1 March 2005

A meeting this week of the Commercial Passenger Vehicle Board heard submissions about the continuing decline in wheelchair equipped taxis. Another three taxis have been withdrawn in recent months, and evidence was given that further reductions are inevitable without some financial incentive for this sector. The Board acknowledged the problem, agreed with the solution and advised that this had been conveyed to the Minister, Dr Burns, to no avail.

"It is obvious to everybody except Dr Burns that this essential community service will be in peril if the Government does not quickly come to its aid with financial support" Mr Dunham said. "Again we see the Government aren't talking the talk about its program for people with disabilities. These continuing platitudes are fast becoming offensive unless the Government learns to walk the walk as well."

Transport and access continue to be major priorities for mobility impaired people and are seen by many as a basic human right," Mr Dunham said.

Dr Burns should seek an urgent brief from his board on this issue and fix it. We should be aiming for more taxis for disabled people, and we are faced with the inevitability of fewer and fewer" Mr Dunham said.

MAKE HAY WHILE THE SUN SHINES - IT'S ALSO A GOOD TIME TO FIX ROADS

Usually at this time of year the potholes get bigger with Government claiming that the rain is stalling repair and maintenance work.

"The current unseasonal dry weather should be taken advantage of, and the contractors should be flat out fixing the mess on our roads: Mr Dunham said.

"This government has made an art form out of about boasting how big the capital works budget is. Assuming that this is actually true, and the money is available, I ask on behalf of all road users please patch up our roads" Mr Dunham said.

Hi Gary
Stephen asked me to email you these
Judy

Stephen Dunham can be contacted on 0417 857 003