

## Question on Notice

No. 1108

Asked on 20 August 2019

**MR D BATT** ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

### QUESTION:

With reference to answer to Question on Notice No. 903—

Will the Minister provide the outcome of the Bargara Road Options Analysis that was funded in 2018-19?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Bundaberg for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering \$1.9 billion in roads and transport infrastructure for Bundaberg and the Wide Bay Burnett over the next four years. This also includes, investing more than half-a-billion dollars in roads, schools, health and other critical Wide Bay infrastructure which will create more than 2200 jobs for the region.

It is the Palaszczuk Government that is upgrading the FE Walker and Que Hee streets intersection, building the \$21 million Bundaberg level crossing and resignalling project. The Palaszczuk Government is delivering the state's largest road infrastructure program ever, the \$12.6 billion Bruce Highway Upgrade program. This includes the \$107 million joint funded flood immunity program along the highway at Tiaro.

The Palaszczuk Government has provided funding for the Bargara Road/Princess Street upgrade and Isis Highway overtaking lanes and has invested in the region as part of its \$14.5 billion investment in roads and transport infrastructure in regional Queensland over the next four years, supporting 13,500 regional jobs.

As part of the Palaszczuk Government investment program, we are continuing investigations into options for improving Bundaberg–Bargara Road. The funding for investigations was committed by the Palaszczuk Government in the 2018–19 financial year and continues into the 2019–20 financial year.

The study takes into consideration long-term needs to provide for future traffic growth as well as pedestrian and cyclist demand.

The Palaszczuk Government's record of achievement in the Wide Bay Burnett is in stark contrast to that of the Liberal National Party (LNP). When the LNP was in power under Campbell Newman they cut road funding by \$600 million, sacked 14,000 Queensland workers, including front line service workers in the Wide Bay Burnett, and tried to sell public assets like the Bundaberg Port.

The LNP has over \$7 billion in unfunded promises with no plan to pay for them. It is concerning that the Mayor of Bundaberg, who is a former Newman LNP MP, is now calling for the Bundaberg Port to be transferred to a new company, which would likely make it easier to privatise.

The only plan the LNP has to pay for its unfunded promises is to cut services, sack workers and sell our publicly owned assets like the Bundaberg Port.