



Speech By Michael Crandon

MEMBER FOR COOMERA

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ADJOURNMENT

Coomera Railway Station

Mr CRANDON (Coomera—LNP) (7.30 pm): I rise to update the House on issues relating to Coomera Railway Station. Recently, I wrote to the minister asking what he is doing with the \$15 million that the federal government committed on 18 May in relation to Coomera station. For the benefit of members, I table my correspondence to the minister.

Tabled paper. Email, dated 12 July 2019, from the member for Coomera, Mr Michael Crandon MP, to the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Hon. Mark Bailey, regarding the upgrade of the Coomera Railway Station <u>1909</u>.

Five weeks later I received a response from the minister, in which he says-

... park 'n' ride ... facilities will play a key role in supporting the future transport task.

He is absolutely right. The response states further-

As mentioned in my letter of 11 December 2018-

six months prior-

... the Department of Transport and Main Roads ... is undertaking a planning study to investigate opportunities to improve access to Coomera station, including PnR expansion and bus facilities.

It should be noted that any potential PnR expansion and bus improvements will be subject to further design funding availability and statewide prioritisation of transport infrastructure investments.

I table the response.

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 15 August 2019, from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Hon. Mark Bailey, to the member for Coomera, Mr Michael Crandon MP, regarding the upgrade of the Coomera Railway Station <u>1910</u>.

There is \$15 million sitting there from the federal government waiting for this minister to do something with it. What have we seen now? This is one example. I have a photo of one of the people who has parked in a particular location. I table that for the benefit of members.

Tabled paper. Photograph of a car parked under an overpass <u>1911</u>.

It is a very safe area for people to park. Indeed, just recently Queensland Rail told me that TransLink is no longer issuing fines because it understands the issues at Coomera Railway Station.

I wanted officers of Queensland Rail to meet with me on site so that I could show them where we could improve the parking—where we could probably get another 40 car parks out of the existing location. They could not meet with me. They referred me to the Department of Transport and Main Roads. I have been asking the minister for several weeks now to meet. His office keeps on saying, 'We'll get back to you.' In fact, I received feedback five weeks ago. The last response from his office was, 'We get a lot of emails, you know.' That is where the situation is at. I am still waiting, which is fairly typical of this minister.

But wait, it gets worse. The Department of Transport and Main Roads no longer issues fines, so now the Gold Coast city council has stepped in and people are copping fines from the council. I have an example where a resident was hit with a \$106 penalty. Wait for it: it says it is for stopping a vehicle on a footpath or nature strip in a built-up area. This so-called built-up area is inside the railway station area. As indicated, it is a perfectly safe location.

The bottom line is that that issue needs to be fixed. The minister has been given \$15 million to fix it and he says that any potential park-and-ride improvements are subject to funding availability. I say to the minister that the money is there. If the LNP wins government next year, it will fix Coomera Railway Station.

(Time expired)