

Question on Notice
No. 739
Asked on 8 May 2006

Mr ROGERS asked the Premier (Mr Beattie) -

QUESTION:

With reference to the full-page advertisement by the Queensland Government titled Mr Howard, the Gold Coast deserves to have its fair share of road funding, an example of which appeared in The Gold Coast Bulletin on Monday 8 May 2006—

- (1) Will he advise which State Government department, and the division/unit within that department, that authorised this advertisement?
- (2) Was the advertisement printed in any other media publication on Monday 8 May 2006?
- (3) Was the advertisement printed in any other media publication on any other dates; if so, which dates?
- (4) Will he provide a breakdown of the monetary cost for each separate advertisement, including radio and television advertising costs?

ANSWER:

In the lead up to the eleventh Federal Coalition Budget, the advertisement sought to secure much needed funding from the Australian Government for the Pacific Motorway which links Queensland's two largest cities. The Pacific Motorway is a joint State and Australian Government responsibility to which the Australian Government previously contributed.

Under AusLink and through a 2004 Federal funding commitment, New South Wales is receiving \$160m per annum over ten years (totalling \$1.6b). In the May 2006 Federal Budget, New South Wales received an extra matching payment of \$160m. Federal funding for the Tugun Bypass is capped at \$120m with the Queensland Government funding the remaining \$423m.

The cost of the advertisement represents much less than 1% of the \$392m that my Government has allocated over a five year period to progress the upgrade of the Pacific Motorway. Before construction can begin, we require a matching funding commitment from the Australian Government towards the estimated \$1.5b cost of the upgrade. I make no apologies for my Government attempting to secure a fairer deal for Queenslanders from the Australian Government for the Pacific Motorway.

- (1) The advertisement was authorised by the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and produced by the Department of Main Roads.
- (2) No.
- (3) No.
- (4) The cost of the advertisement was \$3,524.

Mr Howard, the Gold Coast deserves to have its fair share of road funding.

The Queensland Government has a plan to fix the Pacific Motorway between Brisbane and Tugun. Doing that will cost around \$1.5 billion.

Queensland is ready to go and has already put its first \$392 million on the table. Canberra needs to come to the table with dollar-for-dollar funding so we can start construction.

- Canberra partly funded the northern section of the Pacific Motorway upgrade in the 1990s
– **what's changed, Mr Howard?**
- Canberra is giving NSW \$1.6 billion over 10 years in matching funding for the Pacific Highway south of the border
– **what about Queensland, Mr Howard?**
- Canberra takes \$14 billion in fuel excise but gives less than 16¢ in every dollar back to Australian roads
– **where's Queensland's fair share, Mr Howard?**

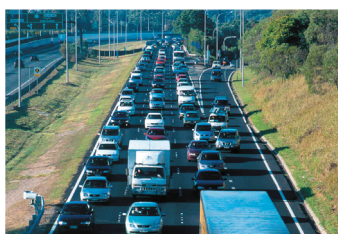
The last time Canberra made a major commitment to Gold Coast roads was in 2003 when they agreed to partly fund the Tugun Bypass.

Between July 2003 and June 2006 the Queensland Government has provided \$350 million to Gold Coast roads and we have committed \$1.16 billion for Gold Coast roads over the next four years.

Queensland is delivering better roads for the Gold Coast – tomorrow's Federal Budget is Canberra's chance to do the same.

What RACQ says

The peak motoring body RACQ says;
“*The Gold Coast is suffering. The Pacific Motorway needs an upgrade.*” RACQ

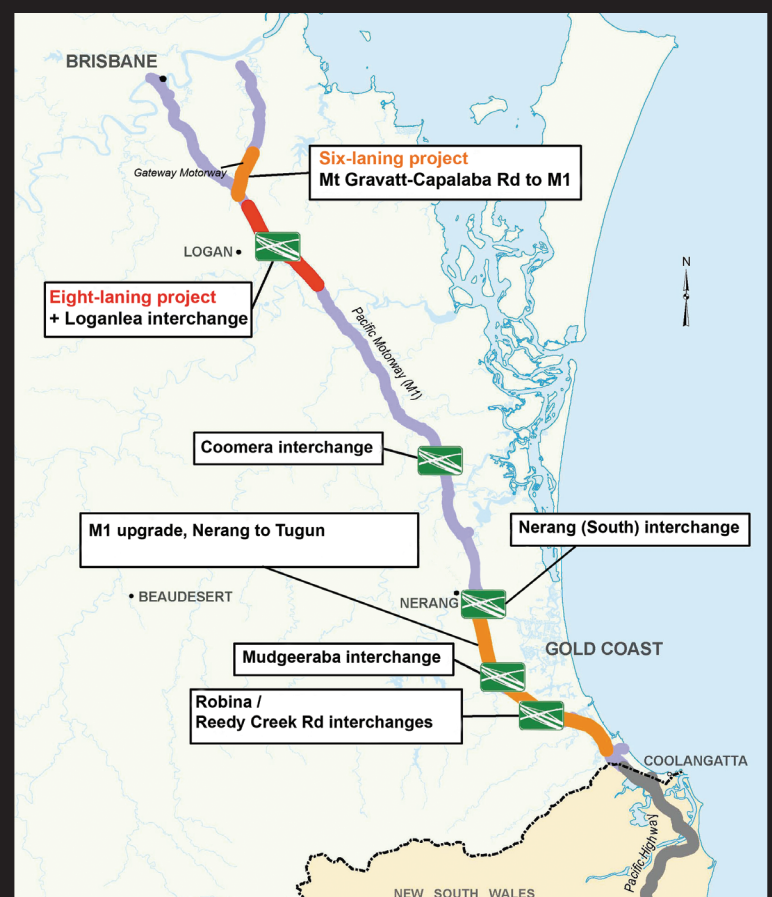


Queensland has put its money on the table for the Pacific Motorway from Brisbane to Tugun. Canberra must do the same.

For more information: www.mainroads.qld.gov.au (under the Popular Information heading)

Authorised by the Queensland Government, George Street, Brisbane

Queensland's plan to improve the Pacific Motorway



Planning has already begun on the following projects:

- Six-laning from Mt Gravatt-Capalaba Road to M1
- Eight-laning Gateway – Logan Motorway including interchange at Loganlea Road
- New interchange at Coomera
- Upgrading from Nerang to Stewart Road
- Upgrading interchanges at Nerang South (Nielsens Road) and at Mudgeeraba
- Off-ramp improvements at Robina and Reedy Creek Road interchanges



**Queensland
Government**