandra Carr and Hon Darren West—all those government members—to demonstrate their support for Esperance Senior High School. I will not give up. I am pleased now that the Minister for Education and Training has seen the campus. Esperance Senior High School punches above its weight; the students and teachers do a fantastic job. Their ATAR results are fantastic, as are their vocational education and training results. There was a Beazley Medal winner there a couple of years ago. The students do a fantastic job and deserve some decent facilities. I will talk about that for, hopefully, the next 11 and a half months before the next budget—it is all I will need to talk about.

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

Aside from that, there are the agriculture supply chain improvements, which were included in the Minister for Regional Development's press releases covering every sector of the state. I gather there was some funding for electric vehicle charging sites. Unfortunately, we cannot seem to get cooperation from Western Power to put in a charging station at Ravensthorpe. That is another one. It is a good project but I am fearful because, at the moment, I would not want to drive from Perth to Esperance. I hope the network will improve. I know that if I have faith, those charging stations will be in place and Western Power will cooperate with the community of Ravensthorpe. The mining companies there are going well and are keen to support it. The Minister for Transport previously announced the Coolgardie–Esperance highway; it is good to see that going ahead. There is also \$2.9 million for a repeater tower to improve emergency responses. Since the terrible Esperance fires several years ago it has taken a long time for the government to respond, but I cannot emphasise enough how I look forward to improvements in communication after we saw the tragic loss of life, crops and farms from that fire.

I have to hark back to the royalties for regions program, from which the Liberal–National government delivered 113 phone towers. It still gets to me when I drive up Albany Highway from Katanning to Perth because there are probably still about 60 to 70 kilometres where I cannot get a reception. I am sure the member for Riverton would not accept that if it were happening in his electorate. I will certainly advocate for communities along the way such as Arthur River, Kojonup, Williams, Darkan and Bannister where there are patches. It is not good enough that on a main highway there is not coverage right through. The previous government delivered 113 towers, which was a great initiative from royalties for regions. I would love to see this government pick up the baton, rather than putting \$2 billion over the forward estimates into water and electricity subsidies and \$463 million from royalties for regions into running orange school buses. These are all items that should be paid for out of the consolidated budget. I cannot quite get over it.

That is the situation in Roe. As I said, there is \$14.6 million for cladding for the iron ore shed. When I hear about our election commitments, I hear about school undercover areas and those types of projects that government members have delivered. I would love to see a little bit of that drift into the electorate of Roe.

There are a couple of other things that I want to mention before I wrap up at this time of the night. Once again, our Minister for Agriculture and Food has been unable to acknowledge a problem soon enough and work out with the federal government a way to overcome the critical shortage of labour in the agriculture sector. There is a \$7 billion crop coming up: "No; I'm sorry. It's too hard." She has thrown her hands up in the air: "It's going to cost us \$20 million to staff the Bladin Village complex; we can't do it." The federal government said, "Come to Bladin Village. If you supply the staff, this is the place for quarantine." But no, it is too hard. I know what it is about. The Premier wants to play politics. He wants to blame the federal government. In September last year, the agreement in national cabinet was that every state would follow a process to get workers into their state, but, funnily enough, Western Australia cannot do it.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Balcatta! Minister!

Mr P.J. RUNDLE: The Premier needed to get a program up to national cabinet. He has failed to deliver. I am not sure, but I have a feeling that the agriculture minister was pretty keen on it, but it does not seem to have been able to get through cabinet because the Premier wants to play politics and turn everyone against it.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Members! Let the member for Roe finish.

Mr P.J. RUNDLE: It is very disappointing when farmers and people who want to get their crop off are ringing me every day. We have facilities to quarantine and the whole package, but we just cannot seem to make it happen. When I ask the Minister for Police about G2G passes, he just says that they need to supply more information. They supplied reams of information—places to quarantine and the whole package—but that is what he comes up with: "They need to supply more information." We want consistency and transparency. We want to know what the Premier is doing about trying to get some workers into this state, because, honestly, we have not seen any sign of life whatsoever on that one. It is a real disappointment for my constituents.

