




Speech By
Rebecca Young

MEMBER FOR REDLANDS

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Cleveland-Redland Bay Road, Upgrade

 **Mrs YOUNG** (Redlands—LNP) (2.28 pm): It is a real relief, and a long awaited milestone, to be standing here today to share that from this Friday Cleveland-Redland Bay Road will be open between Anita Street and Magnolia Parade. It will be open to four lanes during peak times. It is another step forward. While this progress is encouraging, I know many in my community, myself included, are frustrated that we still do not have the final completion. We all want the job finished because, for so many Redlands families, workers and business owners who rely on this road every day, this upgrade has been a long and trying journey.

We have dealt with excessive congestion, long wait times, inconsistent communication and delays. While I did not start the project, I inherited the responsibility. I have made it my business to fight for answers on how an almost five-year project of 1.5 kilometres of road came to be. I sincerely thank every resident who has written to me, flagged issues or shared their stories. Their persistence and fresh start with the LNP Crisafulli government has driven this forward.

From the day I was elected I made it clear that I would fight for better transparency, regular progress updates and accountability from the contractors delivering this work because the Redlands community deserve that. They deserve to know what is happening in their own backyard, and they deserve to see real action.

This reopening is a welcome change. It will ease pressure during peak times and bring some much needed relief. Let me be clear: this is not the victory lap; it is a step closer to finishing. It is also a reminder of why I committed to doing better for our community than my predecessor. I have established the Redlands Road Advisory Committee—the RRAC—to bring together experts in planning, engineering, transport, business and local government to drive better outcomes for our region. Stage 2 of this road upgrade is RRAC's first priority, and it will be closely followed by broader transport planning for the Redlands, including growth areas like the Southern Thornlands PDA.

The RRAC met for the first time last week, and I am hopeful these voices will be the strategic advocates we need because Redlanders are tired of being stuck in traffic and left behind. The Redlands is growing and we cannot afford to fall further behind. The RRAC is our proactive step to plan smarter, move faster and deliver the infrastructure we need—not years down the track but now. I again thank the Redlands residents for their patience, resilience and persistence. Today we acknowledge progress and recommit to getting the Redlands moving again.