

Question on Notice

No. QON1276

Asked on 16 September 2009

MR WAYNE WENDT asked the Minister for Main Roads (MR WALLACE) -

QUESTION:

With the completion of the makeover of Lyons Bridge on Lockyer Creek in my electorate of Ipswich West, will the Minister advise what effect this will have in the local area?

I thank the Member for Ipswich West for the question.

ANSWER:

The makeover of the Lyons Bridge will have a positive effect in the local area by improving road user safety and promoting freight efficiency. The Forest Hill – Fernvale Road forms an important link between the Lockyer Valley and Brisbane Valley areas and is used by a significant number of vehicles carrying produce.

The bridge makeover includes upgraded road approaches to improve durability and flood immunity will result in a decrease in future maintenance costs. Replacement of the existing bridge forms part of the Department of Transport and Main Roads' Southern Queensland Accelerated Road Rehabilitation Program (SQARRP), which is replacing 31 older timber bridges across Queensland to better meet current and future freight demands.

The bridges to be replaced as part of SQARRP have been selected on the basis of their location on key transport routes, current condition and potential for improved road user value. The SQARRP program will see all new bridges completed by early October 2009, two months ahead of schedule.

The SQARRP has been delivered over three years and accelerated the provision of bridge replacements by around 12 years.

28 of the 31 replacement bridges are being delivered via the SQARRP Bridge Alliance, made up of:

- The Department of Transport and Main Roads as the client and as a participant
- Queensland Bridge & Civil, and Civil Mining & Construction as constructors
- Aurecom (Connell Wagner) as bridge and road approach designer
- Holcim Ltd (Humes) as a provider of precast concrete products
- and Wagstaff Piling providing piling construction expertise.

The SQARRP Bridge Alliance, now well into its construction phase, has formed a very strong, inclusive and expert project team working collaboratively out of the Toowoomba Project Office and various construction sites.

The Alliance has:

- guaranteed timely delivery of timber bridge replacements and road approach works
- continued to promote innovations in design, procurement and delivery
- retained the expertise of project managers, engineers and construction resources, particularly for the more remote construction sites.

The Alliance has successfully sourced the planning, design and construction of two extra bridges. These two extra bridges are the border bridges at Boonanga and Mundind. This project will be known as the Border Bridge Alliance and the works will be constructed from October 2009 to the middle of 2010.

All salvageable timber from the bridge replacements were salvaged by the department's commercial arm RoadTek for the repair works on remaining timber bridges. Timber bridges across the network have already been rehabilitated using the reclaimed timber, which has the potential to save the department over \$1m in coming years.