



Speech by

**DIANNE REILLY**

**MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA**

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Hansard 30 September 2001

#### **KURALBOO CREEK BRIDGE**

**Mrs REILLY** (Mudgeeraba—ALP) (7.04 p.m.): The Department of Main Roads is currently undertaking an environmental impact study and consulting with local residents and interest groups in an attempt to find the safest and most environmentally sound option for rehabilitating the crossing of the Kuralboo Creek bridge on Springbrook Road. In short, the government is seeking the best solution for all concerned. A proposed culvert option, work on which was due to commence soon, raised the concerns of environmental groups and many residents and uncovered a raft of conflicting opinions regarding the benefits of a culvert versus a bridge. Therefore, the project was postponed while further investigations, study and consultation was carried out, and this is currently under way. This is the process of good, responsive government. This is what happens and what should happen when government listens to the community and when constituents make representations to their local member, as was the case.

I have insisted that safety be the paramount consideration of this study and that any work required to protect the bridge from possible flooding during the upcoming rainy season is carried out, and I have assurances that that will be the case. But ultimately a long-term solution—the right solution—is needed to repair this bridge crossing and to rehabilitate the creek if we are not to see further flooding, further expenditure and further repairs in the future. In fact, I look forward during this consultation period to working with my local councillor, Councillor Ted Shepard, who has taken a deep and personal interest in this project despite it clearly being a state government matter. So concerned is he in fact that he took the federal member for McPherson, Margaret May, to Springbrook to show her the bridge, I can only imagine to garner her support.

I hope that he took the opportunity to ask the federal member for the funding which this regional community rightly deserves, because I want to know: where is the commitment from the federal government for this project, the rehabilitation of a creek which supports a World Heritage listed national park? Where is the federal government's promised support for regional Queensland when it comes to Springbrook Mountain? Why should Springbrook Mountain miss out on federal government support just because it is in the Gold Coast hinterland and not the back of Bourke? The truth is that Springbrook Mountain has missed out and has been neglected by a federal government and a Liberal federal member who is big on promises but cannot deliver. She is short on delivery, does not deliver for the Gold Coast and certainly does not deliver for the Gold Coast hinterland.

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