

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 355**

**Asked on Tuesday, 21 May 2013**

**MRS MENKENS** asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR EMERSON)—

### **QUESTION:**

Given the number of recent serious accidents and fatalities on the Bruce Highway, will the Minister advise of any planned safety upgrades within the Burdekin Electorate?

### **ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Burdekin for the question.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is undertaking several safety improvement projects on the Bruce Highway in the Burdekin Electorate.

Work has commenced on a \$50 million upgrade between Sandy Corner and Collinsons Lagoon. This project will construct 3.2 kilometres of new highway, upgrade and widen 1.5 kilometres of existing highway and include overtaking lanes. It will significantly improve flood immunity and road safety on this section.

The \$137.5 million upgrade between Vantassel Street and Cluden, due to commence in September 2013, will improve safety, freight efficiency and flood immunity on the southern approach to Townsville.

This upgrade will duplicate the existing two-lane section to four lanes and improve intersection capacity and safety. The project will also include a new rail overpass of the North Coast Rail line at Cluden.

TMR is also constructing three overtaking lanes on the Bruce Highway in the Burdekin region, which are due to be completed by the end of 2013, weather permitting.

A \$1.4 million reconstruction project is also underway on a section of the highway through Home Hill which was damaged by recent wet seasons. Once complete, the rehabilitated road surface will provide safety and network efficiency benefits.