



Speech by

**Ted Malone**

**MEMBER FOR MIRANI**

Hansard Tuesday, 23 May 2006

---

## **DRIVER REVIVER PROGRAM**

**Mr MALONE** (Mirani—NPA) (10.29 pm): The Driver Reviver program that is in place throughout Queensland is an excellent program to create safety for the driving public, particularly during school holidays and public holidays throughout the year. The program attracts a considerable amount of sponsorship, and the facilities that are set up throughout Queensland for the Driver Reviver program are essential for combating fatigue when driving during those periods.

I would like to comment on a very essential Driver Reviver stop at Waverley Creek, just south of St Lawrence. It is located in a significantly dangerous area on the Bruce Highway between Rockhampton and Mackay. It has a history of major crashes and fatalities, and it is a snooze zone, I guess, between Cairns and Brisbane. It is about a 10-hour trip from Brisbane and about a 10-hour trip from Cairns. We are finding during school holidays and public holidays when people drive through St Lawrence-Waverley Creek that they tend to doze off.

I have a real problem with the Waverley Creek Driver Reviver station, as it is in a remote location. We have a lot of service clubs and volunteers serving in that area, sometimes up to five days at a time on a 24-hour basis. Service clubs like Rotary, Apex, Lions, Scouts and many other volunteers, including quite often young people from the schools, often volunteer their time. The facilities have not been upgraded for many years. There have been meetings with Transport to endeavour to overcome some of the problems. During summer the area that the volunteers work out of is very hot. It is a storage area in normal circumstances. It has no real ventilation and no fans. Indeed, to maintain the refrigerator in some sort of working condition they have to put a fan in front of it to keep the milk and goodies cool.

I will quickly go through the issues that have been raised with Transport. Volunteers require the removal of a tank on the eastern side of the building so that a large shutter or a window can be put in the wall so at least some breeze can flow through that section of the building. They require a window to be secured on the northern end. They need a new tank to be repositioned onto one of the shelters. They need an extension of the roof on the western side of the building for shade which will include part of the work area. They require the installation of a large rainwater tank. Currently there is only a very small rainwater tank attached to one of the buildings. They need a ceiling fan or fans of some sort in the work area. Permanent seats and tables in the rest area are needed. They also require the removal of all stock from the building that they are currently using. I implore the department of transport to look at that facility and upgrade it as quickly as possible.

Time expired.