




Speech By
Andrew Powell

MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE

Record of Proceedings, 24 February 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Glass House Electorate, Infrastructure Projects

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (6.25 pm): Tonight I rise to express my concern and that of my constituents around the way the government has handled the community consultation on the Bruce Highway Western Alternative. Let me be clear: we desperately need the Bruce Highway Western Alternative. I support it. It needs to go ahead. It will be a vital link between the Sunshine Coast and communities around the rail corridor, ultimately at Beerburrum, through the new city—it will be a city—of Caboolture West and down into northern Brisbane.

Given that stages 1, 2 and 4 of that project are entirely contained within the Glass House electorate, you would think that the local member would have been briefed by the Department of Transport and Main Roads. Sadly, that has not been the case. In exasperation, I wrote to TMR on 18 January. I followed it up on 2 February, requesting an urgent briefing so that I could explain what is going on to my many concerned residents. I have heard nothing, which has led me this week to submit a question on notice to the minister on Tuesday, imploring him to direct the department to provide me with that briefing. The frustrations only start there.

Stage 1 was between Moodlu and Moorina, through that important new development at Caboolture West. In isolation of the full length of the project, it seemed a kind of pointless exercise. They gave three options and, as former councillor Lynette Devereaux pointed out, it really did not make much sense unless you looked at the project as a whole. Also, engineers would have told you that there is really only one place you can cross the Caboolture River. Consultation consisted of drop-in sessions at Wamuran and Upper Caboolture and, to be blunt, they raised more questions than gave answers.

Stage 2 is from Moorina to Narangba. It is more defined, but that meant the first residents knew was a letter from TMR saying their property would be impacted. I met with many of the Springflats Court residents from Moorina, hosted by Wayne and Pam Morris—I thank the Morrises—and I really must commend them for the mature and considered approach they are taking to working with TMR, despite the way they have been treated to date. I also want to raise the environmental concerns of Herman Lanning, who rightly points out that this corridor has a significant koala habitat which needs to be considered.

Finally, stage 4 is Beerburrum to Moodlu. I start by tabling a document which shows just how vague TMR has been on potentially who is affected.

Tabled paper: Map depicting Caboolture and surrounds [218](#).

It is this shaded-out grey area which takes in just about all of Moodlu, the part of Caboolture which is in the electorate of Glass House and much of Elimbah and their hundreds and hundreds of residents. They have contacted me frustrated that there is literally no detail.

In conclusion, I reiterate my request for a briefing so that I can help Transport and Main Roads and my residents work through this process. Let's get this right. Let's treat our residents with respect and get the best outcome possible for the government, for the commuters and for the residents of Glass House.