

## Question on Notice

No. 724

Asked on 17 October 2013

**MR RICKUSS** asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (MR SEENEY) –

### QUESTION:

Will the Deputy Premier advise what representation will be made to the new Federal Government to ensure appropriate funding for the Toowoomba Bypass?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Lockyer for his question.

The Toowoomba Second Range Crossing is one of the highest infrastructure priorities for the Queensland Government.

The project will provide a second, more efficient and safer road crossing over the Great Dividing Range.

The project proposes to address a major pinch point on the Warrego Highway, a component of the National Land Transport Network on the Brisbane–Darwin and Melbourne–Brisbane corridors.

Without a Second Range Crossing, this significant bottleneck will continue to hinder economic growth, present safety risks for road users crossing the Great Dividing Range and continue to pose safety and amenity issues for the Toowoomba CBD.

The incoming Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, has already promised significant funding to progress the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing, with the commitment of \$700 million towards the project.

We will be re-submitting the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing to Infrastructure Australia as a priority project in the near future. Given the extensive planning that has occurred on this project to date, we will be requesting that the project be recognised as ‘ready to proceed’.

We will continue to work with the Australian Government to ensure that this project is delivered for the benefit of Queenslanders.