



Speech by

**Hon. KEN HAYWARD**

**MEMBER FOR KALLANGUR**

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Hansard 8 December 1999

**BRUCE HIGHWAY UPGRADE**

**Hon. K. W. HAYWARD** (Kallangur—ALP) (10.24 a.m.): I have previously spoken in this House about the horrendous traffic problems which are experienced on the Bruce Highway between Caboolture and Brisbane. Those problems were highlighted earlier this morning by my colleague the member for Sandgate.

In the last month, I have met representatives of the design and planning consultants who are working on the Bruce Highway project. The proposal is that the designs will be completed by February 2000 to upgrade the Bruce Highway to the exits and the entrances at Dohle's Rocks Road. Copies of the proposed design are available at my electorate office. A hard copy of the design is on permanent display at my office.

I was told that the tender for the construction of this stage of the highway will be let by April 2000, and the project will be completed by mid-2001. The cost of this stage is estimated to be \$35m. This stage will be difficult. It will mean that the Pine Rivers bridge will have to be upgraded to handle six lanes of traffic. Engineering options for widening the bridge will need to be carefully considered.

Traffic snarls and inconvenience will occur during construction, but the residents of Caboolture and Pine Rivers have waited a long time for this development and the project will be universally welcomed in the area. It cannot happen soon enough. On behalf of the residents in my electorate, I welcome this next stage.

However, more work needs to be done. The upgrade must proceed to the Bribie turn-off to relieve the choking traffic on the Bruce Highway. I welcome the progress of the highway to Dohle's Rocks Road. I look forward to a visit by the Federal Transport Minister, Mr Anderson. He will be most welcome, particularly when, after gaining a better understanding of the urgency of the problem, he organises more funding to hasten the completion of the task.

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