



Speech by

**Shane Knuth**

**MEMBER FOR DALRYMPLE**

Hansard Wednesday, 10 March 2010

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## **MILLAA MILLAA-MALANDA ROAD**

**Mr KNUTH** (Dalrymple—LNP) (9.18 pm): This morning I tabled a petition with 2,764 signatories on behalf of the residents of the Atherton Tableland calling on the government to acknowledge the notorious intersection of East Evelyn Road and Millaa Millaa-Malanda Road, where numerous motorists have lost their lives and there have been many near misses. The petitioners therefore request the House to seriously address the upgrading and implementation of a safe, working and effective intersection, the introduction of lighting at the intersection, an emergency safety ramp for vehicles travelling from East Evelyn Road, the urgent introduction of slip lanes for separate vehicle exit and entry, increased warning signage before the intersection, upgrading and widening of the existing roadway, the introduction of road barriers and reflectors, the implementation of a reduction in the speed limit and improved visibility in all lanes.

This horrific and dangerous intersection has been in the spotlight throughout 2009, with historic records of death and carnage. The driveability of this road is paramount, especially coming down from the lookout which comes down very quickly into the main road intersection. It is also to be acknowledged that this intersection is on the edge of one of the Tablelands's highest rainfall towns, Milla Milla, and on many occasions is saturated by heavy fog, meaning that visibility makes the road almost undrivable. This is why it is so important that this intersection is upgraded. Almost 2,800 signatories cannot be wrong. During the launch of this petition, several Tablelands regional councillors and members of the public, including local rural firefighters, were there to show their support for the petition.

I am led to believe that this intersection was budgeted for years ago. The question has to be asked: what happened to the funding? Why has the government allowed these roads and intersections to get to this state in the first place? The Tablelands produces over \$1 billion in gross revenue and it is paramount that these roads receive sufficient funding from the review of Tablelands roads coming up in the next few months. On behalf of road users, petitioners and residents of the Tablelands, I call on the minister to provide sufficient funds to upgrade this intersection, once and for all.