On a positive note, as the shadow Minister for Education and Training, I welcome the infrastructure improvements in some of the TAFE facilities around the state. Unfortunately, I also note that some of the improvements to the TAFE centres in Albany and Armadale are the projects that have been put on the backburner. I welcome any investment in our education system. Agriculture colleges are mentioned once in the budget, and it shows an increase in revenue. I am worried that the government is taking more money out of the agriculture college trust fund, which is used to buy machinery for all the ag colleges around the state. The ag colleges are a highlight of our education system in regional WA, so I really hope that this government will support them.

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

I am worried about relief teacher shortages. I said this afternoon to the Minister for Health that we have a crisis in health now, but I am predicting a crisis in education. I am worried about our teachers. I am worried about our Government Regional Officers' Housing shortage for our teachers, police officers and other government workers in the region, but what I am really worried about is the fact that after five years, five per cent of our graduate teachers are leaving the industry. I think that is a real issue. It is an impending crisis. In a couple of years' time, I can see that we will not be able to staff our classrooms, and all of a sudden we will have student numbers in our classrooms blow out because there are just not enough staff. I would love to see that addressed by this government. It has made the \$5.6 billion surplus. As I said earlier, \$2.4 billion from government trading enterprises has been withheld—so the normal dividend income from Water Corp of \$500 million and the like. That is \$2.4 billion. Add that to the \$5.6 billion, and there is potentially a surplus of \$8 billion. The surprising thing is that state debt is going back up to \$36 billion in 2024–25.

[Member's time extended.]

Mr P.J. RUNDLE: There is the biggest royalty income boost that we have ever seen, with revenue blowing out from \$32.1 billion to \$40.2 billion over this 12-month period, and our debt will blow back out to \$36 billion by 2024–25. I cannot comprehend it. I cannot comprehend what is going on there. It is probably smoke and mirrors, a bit like some of the other things that are going on.

I want to finish on a positive note. The patient assisted travel scheme has been boosted to help vulnerable people and the likes of pensioners or pregnant women to have someone accompany them to Perth or wherever they need to go. I thought that was a positive. As I said to the health minister today, the \$495 million mental health package is a very good thing for the state, because mental health problems are on the increase.

But I am concerned by the way housing scenarios are developing. I am worried about homelessness in places like Esperance and Narrogin, where there is a massive waiting list. There are houses there ready for maintenance, and this government cannot quite seem to make it happen. I will be working with the housing minister on that, because I know that the Shire of Narrogin and the communities of Narrogin and Esperance, and Katanning for that matter, are all very worried about the way things are developing. I have spoken to the Minister for Community Services at times about the great facility we have and Katanning for victims of domestic violence. I know she will one day visit Katanning and the electorate of Roe, and I look forward to showing her what is going on there.

As I said, the real worry for me is the pattern that is developing. This government is going down the same path as the Labor government in the early 2000s. I worry for the new members; I worry that they will not be around for that long!

Several members interjected.

Mr P.J. RUNDLE: I am! I am worried! The pattern is developing.

Dr J. Krishnan interjected.

Mr P.J. RUNDLE: I enjoy the company of the member for Riverton, but I am worried that he will be here for only three and a half more years!

Seriously, there is a pattern of arrogance and there is a pattern of a health system in crisis. To top it off, today's electoral reform is very disappointing for the regional communities of WA. I will be very curious to see whether the regional members of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly can put up their hands and say they are voting for a reduction in regional representation, despite the fact that they are here to represent their regional areas. I look forward to seeing —

Mr D.R. Michael interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mrs L.A. Munday): Member for Balcatta!

Mr D.R. Michael interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Balcatta!

Mr P.J. RUNDLE: — how they cope with it. I feel sorry for them because they are in a no-win situation. It will be career limiting for them if they put up their hand. You cannot do that in the Labor Party—it is not on. I worry for them as well. I look forward to seeing their response. I will wrap it up there.

