

Question on Notice

No. 45

Asked on Tuesday 12 February 2019

MR A POWELL ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the recently completed overtaking lane on the D'Aguilar Highway, east of Peterson Road, at Woodford—

Will the Minister advise (a) if the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has confirmed that the quality of the final surface is deficient, (b) what steps will be taken to rectify the surface issues, (c) when this will be completed and (d) if TMR will make public any investigations in to the overall project including explanations for the extensive delays and poor workmanship?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Glass House for the question.

I can advise the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has completed final road surfacing works for the D'Aguilar Highway safety improvement project east of Woodford. The final surfacing and linemarking activities commenced on Sunday night, 17 February 2019, and are now complete. The final surface complies with TMR's technical specifications.

Works were temporarily suspended in late-July 2018 as pavement temperatures were too cold to spray the bitumen seal. As a statewide ban on all sealing activity was also in place, all works had to be suspended, as the entire road surface required sealing and the only way to keep the highway open to traffic was to stage the sealing process. Works recommenced from early October 2018 when warmer, stable pavement temperatures were achieved, however, rainfall in mid-October 2018 also impacted these works.

As previously advised in a notification the Member would have received in late December 2018, final surfacing works for the project were scheduled to take place in mid-2019. I am pleased to advise that these final surfacing works were brought forward in TMR's schedule and are now complete.

Inclement weather contributed to some delays during the life of the project, however, safety for motorists is improved. The improvements included providing a new 1.3 kilometre, eastbound overtaking lane, a protected, right-turn lane into Ironbark Drive, a protected, left-turn treatment into Chambers Road, a one-metre wide painted centre median, two new bus stops to improve bus connectivity and a pedestrian refuge to assist people to cross the highway safely.