




Speech By
Jim McDonald

MEMBER FOR LOCKYER

Record of Proceedings, 19 April 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Lockyer Electorate, Roads; Anzac Day Services

 **Mr McDONALD** (Lockyer—LNP) (7.25 pm): Locals and others using the Warrego Highway know that the intersection of Fairway Drive and the Warrego Highway is one of the most dangerous. Back in 2017 the LNP gave a commitment to our community that, if elected, we would deliver the upgrades to that intersection. Finally, a few years later, after many fights and petitions, we have been able to achieve that upgrade. I appreciate the work of TMR when it comes to Fairway Drive. We saw stage 1 completed a year ago. Stage 2 sees an additional right-turn lane into Fairway Drive separated so that those coming out of Fairway Drive have clear vision of the eastbound traffic. That is a great win for our Fairways community. That intersection upgrade has seen a great deal of improvement for the Regency Downs, Glenore Grove, Kensington Grove as well as Fairways Estate communities. I can tell members that everyone is very much appreciative of that.

While I am talking about road safety and road improvements, we have many roads in the Lockyer affected by floods. I ask people in our community to be patient. There is going to be a lot of roadworks happening now and over the next couple of years. The Lockyer and Somerset councils have until 30 June to complete all of the assessments necessary for QRA to take back to the federal government. Those assessments are being completed and we are finally starting to see some genuine works occur. The works will include some pavement improvements which means some betterment funding. There are some very significant projects such as upgrades to the Forest Hill Fernvale Road, Brightview Road, Gatton-Helidon Road and the Laidley Plainland Road—which is so much in need of improvement. I ask for people to be patient while the Lockyer and Somerset councils deliver those roadworks right across our region. We are going to see some real improvements in road safety.

I would also like to give a shout-out to our wonderful RSLs. Of course, next Tuesday is Anzac Day. In the Lockyer we have some wonderful ceremonies. I am only able to get to six this year. There will be commemorations at Withcott, Murphys Creek, Laidley, Helidon, Hatton Vale, Grantham and Winwill at Ma Ma Creek, Gatton, Forest Hill and Lowood. There will be dawn services and there will also be main services later in the day. Please get out and support our wonderful returned service men and women and also those who are currently serving our nation. It is an important celebration for Australian society. It is something that makes Lockyer great, Queensland great and Australia great.