MS E.L. HAMILTON (Joondalup) [8.55 pm]: It is an honour as the member for Joondalup to rise and make a contribution to the debate on the Appropriation (Capital 2021–22) Bill 2021 and the Appropriation (Recurrent 2021–22) Bill 2021. I am so proud to stand here today to share with members a snapshot of where Joondalup is now and the direction in which it is headed with the McGowan Labor government's strong leadership.

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

The 2021–22 WA state budget will deliver for all Western Australians. It is a budget that is the result of Labor's financial discipline and strong leadership. We now have an economy that not only has outperformed the rest of the nation, but also is one of the strongest in the world. Importantly, this budget delivers for the Joondalup community. Despite the biggest global economic shock in decades, more Western Australians now have a job than ever before; in fact, 107 000 jobs have been created since the McGowan government came to office. The McGowan Labor government has used its strong surplus position to fund important projects and initiatives, many of which will well and truly set up Joondalup as the second CBD of Perth. The Joondalup community is strong and thriving. I commend the Premier; Treasurer for delivering this great budget.

Upon considering my contribution today, I thought deeply about the long-term future of Joondalup and I built a vision for my electorate. What I must state first is that Joondalup is a place of immense opportunity. I often say that Joondalup is a young city, but it is maturing and so is its local economy. Joondalup boasts the Ocean Reef marina; Joondalup Resort; Quest Joondalup; the premier Joondalup Learning Precinct, which includes Edith Cowan University, North Metropolitan TAFE and the Western Australia Police Academy; the Quadrangle, which is home to Edith Cowan College, Electrical Group Training and a range of businesses employing hundreds of local people; Joondalup Business Park; Yellagonga Regional Park, our Kings Park of the north; and Joondalup Health Campus, which I will talk about in a moment.

Joondalup is home to world-class primary and secondary schools with quality teaching staff, education assistants and administration staff, who are nurturing the leaders of tomorrow. With McGowan's Metronet Yanchep rail extension on track, we have the transport links to connect the population north of Joondalup to the Joondalup city centre. That, too, will continue to boost our local economy. Our city centre has unique potential in that Lakeside Joondalup Shopping Centre is directly connected to our public transport system. Joondalup's infrastructure in our growing north metropolitan region is setting the stage for Joondalup and our northern suburbs to emerge as WA's coast city community. We know that the northern suburbs are booming; it is one of the fastest growing regions in Australia. The Western Australian Planning Commission estimates that the population of the region will grow by 39 per cent to 395 000 people by 2030 and to 740 000 by 2050. We have a population that prides itself on having a broad and successful culturally diverse society, with more than one-third of residents living in Joondalup having been born overseas. Diversity makes Joondalup a place of opportunity. Like me, many people live and work locally and are raising their families in Joondalup. As a government, we are investing—and we will continue to do so—in the future of the WA economy so that our families and kids have strong futures here in WA. Proudly, as the local member for Joondalup, I have a vision that Joondalup is on the trajectory of being a place to not only do business, but also raise your family, realise your aspirations and work to achieve your full potential.

Joondalup is a destination where people will be set for life. It is a location that will contribute to the diversification of the WA economy in a meaningful way, with its contribution to the digital economy, particularly the cybersecurity industry. As a member of the state government, I look forward to working with my community to continue to invest in and grow Joondalup. Our government recognises this potential and we are seeing this investment continue to be put into Joondalup.

As I mentioned, we have a local economy that is full of potential and could be a major economic powerhouse in Western Australia. With works underway on major upgrades to our hospital, our major transport network and significant state government projects like Ocean Reef Marina, we are definitely putting Joondalup on the map and creating a world-class destination.

Joondalup residents will benefit from WA Labor's focus on local jobs. Local jobs in Joondalup are also found beyond the array of quality infrastructure in the business precincts that it boasts. With the Western Australian government developing cybersecurity capabilities, cyber and innovation is one of the emerging future industries in Joondalup. Interestingly, Joondalup is very similar in size and location, with similar infrastructure, to Silicon Valley in the United States, a place synonymous with the rise of the computer and electronics industry, as well as the emergence of the digital economy and the internet. I want to see Joondalup become known as the Silicon Valley of Australia. Our local Joondalup economy needs to continue to grow. It cannot afford to stagnate and, with that, we need to harness the immense opportunities in cyber and innovation. We are already considered to be a world leader in the cybersecurity area with the work that is being done at Edith Cowan University. In 2017, the McGowan government delivered on its commitment, unveiling a \$16.7 million new industries fund to create Western Australian jobs through innovation. One of the first initiatives to be supported by the fund was \$800 000 for a Joondalup innovation hub, which brings together the public, private and research sectors to work in an area of existing strength for Western Australia: cybersecurity.

