



Speech by

Mr BRUCE LAMING

MEMBER FOR MOOLOOLAH

Hansard 15 November 2000

SUNSHINE MOTORWAY

Mr LAMING (Mooloolah—LP) (11.10 p.m.): I make no apology for the fact that I have brought up my concerns regarding the Sunshine Motorway and the tolls on that road system 28 times since I have been the member for Mooloolah. This runs second only to my remonstrations on policing matters, which I have brought to the attention of this Parliament 78 times. In places like the Sunshine Coast, it is a tremendous challenge to even keep up with the growth rate, let alone catch up with the lost opportunities of the past. In relation to policing, we have barely kept up, let alone caught up with our disadvantage in police to population ratios. This is an outrage. But today it is road infrastructure that I want to talk about.

A number of my previous calls for road infrastructure related to the Sunshine Motorway. The current Government has, I believe, been punishing the Sunshine Coast and its residents because the former—

Mr Reeves: That's outrageous.

Mr LAMING: Yes, it is outrageous— because the former coalition Government dumped the most unfair tolls in Australia and gave our road back to us.

I have long been an advocate for upgrading and duplication of this quite good road system before the existing infrastructure simply clogs up. The roadworks within the Mooloolah electorate that need attention are, firstly, four-laning north from the Buderim-Mooloolaba Road; secondly, interchange work at the Buderim-Mooloolaba Road intersection with the motorway; thirdly, four-laning from Mooloolaba out to the Bruce Highway; and, fourthly, the commencement of the Kawana arterial as an alternative north-south route to the Nicklin Way.

A check of progress on these projects in both the 1998 RIP and the 2000 RIP is a cause for some concern. The four-laning of the Sunshine Motorway has stayed in the indicative forward allocations, which means that we cannot expect any work inside two years, despite my continuous calls to bring it forward. That is a disgrace.

The same applies to the interchange with Buderim-Mooloolaba Road. Four-laning of the motorway out to the Bruce Highway is still languishing as a network planning study. This, too, is a disgrace. Once again, despite my remonstrations, the first stage of the Kawana arterial, which is designed to ease the pressure on the northern end of the Nicklin Way, was to commence in the period from 2000 to 2003 period but now appears to have slipped out to 2005.

Mr Hegarty: It is the same throughout the State.

Mr LAMING: It is the same throughout the State. But tonight I am drawing the attention of the House to the Kawana Arterial in particular. The commencement of these roadworks was supposed to be triggered by the advent of 45,000 vehicles per day on the Nicklin Way through northern Kawana. We now have 48,000 vehicles a day on this road, yet the new road appears to be five years away. This, too, is an absolute disgrace.

I call on the Minister for Main Roads to stop punishing Sunshine Coast residents for their determination in throwing out the Goss Government for breaking its promise to remove the hated tolls and to provide us with the main road network that we deserve.
