




Speech By
Ros Bates

MEMBER FOR MUDGEERABA

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ADJOURNMENT

Mudgeeraba Electorate, Roads

 **Ms BATES** (Mudgeeraba—LNP) (7.20 pm): I rise tonight to give some good news about Mudgeeraba, because after 17 years there is no longer a Mudgeeraba car park! I first stood on exit 73 back in 2005, inhaling carbon monoxide fumes, begging Paul Lucas at the time to start upgrading the M1 from Nerang all the way down to Tugun. I also stood on the roundabout at exit 75 with John Howard back in 2007 when he announced matching fifty-fifty funding of \$500 million to eight lane the M1 from Nerang to Tugun. It is really great that after all of these years I no longer have a car park, but unfortunately Burleigh still does. It is really good to see this happen but, as I said, it has taken 17 years.

One of the other issues—and I wish the Minister for Main Roads was here to hear this—is the upgrade of Worongary Road. We have had almost \$12 million of upgrades on Worongary Road since I was elected over 13 years ago, but we still have one three-kilometre section between the Mudgeeraba showgrounds and Woodvale Drive. That is a really important stretch of road. Anybody who has come to the Mudgeeraba show knows that that is a very busy intersection when the show is on. In fact, pre-COVID we would take 40,000 people through the gates over two days. That is a stretch of road that I really want to see upgraded.

I am still waiting for the flashing approach lights to the intersection of Mudgeeraba Road and Tallai Road which were supposed to have been built early last year. I am also asking the minister to please change the current set of traffic lights there to a pedestrian crossing. Now the Gold Coast City Council have reconfigured the road at Old Coach Road and Tallai Road, where there was a lollipop pedestrian crossing which is no longer there, we can change that set of lights into a pedestrian crossing which will be much safer for the kids. Apparently the Gold Coast City Council are just waiting for the minister to knock on the door because they are prepared to build a footpath to the approach to it.

Austinville causeway is still the No. 1 issue in my electorate. When you see the signs and the Facebook posts that say, 'If it's flooded, forget it,' and there is a photo of a car going across a causeway, that is my causeway at Austinville. We have had the hydrology study done—

An honourable member interjected.

Ms BATES: Yes, absolutely. That is the photo. That is the Austinville causeway. We had the hydrology study done five years ago. The rains are coming again. I implore the minister to do something about the Austinville causeway before someone's car is swept away with someone in it.

(Time expired)