

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 302**

**Asked on 6 March 2007**

MR HAYWARD asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Mr LUCAS) -

QUESTION:

Will he advise when work on the next section of the upgrading to six lanes of the M1 from Uhlmann Road at Burpengary to the Bribie Island turn-off will commence?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Kallangur for the question.

The state government's South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program provides for a six lane upgrade to the Bruce Highway between Uhlmann Road and Caboolture in the period 2006-07 to 2009-10.

The Department of Main Roads' current Roads Implementation Program allocates a total of \$132 million for this project, including \$28 million in 2006-07, \$65 million in 2007-08 and \$34.3 million in 2008-09 to 2010-11.

This project forms part of the federally-funded AusLink national network program to upgrade the Bruce Highway to six lanes from the Gateway Motorway to Caboolture. This upgrade project, together with a suite of major state-controlled road upgrade projects in the Caboolture region, is necessary to accommodate the increasing traffic volumes we are currently experiencing from sustained regional development in the area.

As you are aware, the section of highway from Boundary Road to Uhlmann Road was officially commissioned on 12 March 2007 by the Honourable Jim Lloyd MP, federal Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads and Mr Andrew McNamara MP, to the Minister for Transport and Main Roads.

You would appreciate that six laning this section of highway has already significantly reduced congestion and improved safety for transport operators, tourists and local traffic, creating more efficient road transport and allowing for continued growth in one of the fastest growing areas of the state.

Main Roads delivered the \$108 million project on time and within budget, completing another vital link in the Bruce Highway upgrade between the Gateway Motorway and Caboolture.

With this section complete, Main Roads will now continue north with the highway upgrade from Uhlmann Road to the Caboolture Bypass interchange connection.

Leighton Contractors are well underway with stage one of this project, constructing the interchange connection with the Caboolture Bypass. Work commenced last September and completion is expected late this year.

ARUP are nearing completion on the design of stage two, which involves six laning the section between Uhlmann Road and the Caboolture Bypass interchange, including widening works on the bridge over the Caboolture River and an upgrade of the existing interchange at Caboolture - Bribie Island Road.

The project will be constructed under an Early Contractor Involvement process. Using this type of delivery process has allowed Main Roads to invite construction tenders in February 2007. Construction is anticipated to commence later this year and estimated for completion by the end of 2008, some three months earlier than forecast using a conventional design and construct contract.

The state government is also injecting funds in this area with the construction of the Caboolture Northern Bypass and a number of other planning projects underway to upgrade key urban arterial roads to four lanes.

Main Roads is on track with the construction of the \$86 million Caboolture Northern Bypass with completion expected later this year. Other planning projects to four-lane various sections of road include an upgrade to the Deception Bay Road from the Bruce Highway to Lipscombe Road, an upgrade of Morayfield Road between the Uhlmann Road roundabout and Gaffield Street, and the Bribie Island Road from Aerodrome Road to Saint Road.

This funding commitment to upgrade the state-controlled road network will further enhance this rapidly developing region's reputation as a significant growth area for business, construction and investment within the corridor north of Brisbane.