




Speech By
Shane Knuth

MEMBER FOR DALRYMPLE

Record of Proceedings, 17 August 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Dalrymple Electorate, Road Upgrades

 **Mr KNUTH** (Dalrymple—KAP) (11.53 pm): Yesterday I tabled a petition of 1,807 signatures for the upgrade of the Return Creek Bridge at Mount Garnet on the southern Atherton Tablelands. The petition calls for the upgrade and widening of Return Creek Bridge. The petition requests that Return Creek Bridge in Mount Garnet is widened to a two-lane bridge as a priority for the safety of all those who use this crossing. The bridge is too narrow for traffic it services and the give-way signs are regularly ignored by a large proportion of drivers. Locals regularly report near misses between vehicles and prime movers due to the narrow signal lane bridge, forcing vehicles into a dangerous situation on a daily basis. This petition calls on the House to upgrade the bridge as a matter of urgency to ensure the flow of traffic and the safety of all drivers. Return Creek Bridge is a B-double route and is renowned for numerous near misses. This is evidenced by the many skid marks on the road approaching the bridge which could be fatal accidents. Recently I inspected the bridge with department of main roads representatives and while at the site there were two near misses and a near head-on between a prime mover and a caravan. This route currently is being hammered by grey nomads and tourists and it is only a matter of time before there is a fatality. This is the only single-lane bridge from Ravenshoe through the inland highway to Emerald.

I also table a nonconforming petition of 38 signatures for an upgrade to the Foxwell Road turn-off at Malanda. The petition requests the installation of turning lanes on the Malanda side of the Foxwell Road and Collins Road T-intersection as this is a very dangerous corner. This is a key part of the designated B-double transport route servicing key agricultural production areas. Residents do not want a serious accident to be a trigger for something to happen. I fully support this nonconforming petition.

Tabled paper. Nonconforming petition regarding a requested upgrade to Foxwell Road at Malanda [[1300](#)].