




Speech By
Ali King

MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE

Record of Proceedings, 27 May 2021

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Pumicestone Electorate, Roads

 **Ms KING** (Pumicestone—ALP) (2.15 pm): When I was elected I promised to work hard for the people of Pumicestone, keeping them safe and rebuilding our local economy. I keep that promise every single day when it comes to the issues, whether big or small, that Pumicestone people tell me matter most to them. Right now we are working on plenty of big road projects that will get local people home sooner and safer; like the current upgrades to Bribie Island Road at the Old Toorbul Point Road intersection that, after a very wet year, are on track to finish in July; like the new project I championed to dual lane from Hickey Road to King John Creek on Bribie Island Road and recently managed to secure federal funding for; and our \$7 million upgrades to Beachmere Road where we have just seen a huge turnout for community consultation to hear from Beachmere residents what their priorities are to use that \$7 million upgrade funding. These are all projects that will keep Pumicestone people safe, that invest in key community infrastructure and support local jobs.

It is not just the big ticket items that make a big difference to people's lives. In this El Nino year hundreds of people have called, emailed, dropped into my office and contacted me on social media with safety concerns about long grass blocking intersection sightlines on local roads. By far the most commonly raised location is the Bestmann Road and Bribie Island Road roundabout at Ningi, better known as the site of the 7-Eleven. This intersection has repeatedly become a risk to driver safety when the height of the grass obscures the approaches to the roundabout for oncoming vehicles and blocks sightlines. I can today update residents that last week I took Transport and Main Roads officials to inspect the roundabout and see the problem for themselves. They agreed with my assessment of the dangers and have committed to finding a permanent solution that will bypass the roundabout of advocacy from the community and my office to TMR every time it rains and the grass grows long.

At the end of the day, I am here to work hard for the people of Pumicestone on the issues they tell me matter most to them. The LNP here and in Pumicestone may take the view that people getting to work, to school and home again is a little issue, but I disagree. It is that attitude that saw the LNP cut \$13.6 million from intersection improvements on Bribie Island Road the last time they were in government and \$1.6 billion from roads right across Queensland. It is that attitude that saw the Leader of the Opposition announce the very day I was sworn into this place that he would cut the LNP's pledge of \$3 million in support of a new Bribie Island bridge.

I am proud to be part of a Palaszczuk Labor government that cares about investing in our community, that cares about keeping local people safe, whether from COVID-19 or on their local drive to their shops, to their schools or to and from work, and I will always be proud to work hard for that.