




Speech By
David Crisafulli

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

M1

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (2.18 pm): I want to talk about something which is time critical in nature. It is important that we do not just place this on the record but also get a result before the end of this month. Currently the Department of Transport and Main Roads is conducting a review of what is now called the trial of a speed reduction—that is, the reduction in the speed limit on the M1 from 110 kilometres an hour to 100 kilometres an hour from the Logan Motorway interchange to Gaven and 100 kilometres an hour to 90 kilometres an hour between Eight Mile Plains and the Logan Motorway.

Why I would like to urgently put this on the record is that I do not want to see us rush into a decision to make this a permanent move because I do not believe it has been adequately trialled. Let me explain why. I have a group of about 100 residents whom I met while doorknocking during the election. They are everyday people. They live in all of the suburbs I represent. I asked them their view of the reduction in these speed limits. Some of them are vehemently opposed. Some of them believe it is a good solution, but there is one common theme amongst almost all of them and that is we do not really know if it was effective because it was trialled during a period when the volume of traffic was not what it normally was.

There was a traffic awareness campaign—call it a scare campaign; call it whatever you like—and one thing is for certain: during the period of the Commonwealth Games when the speed reductions were in place there was not the volume of traffic to make an assessment of whether this works or not. We were told to work from home. We saw a reduction in government services. There were ads of tradesmen on bicycles. We all remember those. Only essential traffic is what we were told. The people of the Gold Coast listened and they responded.

To suggest that the trial was adequate to know whether it was effective is, quite frankly, wrong. During the games I left Brisbane on one Friday afternoon. That is normally bedlam, as anyone who heads to the coast would know, and I got a clear run. It was like that all the way through. At one stage there was more chance of being hit by a tumbleweed than a truck: it was clear. Let us not pretend that this is a barometer, because it is not. I would urge the department, if it is going to consider making this permanent, to do a trial during a proper period, otherwise it was not a trial at all and people will be very cranky based on the feedback I have.

While I am on my feet, I want to acknowledge the member for Coomera on another issue local to the Gold Coast. We have seen another violent armed robbery in Ormeau, this time at Zaraffa's Coffee. The member for Coomera has been fighting tooth and nail for more police for that area. He is calling for 50, and he is right. We are not going to lie down on this issue. There is more in this space, but the northern Gold Coast needs more officers.

(Time expired)