Question on Notice

No. 529

Asked on 19 April 2006

MRS E CUNNINGHAM asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR LUCAS)—

QUESTION:

With reference to a number of submissions which have been forwarded to the marine department in relation to a funding agreement for a pontoon on the Boyne River and to cooperation including funding contributions which have been pledged by the Boyne Tannum Hook Up (a major fishing event held at Boyne Island) and Calliope Shire Council which also supports the project—

As this is a much sought after project and the department has given support in principle, when will the funding be available to allow this pontoon to be installed to improve access for those who are aged or have a disability and to improve safety at the ramp?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Gladstone for her question and her continued interest in recreational boating facilities serving her electorate.

I am pleased to advise that as part of the 2005-06 Boating Infrastructure Capital and Maintenance Program, Queensland Transport has allocated grant funding of up to \$70,000 towards a suitable pontoon for the boat ramp at David Bray Park at Boyne Island.

This funding is currently available, although timing of this grant is subject to finalising arrangements for the design of the pontoon, day to day management of the pontoon and maintenance responsibilities.

Queensland Transport is currently consulting with Calliope Shire Council on these matters to ensure that all parties to the project are clear on their responsibilities and to ensure the long term safety of users.

When the pontoon is constructed, boaties using the ramp at Boyne Island will have launching and retrieval facilities of the highest possible standard - the envy of many other communities.

This project is a good example of the Government working in partnership with Local Government and other groups, such as the Boyne Tannum Hookup in providing improved public boating infrastructure for all Queenslanders.