In 2018, a Western Australian node of the federally funded, industry-led AustCyber organisation was established at this Joondalup innovation hub, demonstrating the strength of the local cybersecurity industry. In 2019, the North Metropolitan TAFE in Joondalup at the Kendrew campus received \$356 000 for upgrades to support the creation of a cybersecurity operation centre, which included a hacker and defender room, and a control room. In 2020,

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

the McGowan government's 50 per cent cut to TAFE fees was having a positive impact, with data showing that certificate IV in cyber security had seen 114 additional enrolments, equating to an 85 per cent increase in participation in this course. In addition, \$1.8 million in funding in the 2020–21 budget was allocated for the establishment of the WA government's Cyber Security Operations Centre, which is now in operation.

Earlier this year, I attended the opening of the Sapien Cyber offices located within the recently opened ECU science building. Notably, this building also contains the Cyber Security Cooperative Research Centre, the WA AustCyber Innovation Hub, the Western Australia Police Force technology crime services, ECU's defence research and engagement, and securing digital futures research themes, the school of science teaching labs, and a whole host of other locations. As recently as last month, I joined the launch of Western Australia's newest and most exciting cluster, RoboWest. RoboWest is a cluster of robotics and automation, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and data science in Western Australia, with a focus on promoting the growth of the supply chain, developing skills and education, timely regulatory reform, and assisting businesses to develop.

Cybersecurity capability in Joondalup is a real asset nationally. Cyber is a growing industry and will shape our local economy. According to AustCyber, Australian cybersecurity is expected to grow to a \$6 billion industry within the next 10 years, creating an additional 11 000 technical-related jobs. With 1.8 million jobs in the cyber industry expected in Australia over the next five years, now is the time to continue to support the growth of this industry locally. Cyber is a future industry that is creating jobs now and will continue to do so into the future.

We often talk about the jobs of the future, which are yet to be created, and how the young people of today will have, perhaps, between five and seven careers in their lifetime. In Joondalup, we started this conversation to build on this opportunity in cyber and innovation. In May this year, I represented the Minister for Lands, Hon Tony Buti, at the City of Joondalup's business breakfast forum, talking about how we are shaping our economic future in Joondalup.

One of the prevalent conversations centred around whether Joondalup is adapting to the changes.

The City of Joondalup often talks about its intention for Joondalup to become a digital city. All levels of government will need to work together to achieve this goal of harnessing our digital capabilities and ensuring we are leading the way and creating the footprint of what will be a powerhouse of cyber and innovation and creating pathways into these jobs of the future in Joondalup. As a start, I want to see us taking the lead in looking to how we will be nurturing the workforce that will be needed to support this new and emerging industry. This will require a seamless education transition, particularly for students wishing to study cyber for a job in the industry. We need a pathway where students have strong introductions to science, technology, engineering and mathematics in primary school, specialisation in cyber subjects at secondary school, with the pathway to continue studies at TAFE and, for those students who wish, to continue tertiary studies at university. This path has already well and truly been embarked upon.

Funding is provided in the state budget for 9 000 secondary student places for students to participate in a range of approved vocational education and training courses over the course of the budget, with 1 000 of those being delivered in 2021. I know that the availability of cyber certificate courses will benefit local high schools in my electorate. I feel that high schools like Ocean Reef Senior High School are well suited to benefit from investment such as this in student studies. I am also happy with our announcement of a VET taster program in year 9. It will enable students to consider career choices earlier, as we know that these vocational course trials are pathways to skilled jobs. Year 9 is the right time for consideration to be given. As a mum of two teenagers—one 13 and one 16—I know that this is the time when students start to make their subject selections. We need specialists in this field to ensure we have the workforce that can tackle current challenges and those that will emerge in the future.

