



Speech By Mark Boothman

MEMBER FOR THEODORE

Record of Proceedings, 16 March 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Theodore Electorate, Roads

Mr BOOTHMAN (Theodore—LNP) (6.08 pm): I rise to speak about an important topic in my electorate of Theodore on the northern Gold Coast. In recent years we have seen massive development growth in and around the electorate. I asked a question of the Minister for Transport and Main Roads. The data he sent back to me is quite alarming in terms of the massive increase in traffic volume in my electorate. A large number of individuals travel through my electorate from areas to the west, and this is putting a lot of strain on my local roads. For example, there is a lot more development around Yarrabilba. Those individuals are travelling across Mount Tamborine, which, with all due respect, is a mountain road not really designed for vast traffic volumes.

The increase in traffic on Tamborine Oxenford Road near Hayes Road is upwards of 21 per cent. Closer to Reserve Road the cars per day using that road in 2021 were 19,127. Interestingly though, the intersection upgrade that the Palaszczuk government did just before the last election at exit 57 has seen a decrease in traffic. The reason for that is that it is confusing for motorists so they stay away from it. As the *Gold Coast Bulletin* highlighted in an article recently, it is an example of what not to do when doing road design. Motorists are doing U-turns in the local pub car park so they can traverse the intersection. That is how ridiculous it is. It is an issue that we need to look at again. We need to fund a proper solution to exit 57.

We also need to fund solutions for making the roads safer across Tamborine Mountain, including Tamborine Oxenford Road. Just as importantly, Beaudesert Nerang Road, which is in the gorge that goes through the township of Canungra, has to be made safer as it is becoming busier. The statistics show that. We are looking at a 30 per cent increase in traffic from 2015 to 2021.

Canungra is a beautiful little township, as anybody who goes out there regularly would know. Now it is becoming more of a major thoroughfare. It is losing the small township feel, especially on the weekends when a lot of motorcycle riders and others go out there. This is certainly ruining the area. I say to the minister that we need to forward plan for road alternatives to these mountain roads, which are simply not capable of taking the traffic they are. We need to learn from the mistakes of exit 57 and build our roads properly.