

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 949**

**Asked on Tuesday, 13 October 2015**

**MR DICKSON** 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 Mooloolah River interchange project—

Will the Minister advise:

- (a) what the geotechnical engineering assessments have revealed for this project,
- (b) what level of pre-filling works would be required on the site,
- (c) how long it would be until construction can begin on the project, and
- (d) what will be done to ensure the bottleneck is not simply shifted further down Kawana Way closer to the hospital when the project is completed?

### **ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Buderim for the question.

I draw the Member's attention to the answer provided by the Premier and Minister for the Arts on 27 April 2015 in response to the Member's previous question on funding for the Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) project (Question on Notice No 26).

I can confirm that the advice provided by the Premier remains accurate.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is finalising the planning phase for the Mooloolah River Interchange project, including improving connections to the new Sunshine Coast University Hospital.

Although planning is not yet complete, preliminary geotechnical assessment undertaken to date has identified that compaction would be required to prepare low-lying land for construction of the approaches to the proposed Mooloolah River interchange.

Further investigations, including geotechnical testing, would be required to determine how much compacting would be required and in turn develop a timeline for how long these works would take.

As was the case under the previous LNP Government, in which the Member was a Minister, no funding is currently allocated for construction of the Mooloolah River interchange project.

However, this government is working to prioritise the road upgrades and transport initiatives needed to support access to the new Sunshine Coast Public University Hospital, due to open in late 2016.

I have also requested that TMR identify interim transport initiatives to get the most out of our existing infrastructure. This includes giving priority to emergency vehicles at signalised intersections along Nicklin Way to improve response times, potential upgrades of congested intersections along Kawana Way, and providing additional bus services.