




Speech By
Ros Bates

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Mudgeeraba, Roads

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (3.17 pm): Reedy Creek residents are increasingly—

Ms TRAD: I rise to a point of order. My point of order is that the Attorney-General is pointing to me saying Eddie Obeid gave me money. That is untrue and offensive, and I ask him to withdraw it.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mrs Cunningham): Order! Attorney-General, the member has found your comments offensive. Would you like to withdraw them, please?

Mr BLEIJIE: Withdraw.

Ms BATES: I will start again. Reedy Creek residents are increasingly frustrated by traffic congestion. Reedy Creek is an area that has experienced growth in recent years and the road network has not kept up. In particular, the roundabout at Old Coach Road is a source of great frustration. Firstly, all traffic that enters—

Ms Trad interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: That was offensive. I ask you to withdraw.

Ms TRAD: Withdraw.

Ms BATES: Firstly, all the traffic that exits the M1 at exit 85 passes through this roundabout. Significant numbers of vehicles enter the roundabout from Kingsmore Boulevard in the west, which leads to the primary entry point to the significant Observatory estate. Traffic from the south at Reedy Creek enters the roundabout as it forms part of the only route for motorists travelling from this area heading northbound to enter the M1. Additionally, all traffic heading southbound on Old Coach Road passes through this roundabout. Its four exits direct an extraordinary 6,408 vehicles between 7 am and 8.30 am every day. It is a known bottleneck. The congestion issues are compounded by the fact that the approach to the roundabout is dual lane until approximately 200 metres from the roundabout, where it becomes one lane. This is leading to road rage, as people are rat-running on the inside lane and jumping the queue.

Whilst only the M1 ramp and the roundabout are under state government control, we need to actively engage council on this issue. I have liaised with Councillor Daphne McDonald in this regard. I have had a number of suggestions made to me as to how we can solve this problem. As I have regularly been caught at this roundabout myself, I have also had plenty of time to consider the options from behind the steering wheel.

The roundabout could be divided to enable dedicated left- and right-turning lanes from the Observatory. Of the 4,000 cars coming off the Observatory, half wish to travel south. These vehicles are currently required to traverse five sets of lights and cross the motorway to do so. Opening up the

right-hand turning lane would allow traffic to go southbound down Old Coach Road to the Tallebudgera Connection Road. This would alleviate concerns until Old Coach Road is opened up at exit 87 at Bermuda Street. Putting temporary traffic lights on the south side of Old Coach Road would also allow the Observatory traffic more time to get through the roundabout.

For many years temporary lights were used to great effect on exit 82 at Robina Parkway to improve traffic flow and give motorists a fair go during school pick-up times. Councillor Daphne McDonald and I have discussed other possible solutions. Council has also acquired land which will allow Bridgeman Drive to be opened up to Observatory Drive. This will encourage parents who are trying to deliver their children to my three Christian schools to utilise this route instead of utilising the roundabout at Old Coach Road. The council is also negotiating to connect Old Coach Road to exit 87 at Bermuda Street. To achieve this end, a contribution from the Newman government is going to be required. I urge the minister to open up to these approaches. I table a map of the area for the benefit of all members.

Tabled paper: Map showing council controlled and state controlled areas [[2565](#)].