



Speech by

PHIL REEVES

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

Hansard 1 May 2001

SOUTH EAST BUSWAY

Mr REEVES (Mansfield—ALP) (10.20 a.m.): The largest single public transport project ever undertaken by a state government opened for business on the weekend. The new South East Busway has been very well received by the Mansfield electorate and will grow even further in popularity as more people realise that a state-of-the-art transport network is at their fingertips. It is indeed a new era of public transport in southern Brisbane. As someone who has travelled on buses my entire life, I know that commuters have been crying out for reliable and efficient public transport, and now we have it.

My electorate has never had the luxury and efficiency of trains. The new busway will simply revolutionise public transport usage on the south side. To illustrate how efficient this bus service is, this morning at 7.40 a.m. I caught bus No. 136 from the Garden City busway station. At 7.55 a.m. I was here in Parliament House talking to the member for Stafford—that is, 12 minutes of travel and three minutes to walk from the city centre to Parliament House. It took me 15 minutes to get from Garden City to Parliament House. It will only take 18 minutes from Eight Mile Plains to the city—a trip which used to take an hour. I had the pleasure of being the first paying customer at 5.07 a.m. yesterday morning. I table the tickets for the information of the House.

While I have the opportunity, I want to express my thanks to the residents of my electorate living alongside the busway. I thank them for their patience during the past few years of construction and thank them for their cooperation. We now have a sophisticated, highly developed public transport system. I congratulate all those who worked on the SET project: Barry Gyte and Don Steele, and particularly Bruce Poyser and Joe Fresta, who were of great help to me. I congratulate the minister and his department for providing an excellent service and for delivering the busway on time to the people of my electorate. As I said earlier, this will revolutionise public transport usage. It will be great for the environment and great for public transport. I look forward to making further trips to Parliament House on the South East Busway.

Time expired.
