Question on Notice

No. 167

Asked on Tuesday, 18 March 2014

MR HOBBS asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR EMERSON)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise where new flashing school zone lights have been installed in the Warrego Electorate and how this has benefited school zone safety?

ANSWER:

I wish to commend the Member for Warrego for his representations on behalf of his local schools and his commitment to road safety in Warrego Electorate.

The Queensland Government has allocated \$10 million over four years for the installation of flashing school zone signs at schools with higher risk. This is in addition to the program to install flashing school zone signs at all split campus schools and at all existing school zones on multi-lane roads.

Speeding through school zones greatly increases the risk to pedestrians, as the faster a vehicle is travelling, the longer it takes to stop and the greater the severity of impact. Children can also be impulsive and unpredictable, and are inexperienced, which is why motorists need to exercise caution in the vicinity of a school. The flashing school zone signs benefit school zone safety by alerting motorists to the presence of a school zone and encouraging motorists to slow down as they travel through a school zone.

I am pleased to advise that the safety of students attending Roma State College's Middle Campus and Senior Campus, and St Patrick's School at St George has been increased with the installation of flashing school zone signs. Flashing school zone signs will also be installed at the Roma State College Junior Campus by June 2014.