Question on Notice

No. 1220

Asked on Tuesday 15 September 2009

MS DAVIS ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT (MS NOLAN) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the Brisbane City Council's Telegraph Road open level crossing elimination business case, which has now been released and given that QR incident data identifies this crossing as the most dangerous open level crossing in South East Queensland and Brisbane City Council's offer to evenly share the turn-out cost – Will the Minister advise if the State Government will be fast tracking this important project?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Aspley for the question.

The Bligh Government is committed to improving safety and convenience at rail crossings in South East Queensland.

Already, this government has delivered:

- \$113 million (including \$25 million from the Commonwealth Government) for the grade separation of Beaudesert Road and the interstate rail line at Acacia Ridge which will greatly improve safety and save up to 15 minutes travel time for local motorists; and
- \$68 million to eliminate the level crossing at Mawhinney Street, Beerwah. This will be finished in late October 2009 and improve safety and cut traffic delays for the local community.

I note that in relation to that project, the Member for Aspley's LNP colleague the Member for Caloundra is campaigning to keep the level crossing open.

In the South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program, the government is providing \$228.2 million over 15 years (2005-06 to 2020-21) for the Rail Crossing Grade Separation Program.

The State Government is committed to working with Brisbane City Council to progress the elimination of the Telegraph Road open level crossing and we are considering the business case.