



Speech by

Mr. R. CONNOR

MEMBER FOR NERANG

Hansard 2 March 2000

BUS STOP, BEECHMONT

Mr CONNOR (Nerang—LP) (7.28 p.m.): Recently Queensland Transport decided to move a bus stop to North Road in lower Beechmont. The only trouble is that little or no consultation took place with members of the local community, who were extremely upset. They held on a major protest because they did not want their kids getting on a bus at an unsafe bus stop. The position of the bus stop was on a steep incline on a curve and close to an intersection with a busy road. It was totally unacceptable to the local community.

They asked me to intervene, and I managed to get the Department of Transport to postpone the completion of the bus stop subject to a public meeting. The public meeting occurred, and the local community unanimously opposed the proposed position of the bus stop. They want it to go back to Gretty Lane.

As a result of that public meeting, a series of resolutions was passed, one of which was that no associated works would be completed until the Department of Transport restored the stop to its original site. Today I became aware that not only has the Department of Transport signalled its intention to have the associated work completed; it has dropped the form work out to the site. This is totally against the wishes of the local community. It is totally unacceptable. The community is up in arms about it. I am sure we will end up with a major protest in the future if this is not rectified.

What I am saying to the Department of Transport and the Minister is: intervene and stop this. It is against the wishes of the local community. They pay our wages, the same as public servants, and they have a right to be listened to. They do not want to put their kids on a bus at an unsafe bus stop. It is unacceptable. All that will end up happening is that kids will be killed. The Minister has the responsibility to move that bus stop back to where it was originally and look after the community.

Time expired.
