



Speech by

Hon. KEN HAYWARD

MEMBER FOR KALLANGUR

Hansard 26 August 1999

BRUCE HIGHWAY UPGRADE

Hon. K. W. HAYWARD (Kallangur—ALP) (7.10 p.m.): I rise tonight to highlight the lack of commitment by the Federal Liberal/National coalition Government to the six-laning of the Bruce Highway to the Bribie Island turn-off. The Bruce Highway is the main artery servicing the growing Pine Rivers and Caboolture Shires. As population growth in the area continues, the traffic situation will become worse unless that upgrade is completed.

Anybody who listens to the traffic reports in the morning—and I challenge members to listen tomorrow morning—will hear the announcer say, "The traffic on the Bruce Highway is back to Boundary Road and traffic is held up on the Dohles Rocks Road." That report is broadcast every morning. Boundary Road is the boundary of the Pine Rivers and Caboolture Shires. It is over 30 kilometres from Brisbane. Dohles Rocks Road is in the Pine Rivers Shire and is about three or four kilometres closer to Brisbane.

It is an absolute disgrace that ever since the election of the Federal Liberal/National coalition, momentum has slowed on the six-laning of the Bruce Highway to Caboolture. However, it would be churlish of me not to acknowledge some of the work that has been done. Currently work is being done to upgrade to six lanes the section of road between Strathpine and Bald Hills, and that is certainly not before time. Progress needs to be quicker and the commitment to Caboolture needs to be stronger, because the population of the area is expanding all the time and the roads simply cannot cope.

That commitment needs to be linked to money—real money. Approximately \$200m will be needed to complete the upgrade of the highway. The residents of the Caboolture and Pine Rivers Shires are taxpayers and they deserve the support of the Federal Government. They are not getting it.

Time expired.
