



Speech By  
**Andrew Powell**


**MEMBER FOR GLASS HOUSE**

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## ADJOURNMENT

### Road Infrastructure; Gambling

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (7.00 pm): With limited public transport across the electorate, our roads are our lifelines. If you ever needed a more tangible demonstration of the chaos, crisis and wasted mismanagement of this third-term Labor government, you need only look at the state of the roads around Glass House. It took two years to get action on Kilcoy Beerwah Road at Cedarton following a landslide in March 2020. It took 15 years to get action on Maleny Kenilworth Road at Cambroon. It has taken a significant cheque from the federal government to see a long overdue upgrade to Steve Irwin Way between Glass House Mountains and Beerwah, but there is still so much more that needs to be done. Tonight I table a nonconforming petition from 586 residents calling on TMR to undertake rehabilitation and resurfacing works on the D'Aguilar Highway through Woodford as a priority.

*Tabled paper:* Nonconforming petition regarding resurfacing works on the D'Aguilar Highway through Woodford [715](#).

TMR have done testing. They know this stretch of the D'Aguilar Highway is a problem but now advise they have no allocated funding to do the job. The stretch of road is a busy thoroughfare, especially around school pick-up and drop-off times and on weekends. I add my voice to that of my residents. Please rehabilitate and resurface the road now.

Let us see the same for Mount Mee Road from Ocean View to Dayboro, and for Landsborough Maleny Road from Maleny to Bald Knob, and from Maleny Kenilworth Road from Maleny to Witta, and the list goes on. As one constituent said to me, 'If our cars were in this poor a state, they would be considered unroadworthy. Surely our roads are "uncarworthy". Why is the government not held to the same standard?' Hear, hear!

Briefly on another matter, let us face it: Aussies love to gamble, from a game of two-up on Anzac Day to a flutter on the Melbourne Cup or a punt on the footy, to those one-armed bandits, the poker machines. For most, it is a passing occasion, a special treat, some fun on a Friday night; for others, it becomes an addiction. I am pleased we return most of the taxes from gambling back to the community through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund, but that does not always sit comfortably with me. After meeting Val and Jenny from Relationships Australia which has the largest and longest running gambling help service in the state, I feel even less comfortable.

Madam Deputy Speaker, did you know we only send 0.6 per cent of the taxes we take back into gambling harm minimisation? A simple doubling or tripling of that to 1.2 per cent or 1.8 per cent to bring it into line with other Australian states would lift it from an annual contribution of \$10 million to, say, \$20 million or \$30 million and would allow services like Relationships Australia to reach far more problem gamblers. There is a state budget coming up in June. I am keen to see this much needed increase in gambling harm minimisation funding. I hope the government is listening.