We have to respond, adapt and innovate with the times that we are in and where we are going. The traditional ways of doing business and operating are changing. Gone are the days of business as usual or going about things the way we have always done. COVID has presented many challenges, but with those challenges come many opportunities. Disruptive thinking is a concept that has come about as a consequence of COVID and is full of opportunities. For the industries of the future, disruptive thinking is an immense opportunity that needs to be embraced at every level.

Our government flexed and moved in the nimblest of ways at the beginning of the COVID outbreak. Our education systems rapidly transitioned to online learning in the early stages of COVID. Zoom meetings are now a usual way of operating. Our healthcare system is enabling different ways of thinking and providing health care. With a steadily ageing population, the staff who care for them are bridging gaps with robotics, artificial intelligence and digital innovation. Flexibility in the workplace is being embraced. The way we approach the workforce of today can best be done in an environment of disrupted thinking. Now is the time to ask and ponder: how can it be done better, how can we respond, how can we adapt and how can we innovate?

When students in my local schools start to think about subject selection, the age-old question, which makes every teenager cringe, will often be put; that is, what do you want to be when you grow up? Most students are no longer

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

able to answer that question as there is no way of knowing what options will truly be available to them. Instead, the driving questions are: what challenges do you want to fix, what change do you want to see, and how can it be done better?

The world is becoming digital, and future growth relies on strong connectivity. With over 13 000 local businesses in the City of Joondalup, I understand that many challenges arise when navigating keeping a business afloat. I have mentioned before in this place that I am the daughter of a nurse and an accountant. In my early years, my father became a small business owner in a number of areas. I was brought up in a household that relied on the income of these businesses. Throughout my teenage years, and even during my tertiary studies, I became more involved in the family business. Today, as the member for Joondalup, I understand how small businesses need to pivot and move. I am actively involved in our business community.

Local businesses face a number of challenges, including how they can keep pace with the digital world. This includes operating back-of-house information in the digital space and ensuring that information, data and business systems are kept safe and secure. I am very interested in the way that businesses are able to navigate this challenge. We know that data on the cost of cybercrime to small businesses in Australia, and even in WA, is quite difficult to measure. However, I know that many small businesses in my electorate have been victims of cyber attacks. One in particular was held to ransom and their business was decimated. Cybersecurity for a small business is a current challenge and one that I will continue to raise awareness of, particularly given our capabilities.

Physical connectivity is another key to a thriving CBD. We have a unique city centre in Joondalup with a public transport network quite literally on our doorstep. We have seen a record investment in major transport projects across WA, including \$5.7 billion in 15 Metronet projects. The one that is particularly relevant to my electorate is the Yanchep railway line extension. We will see \$11.7 billion in road projects and upgrades delivered over the next four years. We have implemented a cap on the cost of train and bus tickets to a standard two-zone fare, which will save some northern suburbs residents hundreds of dollars each year. Locally, I am working hard to deliver better community connectivity that will enable Joondalup to grow. In my first term, local residents raised the idea of an electric CAT bus trial in Joondalup. I presented the idea to the Minister for Transport, and I am pleased that Perth's first electric CAT buses are soon to start rolling through Joondalup, and I am looking forward to working on this issue more broadly.

Investment in health is at the fore of this budget. Speaking of creating local jobs and valuable infrastructure, recently it was great to see firsthand, alongside Deputy Premier; Minister for Health Roger Cook, that the progress on the \$256.7 million Joondalup Health Campus expansion is well underway. Progress on the development of stage 2 of the project, which has moved to the construction stage for the last of the remaining work, is a priority for me in Joondalup. The McGowan Labor government is putting patients first and delivering on its commitments. The construction of a new 12-bay influenza-like illness unit as part of the emergency department expansion is nearing completion. The expansion will increase the hospital's capability to safely manage patients with infectious diseases, including COVID-19. The emergency department works, including the behavioural assessment urgent care clinic, is due to be completed early next year. Construction to expand the capacity of the multistorey car park by an additional 215 parking bays is well underway. With 72 per cent of staff who work at Joondalup Health Campus living in the local catchment area, I know that these upgrades are welcome.

