

Question on Notice

No. 407

Asked on Thursday 28 March 2019

MRS S WILSON ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the answer to Question on Notice No. 68 of 2019—

Will the Minister explain why he is yet to confirm that he wants to proceed with the \$20m of federal funding for Bribie Island road upgrades, despite this being publicly announced in July 2018, some eight months ago?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Pumicestone for the question, although I do not accept its premise.

I can confirm that the Federal LNP Government took almost nine months to explain where its promised \$20 million would be coming from. It has now been confirmed that no new funding is being allocated for Bribie Island Road upgrades, with funding instead intended to be pulled together from savings from other Queensland road projects.

The Palaszczuk Government had hoped the Federal LNP's Government's commitment to Bribie Island would result in a genuine contribution of new funding, and it is disappointing that this is not the case.

The proposed allocation of funding from savings rather than the contribution of new, additional funding means that other roads in Queensland miss out.

I have asked the Department of Transport and Main Roads to consider how best to prioritise upgrades for Bribie Island Road that complement the projects we have already started.

We are nearing completion on engineering reports, designs and other detailed planning for the \$10.4 million Old Toorbul Point Road and Bribie Island Road intersection upgrade. As the main access to St Michael's College and the Abbey Medieval Festival—the largest annual medieval event in the southern hemisphere—we are backing Moreton Bay locals by signalling and upgrading this increasingly busy intersection.

The upgrade will improve safety for motorists, freight vehicles and families heading to and from school, adding to the \$9.75 million already allocated by the Palaszczuk Government for upgrades on Bribie Island Road.