




Speech By
Brent Mickelberg

MEMBER FOR BUDERIM

Record of Proceedings, 12 May 2022

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Sunshine Coast, Roads

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (2.12 pm): The Sunshine Coast is booming but state government investment in roads, rail and schools needed to support our massive population growth is simply not keeping up. Years of poor planning and chronic underinvestment from the state government means that residents in my electorate and right across the Sunshine Coast sit in traffic for far too long. Be it in the car park that is the Bruce Highway every morning and afternoon, on the dangerous bottleneck that is the single lane of the Sunshine Motorway at Mountain Creek or sitting in congestion on Claymore Road, Sunshine Coast residents are paying the price for a failure to plan and a failure to build.

It is not like this state government and the Sunshine Coast Council were not aware of these issues. In 2010—long before I was a member of parliament—the LNP deputy leader, Jarrod Bleijie, who at that time represented Sippy Downs and Palmview, told the parliament that a western access road onto the Bruce Highway needed to be urgently funded. Now, 12 years later, more than 5,000 residents have moved into Palmview but there is still one road in and out. It is totally unacceptable.

For years now, I have been working with developers and Councillor Christian Dickson, but I am frustrated by the lack of action from the Sunshine Coast Council and the state government in following through on what was promised to the people of Palmview and Sippy Downs. The Bruce Highway connection road was conditioned to be built and opened by next month. It will not be, and we still have no idea when it will even start. Residents do not care how it is funded; all they want is a road. The constant buck-passing must stop. The state government must take a stronger interest in the Sunshine Coast. We need more investment in critical infrastructure, and the state government can start by getting the road built at Palmview.

Every morning and every afternoon, Claymore Road is a slow crawl, with far too many cars travelling on the suburban road. The pain felt by Palmview residents is also felt by Sippy Downs residents who use that road to get to work and school. I have addressed this here in parliament with the main roads minister and with council time and time again. The cries for help from residents are clearly falling on deaf ears and the issue continues to drag on. The residents of Palmview and Sippy Downs do not care who is responsible for building the road; they just want to fix the current situation which results in them spending less time at home with their family and more time sitting in unnecessary congestion.

I am pleased that the Minister for Transport and Main Roads is here in the chamber. He needs to come up and tell the residents of Palmview and Sippy Downs when they will get the road they deserve—the road that this government conditioned would be built as part of a state government requirement. The Minister for Transport and Main Roads needs to come up to the Sunshine Coast and not hide in his little office down here in Brisbane—

Mr Minnikin interjected.

Mr MICKELBERG: He is not trolling on Twitter yet, but he probably is while I am speaking. We know he likes Twitter, but he needs to pay more attention to delivering for all Queenslanders and not just those in Brisbane.

(Time expired)