Question on Notice

No. 1054

Asked on Thursday, 15 October 2015

MRS SMITH asked the Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply (HON M BAILEY) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise what plans the Palaszczuk Labor Government has to upgrade the Centenary Highway from Sumner Road to Moggill Road, and at what cost?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Mount Ommaney for the question.

I am advised that a planning study was conducted in 2012 to investigate various options to relieve congestion and improve performance of the highway.

The scope of the study involved the duplication of motorway, replacement of the Centenary bridges (including tunnel options) and upgrade of interchanges.

Every effort was made to minimise costs where possible but, based on the planning undertaken, the project was estimated by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) to cost over a billion dollars.

Additional planning studies have also investigated options at localised areas, such as the Sumners Road interchange and the interchange with the proposed Kenmore Bypass.

As was the case under the previous LNP Government of which the Member formed part, no funding is currently allocated for upgrades to the Centenary Highway between Sumner Road and Moggill Road.

However, the recently completed Centenary Motorway widening to six lanes from Legacy Way to Moggill Road, the upgrade of the Moggill Road interchange and current construction of the Moggill Road cycle bridge will contribute to the effectiveness of any future upgrade at this location and are considered by TMR to represent the early stages of such an upgrade.

Further, TMR has installed variable speed signs on the Centenary Motorway between Sumner Road and the Brisbane River to seek to reduce the number traffic incidents at this location by slowing down vehicle speeds as drivers encounter congestion.

I have also asked TMR to continue to monitor traffic movements in the area and to make improvements, if required, to ensure that safety continues to be maintained.