



Speech By Tim Mander

MEMBER FOR EVERTON

Record of Proceedings, 16 July 2020

ADJOURMENT

Everton Electorate, Traffic

Mr MANDER (Everton—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (6.00 pm): I rise in the House tonight to discuss an issue that is causing great concern for constituents in my electorate. The state Labor member for Ferny Grove has recently announced, with the Department of Transport and Main Roads, that there will be changes made to Samford Road to allegedly improve the traffic flow along Samford Road particularly in peak hours in the morning. One of those changes is to stop a right-hand turn from Samford Road into Pickering Street.

The problem with this is that myself and constituents in my electorate who would be affected by this change were never consulted. As soon as I found out about it, after a couple of constituents contacted me, I wrote to the minister expressing my concerns about this. I also wrote to my constituents in the Gaythorne area who would be negatively affected by this. Since that time I have been inundated with emails from people in my electorate who are greatly concerned about the negative impact that these changes would have on them. Some of those messages include the following—

Not only has the local community not been engaged in this decision at all, this change also creates a significant disruption to the vast majority of local residents who live in Gaythorne and Enoggera.

...

Removing this ability to turn right will increase our travel times and fuel costs, as well as contribute more pollution.

...

I know firsthand that the latter is not viable as the traffic volume through Pickering Street is too high to make a right-hand turn. With access points for two schools, two child care centres, the train station, the sports oval for Mt Maria, and the sports grounds for the local football club,

. . .

Removal of Samford Road into Pickering Street will make it extremely difficult to return to our house on Lode Street.

Finally—but there are many more—

... will require a significant detour down Wardell Street and onto the South Pine Road exit ramp ... It is already difficult to safely turn right from the South Pine Road exit into Pickering Street and this will increase the traffic load at that intersection which has no traffic lights.

My constituents are very concerned that this will have a negative impact on them. It will make their trip home longer and more dangerous as they drive west along Pickering Street trying to turn into their streets looking into the western sun, a street that is already congested.

I am calling on the minister to stop this so-called enhancement they are about to make and to make sure there is proper consultation with those in my electorate who will be negatively affected. That is the decent thing to do. We do not know about it. We need to be consulted before any change like this is made.