

## Speech

House of Assembly - Tuesday, 7 June 2011, Page 3976  
**ADELAIDE OVAL REDEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT BILL**

Mr BROCK (Frome) (16:13): First, I would like to congratulate the minister on the job he has done so far with getting this up to where it is in this house. However, just going back a bit, both sides of politics at the last general election went to the general public with an oval as part of their program. The Labor Party went through with the redevelopment of Adelaide Oval and the opposition went through with an enclosed stadium. They both went to the public itself with the same thing but at different venues. Both of those would have been in excess of \$500 million. The government has now capped it at \$535 million.

Ms Chapman: We are. We're going to cap it.

Mr BROCK: You are. We in this house will be capping that at \$535 million all up. In relation to the opposition's undercover one, it has been mentioned before that an undercover stadium would have been great. However, there is really an unknown factor on that one there.

I am a great follower of football. I follow the Crows, and the member for Morphett is correct: if the Adelaide Crows and Port Power do not start winning, then we will not have anybody coming to this new facility. I am a great lover of football. I am a great lover of cricket and we do need a great facility to be able to have those sports being played there, to be safe for the players and also have great surrounds and comfort for the paying public because it is the paying public who make or break the sporting venues.

As the member for Fisher has already indicated, this venue will go ahead. The Labor Party won the election. It has the mandate and this will go forward.

Mr Pengilly interjecting:

Mr BROCK: They won the election, and they have formed government. They have the opportunity to be able to get this through and, as the member for Finnis has indicated, we need to make certain that we get this right. However, I have done a survey in my electorate. When this first came up, obviously, from a country member's point of view, I got a lot of flack, and I have to stand here today and support my electors out there.

I believe that the redevelopment of the Adelaide Oval (and this has been mentioned on many occasions) would be nice to have, but there are lots of other issues confronting this state, out there in regional parts of South Australia, that really need attention. They need roads and lots of stuff out there. It is like my own home budget—there are lots of things I would like to do but there are priorities I have to maintain, and I have to keep telling my partner Lyn that. The fact is she thinks she is in charge of the household, and she is.

Mr Pengilly interjecting:

Mr BROCK: She takes notice of me nothing! However, there are certain things we have to put back into the budget, and we have to plan and program for those things—and I think the Adelaide Oval redevelopment should be one of those things. We should be able to get all our other infrastructure up not only in the city of Adelaide but also in regional South Australia. The priorities must take precedence over lots of issues—not only for the state government but also in our own household. As I said earlier, in relation to the Adelaide Oval redevelopment, we would love to be able to have that oval up and running and also have all the facilities in the country areas completed.

I want to elaborate on a few things in my own electorate of Frome. As I said earlier, I have many rural state-responsible roads that have not been maintained for many years, and both sides need to take responsibility for that because over many, many years they have been allowed to deteriorate. These roads have been neglected, and I will mention a couple of roads.

The Gladstone to Yacca to Clare road—if anyone has travelled on that road, they would know that that road is an absolute disgrace, and that road leads into the Clare and Gilbert Valleys region. It has just been mentioned that they have increased their interstate and overseas tourism by a fair bit, and it does not gel well with overseas visitors seeing those roads. I would hope they will come back again, but they may not.

The Port Broughton, Bute and Kulpara road is deteriorating so much that the fact is that, when the grain harvest goes through there, they are finding it hard and it is becoming a danger. I will be talking to the minister on Thursday about the main street of Bute. The main street of Bute has now got to the situation where it is lifting and lifting dramatically, and DTEI has classified that problem as a low priority. However, I will be talking to the minister about that on Thursday, together with the local council. Also, in relation to the completion of the Tarlee-Kapunda road, in the first year I was a member of this house, I was fortunate enough to get 2½ kilometres of seal, and in this year's budget, another 2½ kilometres of reconstruction, but that needs to be completed.

There are other uncertainties in regional South Australia with regional health services. I know that the minister has indicated and made public that he will not close any further hospitals in the regions. However, we need the uncertainty to go away that the current services are not only maintained but improved—and that is a cost factor that we need to address. At the same time, I have been trying with the minister to get some extra money for the PAT scheme, which has been the same since 1971.

There have been long delays in replacing a noncompliant diagnostic mammogram machine at the Port Pirie Regional Health Service, and the money that is being spent on the Adelaide Oval could be used to replace that machine, but they keep saying that it is part of a whole of state contract arrangement. That machine has been out of action for 18 months. We also have long delays in the child abuse helpline because of the lack of staff or training in the Families and Communities Service. Again, the money for the redevelopment of Adelaide Oval could have been pushed towards that issue.

There have been long waits for people requesting Housing SA homes. What has happened there is that, over the years, those houses have not been maintained. So, over the last few years, governments have been selling off those homes to bring in more funds. We should be doing it the other way around. There is a waiting list and some people have been on the waiting list for five to 10 years. That is not really responsible government.

There is also a lack of infrastructure out in the regional areas, and I am not only talking about berths but also natural gas pipelines, road infrastructure and rail to accommodate the growing resource opportunities in regional South Australia.

Just recently, as part of its inquiry, the Select Committee on the Grain Handling Industry went to the Mallee area, and a couple of rail lines there have speed and load restrictions. Again, that is hampering the regional areas and processing of grain. It has been a record year this year, and hopefully will be next year, so that is another area that we should be putting this money into.

I want to talk about rural bus services. As soon as the number of passengers comes below the magic number of 10 on a bus, qualified or accountable, the service is cut off. I know of many schools that have been affected. Because their numbers have gone down to nine, the department has ceased the bus service, and I have had to talk to the minister's department on many occasions. To their credit, we have come to a compromise, but we should not have to do those sorts of things. These sorts of things should be maintained in regional South Australia because we deserve exactly the same as in Adelaide.

What I am trying to get around to is that the Adelaide Oval redevelopment is great. I think it is going to be a terrific thing for Adelaide itself and the sporting public. However, there are certain things in regional areas that we need to maintain, improve and give a lot more certainty to. I will be fighting for that as much as I can, and that is my contribution to the Adelaide Oval redevelopment bill.

