



Speech by


Hon. Craig Wallace

MEMBER FOR THURINGOWA

Hansard Tuesday, 14 February 2012

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Roads, Infrastructure

 **Hon. CA WALLACE** (Thuringowa—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries and Marine Infrastructure) (10.13 am): Only the Bligh government has a plan to fix the Samford Road and Wardell Street intersection at Enoggera. We have already committed \$90 million to upgrade this notorious spot and I am pleased to inform the House this morning that we are now another step closer to the residents of Brisbane's north-west seeing a solution. The hardworking members for Ashgrove, Everton and Ferny Grove have advocated strongly on behalf of their constituents to ensure we get the plans right, and today the preferred planning layout has been released. The plan will see the average delay for traffic cut by up to 70 per cent in peak times. It means commuters will get to work faster, which can only be a good thing for Queensland's prospering economy.

Since July last year, the Department of Transport and Main Roads has been out in the community talking to locals about a draft concept plan. They have taken on board the feedback they have received and have made a number of changes to the original plan. One of the biggest concerns that residents had was the issue of rat-running through their local streets. To deal with this issue we will be putting in median strips to stop dangerous manoeuvres at Malcolm Street, Ardentallen Road and Cairo Street. Motorists have also asked for a cut in congestion and less waiting time. So we will put in additional and longer turning lanes on Samford Road.

This is a real win for local residents. I want to thank those local members who lobbied strongly. However, today there is a fly in the ointment. We hear that the quasi leader of the LNP, Mr 'Plan B', wants to spend \$60 million of state funds for the defence access.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! The minister will round off his statement.

Mr WALLACE: That is a shame. That is ripping off Queensland motorists.