I am always out and about in the community talking with locals, and it is clear that these challenging times have brought with them mental health challenges. The conversations that keep arising are about the challenges faced by young people in our community.

[Member's time extended.]

Ms E.L. HAMILTON: That is why I am very pleased to see in this state budget a record investment of \$495 million to boost mental health services, which includes \$129.9 million for youth mental health services and initiatives. As part of the upgrades that are happening at Joondalup Health Campus, there will be 32 new acute mental health inpatient beds, 12 emergency department bays, additional inpatient beds, critical care beds, an operating theatre and a catheterisation lab. We will also have the specialised urgent care clinic, like I mentioned, and parking bays. I am also looking forward to making sure that at our local hospital we support young people who are facing mental health challenges. Further to the investments and the upgrades that are happening, we have already seen a \$7.1 million investment for a new mental health observation area; \$5 million for a 12-bed comprehensive stroke unit; and \$1.9 million for five interim palliative care beds, which I hope will soon become permanent. The expanded hospital facilities will create hundreds of construction jobs and there will be real benefits for our communities. Particularly in these times, I feel that the health and wellbeing of our friends, family and community is what matters most. Joondalup Health Campus has one of the busiest emergency departments in Australia and is one of the largest hospitals in WA in one of the fastest-growing regions in Western Australia. We are delivering on these major

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 15 September 2021] p3999b-4015a

Mrs L.A. Munday; Ms Christine Tonkin; Ms Hannah Beazley; Mrs Jessica Stojkovski; Mr Peter Rundle; Ms Emily Hamilton

upgrades to meet the growing demands and to ensure that locals can receive the quality health care they need close to home.

I must also acknowledge that Joondalup Health Campus has been at the forefront in dealing with the COVID pandemic. The agility with which the hospital dealt with patients from the *Artania* and other cruise ships at the onset of COVID and the way it has continued throughout the time we have faced COVID, is to be highly commended. I would like give thanks to each and every one of the hardworking hospital staff—nurses, doctors and administration staff—who has worked and continues to work at the Joondalup hospital, and to those throughout our entire healthcare system, we say thank you.

Further to the government's investment in health, I also am pleased to see that we are continuing to invest in training opportunities in the health sector, particularly through the two new free skill sets that have been added to the certificate III pathology collection course through the Lower Fees, Local Skills initiative available through North Metropolitan TAFE. These were implemented to meet urgent demand for trained pathology and COVID-19 specimen collectors. Pathology workers are in high demand and they play a frontline and crucial role in WA's COVID-19 response. Free for everyone, the short course has been developed in consultation with industry and delivers highly transferrable skills to prepare participants for work in hospitals, outpatient clinics, GP clinics and a range of other healthcare settings. Further in 2019, the health and wellness training centre at the North Metropolitan TAFE McLarty campus underwent a major refurbishment, with \$950 000 allocated there. The allied health and social assistance training areas at the campus have also undergone a \$1.85 million refurbishment, which is assisting WA to meet the skilled workforce needs of the NDIS rollout. These facilities delivered by the McGowan Labor government enable students to develop hands-on skills, a critical part of our work in boosting jobs and opportunities in this state.

It would also be remiss of me in making a contribution to the appropriations bill not to provide the house with an update on the progress of the very exciting Ocean Reef marina project. Work is on track. The Hodges Drive extension has been opened. The outer seawalls are being constructed. I am very happy to see that there are onsite learnings happening, and connections with local schools.

The time I have to contribute to this debate today is simply not long enough to address all the projects that are being delivered in Joondalup to our local schools, sporting groups, community groups and much more, but they are significant. I want to thank the local community for placing their trust in me for a second term. I am going to continue to work to ensure that they are represented in this Parliament. I would like to commend the 2021 budget to the house.

Debate adjourned, on motion by Mr D.R. Michael.

House adjourned at 9.15 pm