

## Question on Notice

No. 140

Asked on Thursday, 16 February 2017

**MR J BLEIJIE** asked the Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply (HON M BAILEY) —

### QUESTION:

With reference to the Labor Government's failure to deliver the Mooloolah River Interchange which would have eased congestion around the Sunshine Coast University Hospital precinct—

Will the Minister advise why the government has not duplicated the section of Kawana Way just north of the Kawana Way Link Road and Kawana Way intersection where the Kawana Way travels over the Currimundi Creek?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Kawana for the question.

As the Member is aware, planning was not completed for the Mooloolah River Interchange project during the three years of the Newman Government of which the Member was a Minister. The Palaszczuk Government is advancing this incomplete work under the previous government.

Timing for construction will be subject to competing priorities and available state funds. That competition has become more challenging as a consequence of more than \$600 million having been cut from transport funding during the term of the previous LNP government, which also spent more than \$30 million of the Department of Transport and Main Roads' budget preparing for asset sales and contestability.

A \$22 million funding package was allocated to improve access to the new Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH) on Kawana Way. Upgrading four roundabouts on Kawana Way and installing additional lanes at Kawana Way Link Road (also known as Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road) and Kawana Way in the vicinity of Woodlands Boulevard, were identified as priority projects.

Duplicating Kawana Way from Kawana Way Link Road over Currimundi Creek was considered during early scoping for this funding package and ruled out. Improving traffic capacity at several key intersections leading to SCUH was found to deliver the greatest benefit due to the high costs associated with duplicating the bridge over Currimundi Creek.

Investigations are continuing into further capacity improvements for motorists travelling from Nicklin Way to the SCUH.

These projects were identified by the interagency taskforce that I established along with the Honourable Cameron Dick MP, Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, as the highest priority. These transport initiatives will support access to the precinct and provide the best and most efficient use of existing infrastructure.