



Tram slam smacks of arrogance

Joe Spagnolo ("Peace in our time for the city's sake," Opinion, Mar 1) outlines several of the issues that have brought both levels of government into the ring to thrash it out and in the main identifies that the "political" background of councillors and Lord Mayor plays a big role.

When one of our outstanding planners, Professor Peter Newman of Curtin University, provides significant support for the "Grand Tram Plan" which would make a critical difference to the movement of city transport and benefit a growing population, "Transport Professor Saffioti" attacks the idea and then proceeds to satirise several previous plans of the Perth City Council. Such arrogance is unbecoming to a State leader.

In contrast, without any consultation, Rita Saffioti has bulldozed any opposition to the Burswood racetrack to once again override any local government as she considers it an attraction to Perth and WA.

Hopefully, when the hordes arrive for the many events at the racetrack, they will be able to move around the city in a state-of-the-art tram system that will benefit all the community, workers, visitors and tourists. However, in the current political stalemate between the State Government, such forward

thinking will not be rewarded. Of course, if it was Rita Saffioti's idea . . . step aside while we get this done!

JOHN WILLETT
Jurien Bay

Healthy scepticism

The repudiation by State Treasurer Rita Saffioti to Lord Mayor Bruce Reynolds' suggestion for the introduction of a central city light rail



Trashing the trams

Saffioti rails that grand plan is 'a waste of money'



transport system does need a degree of reviewing ("Trashing the trams", TST, Mar 1)

Ms Saffioti stated that the tram-like project would be a "waste of money". There must be an interesting enigma, were anyone to cite the real value of two other Government enterprises, namely the Burswood auto-racing facility and Perth Bears NRL introduction. Most taxpayers would be of the opinion that none of suggestions should be enacted until after the health



system woes have been satisfactorily cured!

HARVEY PEARCE
Queens Park

The past reinvented

It is hard to believe that in this age people are really planning to turn the clock back to the 1950s when the city was clogged up with trolley buses and trams.

There is nothing worse in any city than public transport moving on fixed routes, which is why we got rid of them way back then! But, hey, this is a new century. Let's move on by reinventing the past! If our city needs more inner-city transport, then the obvious answer is more Cat buses.

PETER HITCHINS
Beckenham

In whose interest?

The war the world has been fearing finally came with the combined Israel-US strikes on Iran (TST, Mar 1).

It wouldn't take an Einstein