




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR BUDERIM

Record of Proceedings, 16 March 2023

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Palmview, Bruce Highway Link Road

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (2.36 pm): We have heard lots about the billion-dollar cost blowouts in Cross River Rail and lots about the Palaszczuk government's inability to deliver major projects on time—major projects such as the duplication of the Sunshine Coast rail, which my community was told would be finished last year but on which work has barely started. What gets less attention, but perhaps has even more impact on local communities, are the countless local road upgrades still stuck in the slow lane. I refer to important local road upgrades such as the Mooloolah River Interchange to fix the bottleneck at the Sugar Road and Mooloolah Road intersection in Buderim and building a Bruce Highway link road at Palmview. If completed, those local road upgrades would mean that Sunshine Coast residents could get to work on time and get home to their families sooner at the end of a long work day.

In Palmview, residents were told that the Bruce Highway link road would be open by June 2022. For reasons known only to the state government and the Sunshine Coast Council, that requirement was extended to August 2022 and then again to February this year. Work still has not been finished and now we hear that the state government intend to extend the completion date to August 2023. Given that the road was commissioned many years ago, it begs the question why this important road was not built by June 2022 and why local residents spend time and money sitting in traffic every single day as developers, the Sunshine Coast Council and the state government wash their hands of all responsibility.

This is all happening while the betrayed Palmview residents languish in traffic on a single road in and out of their suburb. Their homes sit in one of the fastest-growing suburbs in Queensland, but little thought was ever given to ensuring that important road connections were built in advance of the massive influx of population. It is inconceivable that the Sunshine Coast Council, developers and the state government did not anticipate the need for a link onto the Bruce Highway at Palmview when the original infrastructure agreement was signed. How those tasked with ensuring the around 5,000 residents in a master planned community such as Palmview did not foresee the chronic congestion that would result on Claymore Road without an additional road access is beyond me.

It fell to the LNP to fight for the Palmview-Bruce Highway link road, which was finally agreed to by the state government in 2016. Fast forward to 2023 and Palmview residents are still waiting. Palmview resident Teagan Lind has said that the traffic congestion that Palmview residents must deal with is beyond a joke and many agree. Teagan speaks about her husband commuting to Brisbane each and every day and the fact that a link road would take 20 minutes off his commute.

Government members interjected.

Mr MICKELBERG: Those opposite do not like to support the people of the Sunshine Coast but the people of the Sunshine Coast deserve the infrastructure that will support our population.

Palmview residents deserve better. Residents want to know why this project has been extended time and time again and what consequences exist to ensure that developers meet their obligations to build the Bruce Highway link road. Why do we need to fight tooth and nail to get information from the state government and, perhaps most importantly, when we will get the Bruce Highway link road at Palmview?