



Speech By Ros Bates

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

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ADJOURNMENT

Mudgeeraba Electorate, M1 Upgrade

Ms BATES (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (6.50 pm): I rise to update the House on the work being done to upgrade the most important piece of road infrastructure in my electorate, the M1 motorway, for the long-term benefit of local motorists. I was proud to announce on Friday, 7 March 2014 that the Pacific Motorway would be upgraded southbound from Mudgeeraba to Robina through a joint state and federal government initiative, utilising savings realised from the project to upgrade the motorway from Mudgeeraba to Worongary. This new project will result in a dramatic decrease in traffic and improved travel times for over 100,000 vehicles every day.

Works to upgrade this additional two kilometres of the motorway will see residents spending less time sitting in traffic and more time at home with their families, out and about in the local area or productively delivering for our economy at their workplaces. As the member dubbed the 'Member for the M1', I have fought long and hard for this motorway to be modernised for the benefit of our local economy and motorists. Since as early as 2005, I have been the voice of locals who have had to wait too long for the infrastructure they needed and deserved in the Mudgeeraba 'car park'. This hard work has paid off, as in the last few years alone we have seen the M1 upgraded to three lanes from exits 73 to 77, with the upgrade of exits 77 to 79 due to be completed by mid-2014.

I would like to thank my federal colleague Karen Andrews MP, federal member for McPherson, for gathering federal support for this important project and announcing this latest upgrade with me in March. I would also like to thank the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon. Warren Truss MP, as well as the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Scott Emerson, for allocating the necessary funding for this important project. It is heartening to see that with an LNP government in Queensland and a coalition government in Canberra, the significance of the M1 to not only local residents but to the Gold Coast and the state as a whole is undoubtedly being recognised. I will continue to work with my federal and state government colleagues to realise further improvements to this vital piece of infrastructure.

As always, with these kinds of projects, motorists can expect temporary delays as works commence, and I urge them to be patient and obey the road rules so that the upgrade can progress as seamlessly as possible. There is always short-term pain for long-term gain, but I am confident that this upgrade will be welcomed by our residents.