

Question on Notice

No. 1057

Asked on Thursday 15 October 2015

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the Minister's media release of 13 May 2015 entitled 'Plenty of nothing for busy SEQ motorways' in which he states he 'asked for \$350m' but 'got nothing' in the 2015-16 Federal Budget to upgrade the Pacific Motorway (M1) between exit 82 at Robina and Exit 85 at Reedy Creek, and to the Deputy Premier's subsequent contradictory claim to have finally asked for Federal funding for this project in September 2015 as part of her infrastructure Australia submission—

Will the Minister (a) confirm how many times he has formally requested Federal funding to upgrade the M1 between Exits 82 and 85 since he has been the Minister, and (b) table copies of any correspondence related to the M1 which he has sent to Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, former Prime Minister Tony Abbott, or Deputy Prime Minister Warren Truss?

ANSWER:

I do not accept the premise of the preamble to the Member for Mudgeeraba's question, including the misquoting of our federal budget response media release of 13 May 2015.

However, I can advise as follows:

- In October 2012 the Queensland Government included an application for funding to upgrade the M1 as part of its submission to the Federal Government's Nation Building 2 Program.
- That application included a business case to upgrade the M1 between Mudgeeraba (Exit 79) and Varsity Lakes (Exit 85) from four lanes to six lanes at an estimated cost of \$350 million. It also included an application for \$20 million to undertake project planning for the Pacific Motorway between Varsity Lakes and Tugun, and between Gateway Motorway and Logan Motorway.
- Upgrade and project planning funding was not committed by the Federal Government following that submission.
- In October 2014 the Queensland Government signed a National Partnership Agreement on land transport infrastructure projects (2014–2015 to 2018–19) with the Federal Government that did not include a funding commitment to the M1.
- As Minister I have formally requested funding for the M1 on a number of occasions, verbally and in writing. I do not propose to table correspondence between myself and the Deputy Prime Minister.

- In September 2015, the Queensland Government's submission to Infrastructure Australia included a revised business case for six-laning of the M1 Pacific Motorway between Mudgeeraba and Varsity Lakes at an estimated cost of \$220 million.

I thank the Member for her interest in these important issues and encourage the Member to join the Palaszczuk Government in seeking a fair share of federal funding for the M1.