

Question on Notice

No. 543

Asked on Thursday 4 April 2019

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise of any federal budget measures in relation to transport and main roads that benefit the Stretton Electorate and any alternative approaches?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Stretton for the question.

The 2019 Federal Budget handed down by the Federal LNP Government did not specifically identify funding for upgrades to the state-controlled road network within the Stretton Electorate.

Under the Urban Congestion Fund, the 2019 Federal Budget allocated \$30 million to the Mount Lindesay Highway/Beaudesert Road corridor (which borders the Stretton Electorate), subject to matching funding from the Queensland Government. This allocation of funding to the Mount Lindesay Highway did not specify a particular project and is well short of what would be needed to deliver a significant capacity improvement along this corridor. For example, a project to duplicate the Mount Lindesay Highway between Stoney Camp Road and Greenbank Road would cost approximately \$140 million.

The Federal LNP Government's allocation is also well-short of what the Palaszczuk Government has committed to the Mount Lindesay Highway, with \$97.5 million allocated to safety and capacity improvements, delivering real benefits for local motorists using the corridor, including those living in the Stretton Electorate.

The Federal LNP government also announced \$500 million towards an upgrade of the M1 Pacific Motorway between Daisy Hill and Logan Motorway, where the Australian Government continues to short-change Queenslanders by sticking to a 50:50 federal:state funding split on Queensland's busiest road, as compared to the 80:20 federal:state deal on the current \$4.9 billion Pacific Highway project between Woolgoolga to Ballina in New South Wales. It is also significant that this Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway federal funding commitment commences beyond the forward estimates (2023–24 onwards).

As the Member would be aware, the Palaszczuk Government will continue to lobby the Australian Government to ensure Queensland gets a fairer deal and a fairer share of federal funding for priority roads and other transport infrastructure to keep Queensland moving and road users safer.

The Palaszczuk Government will also continue to invest in the road and transport infrastructure our growing state needs, including as part of our government's record \$21.7 billion investment over four years in the Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program (QTRIP).

The Palaszczuk Government's commitment to Queensland—and to investment in road and transport infrastructure—can be contrasted with the approach of the LNP, where the former Newman LNP Government cut \$600 million from QTRIP and where the Federal LNP continue to refuse to give Queensland its fair share of funding for important road and transport infrastructure projects, such as Cross River Rail and the M1 Pacific Motorway.