

Question on Notice

No. 1925

Asked on Thursday 28 November 2019

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the recent confirmation that the Federal Government has immediately brought forward \$92m of its funding commitment for the Sunshine Coast Rail duplication—

Will the Minister provide an update on when construction of this vital project will commence?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Ninderry for the question.

The Australian and Queensland Governments have committed \$550.8 million towards an initial stage of the Beerburrum to Nambour Rail Upgrade project (\$390 million Australian Government funding, \$160.8 million Queensland Government funding), with the scope for this stage to be confirmed following detailed design.

Preconstruction activities for some components of this huge infrastructure project are well underway, including ground surveys, detailed design and community engagement.

An industry briefing is planned for early-2020 to prepare industry and suppliers for the main tendering process, prior to construction. Tenders for early works are expected to be called in mid-2020.

The Member should note that it was the Palaszczuk Labor Government that kickstarted the Sunshine Coast rail duplication by funding the business case in our first term and secured more than half a billion dollars in joint funding from the federal and state governments on the back of the business case. The project was ignored by the previous LNP Government for its three years in office.