



Speech By Jessica Pugh

MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

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TRANSPORT LEGISLATION (ROAD SAFETY AND OTHER MATTERS) AMENDMENT BILL

Ms PUGH (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (5.28 pm): It is great to see this bill in its language support the move away from using words such as 'road toll'. As the minister says, the deaths and fatalities we see on Queensland roads each year are not the price we have to pay for using roads. We cannot put a price on the financial and emotional cost to our community each year of deaths on our roads. There are many parts of this bill that will be welcome news for my community, but let us start with the Jindalee bridge.

As we know, this bill will also allow road funding raised by the revenue sources contained in the bill to be specifically spent on road projects to improve the safety of sections of road on which accidents most frequently happen. In my electorate and, indeed, the electorates of Jordan, Inala, Algester, Bundamba and many more, this will be welcome news because many of our local residents use the Jindalee bridge daily. The Jindalee bridge is a well-known accident blackspot—a road location that has way more than its fair share of accidents. Indeed, it is a blessed day in my community when there is not an accident on this bridge.

The reason for blackspot status is simple. The Jindalee on-ramp was designed 50 years ago to 50-year-old standards. It is far too short an on-ramp for drivers to accelerate to the modern speed limit of 100 kilometres an hour, so drivers duck and weave and car crashes happen all the time. I am often approached by frustrated constituents asking why we cannot have a temporary approach that would improve the on-ramp a little while we wait for the project to be completed. The reason is that we cannot upgrade a project from 1970s standards to 1990s standards. Once a project is undertaken, it needs to meet modern standards. This is completely understandable. Under this legislation, projects just like this one—

Debate, on motion of Ms Pugh, adjourned.