




Speech By
Hon. Mark Furner

MEMBER FOR FERNY GROVE

Record of Proceedings, 18 October 2018

ADJOURNMENT

Ferny Grove Electorate, Traffic Congestion

 **Hon. ML FURNER** (Ferny Grove—ALP) (Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries) (6.09 pm): I rise to update the House on the Samford Road traffic study that was commissioned by the Palaszczuk government last year. Since taking office in 2015 I have been pressing the Department of Transport and Main Roads to make improving the flow of traffic on Samford Road a priority. Last year, after numerous requests from my office TMR conducted a major traffic flow study of a section of Samford Road. This was the first such study of this section of the road in a quarter of a century.

As part of the review I requested that TMR investigate fixing the bugbear of the Enoggera barracks entrance on Samford Road. This was an entrance that, members opposite may recall, was championed by their former leader, Campbell Newman. The Newman government spent a fortune on the Samford-Wardell upgrade, including \$4.5 million to take houses away and then put them back. They did not think to increase the signal time to get soldiers and support workers into the barracks of a morning. TMR considered my request as part of the new study and trialled an increase in right-turn signal time into the barracks by 10 seconds. Further, at certain times of the morning the signalling was run twice per cycle to improve traffic movement.

I am pleased to report that as a result of these signalling changes alone we have now shaved five minutes off the travel time between Osborne Road and Wardell Street inbound on Samford Road. That may not sound like much, but when you are stuck in traffic and late dropping the kids off to school, five minutes is a long time. This is the first tangible dividend from the review and a big win for Samford Road commuters.

I am pleased to report to the House that the election commitments made by David Greene, the Labor candidate for Everton in the 2017 election, have been delivered by the Palaszczuk government. Construction of the Everton Park Link Road will commence in 2019 and will connect South Pine Road through to Stafford Road. The project is long overdue and is estimated to cost \$26 million. This concept plan was provided by TMR in 2012, but it was not delivered by the Newman government or the current member for Everton. David was unsuccessful at the last election, but Labor governments do not play favourites. We just get on with the job and deliver for motorists and busy families, no matter where you live in Queensland.