Question on Notice

No. 602

Asked on 29 April 2008

MR FOLEY asked the Minister for Main Roads and Local Government (MR PITT) -

QUESTION:

With reference to the state of disrepair of the Maryborough-Hervey Bay Road, used by ambulance to transport patients between the Maryborough and Hervey Bay public hospitals–
What course of action can his department take to upgrade this road as a matter of urgency?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Maryborough for the question.

The Department of Main Roads is committed to safety and will continue to allocate funds to accommodate traffic growth and development in the Maryborough and Hervey Bay areas.

Main Roads is happy to discuss any concerns about the state controlled network whether raised by the Queensland Ambulance Service or any other road users.

Main Roads contacted the Hervey Bay Ambulance Group Coordinator on 8 May 2008 to advise that planning for future upgrades of the road has been completed and two projects are expected to start within the next year on this busy road.

- The Maryborough-Hervey Bay Road between north of Dundowran and the Pialba-Burrum Heads Road, 7km south of Pialba will be widened and intersections upgraded to improve safety for motorists. This project is expected to start in August 2008 and be finished by mid 2009.

- A second project to duplicate from two to four lanes a section of the Maryborough – Hervey Bay Road between Torbanlea turnoff and Dundowran Road is expected to start early next year and be completed by June 2010.

In addition to these planned road upgrades, I can assure the Member for Maryborough the Maryborough – Hervey Bay Road is monitored by road crews and inspected regularly with maintenance funds allocated to ensure it is kept in a safe condition.