




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR PINE RIVERS

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ADJOURNMENT

Pine Rivers Electorate, Infrastructure

 **Ms BOYD** (Pine Rivers—ALP) (7.14 pm): Samford Road is a critical connection to Samford and surrounds, and it is exciting to update the House on the progress of the safety improvements along this road. The last time I spoke about the project in this chamber, I reminded the House of the 300-plus community members who wrote to me to express an opinion on the initial upgrade. That 2021 version proposed the removal of the 750-metre westbound overtaking lane. Some 250 of those 300-plus people who wrote to me opposed the removal of the overtaking lane approved. Consequently, I advocated that TMR go back to the drawing board and design a plan that was acceptable to my community. I am very pleased that with some strong advocacy and the support of the minister, who I acknowledge in the chamber this evening, we secured more money to deliver the safety upgrades while still keeping that critical overtaking lane.

The upgrade will deliver safety improvements along a 1.5-kilometre section from Ferny Hills to Camp Mountain and will also see an upgrade to the Camp Mountain Road intersection. I appreciate that this work has taken longer than anticipated to complete. I place on record my appreciation to our community, who have been so vocal and active on this issue. I particularly single out Jason McGarry, who has been in continuous contact with me about this project and the need for the road to be safer. It is a dicey road in our community, especially in the wet, so I know how important it is to deliver this safety upgrade. The tender has now been awarded, and those works will start in early 2024. I look forward to updating the community on the project as it progresses.

The project is also a recipient of our green infrastructure protections. An additional project, to be completed this month, will protect Four Mile crossing on Gympie Road at Lawnton. Of course, our massive Eatons Crossing road safety upgrade will be home to wildlife protections. Delivering on our Big Build means that these road projects and many other things are happening in our electorate. This includes housing, investment in health, emergency services and education, and community infrastructure upgrades.

One of the really exciting projects that 2023 will deliver is the Kallangur Satellite Hospital. That facility will be open to patients from 11 December. Importantly, the offering there will alleviate pressure on our local emergency departments and major hospitals. It will mean accessible, free health care that is closer to home. I have had the opportunity to visit the site multiple times and I know that it will be a perfect location for locals to have their non-acute health concerns addressed. I know how excited our community is about this amazing asset, and I am confident that our agenda of investing in the front line and the infrastructure our community needs will continue to deliver a better, strong Pine region into the future.