

Question on Notice

No. 97

Asked on Thursday 14 February 2019

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide an update in relation to the commitment to build a better M1 between Brisbane and the Gold Coast?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Stretton for the question.

With several projects already underway, the Palaszczuk Government is Building a Better M1 between Brisbane and the Gold Coast, through significant investments and commitments.

The construction of additional southbound lanes, at the merge of the Gateway Motorway and the M1, between Eight Miles Plains and Rochedale is well underway. On completion of this project, an upgrade of the northbound section between Eight Mile Plains and Daisy Hill will start. Upgrade works are also progressing well to widen the M1 from four to six lanes between Mudgeeraba and Varsity Lakes. Once this project is complete, upgrade works to widen the M1 between Varsity Lakes and Tugun will start.

The Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill and Varsity Lakes to Tugun projects are fully funded, costing just under \$2 billion. Funding is split 50:50 between the Palaszczuk and Australian Governments. More than half of the Palaszczuk Government's funding, almost \$500 million, will be spent over the next four years to ensure the program of upgrades can progress as quickly as possible, whereas more than 80 per cent of the funding committed by the Australian Government will not flow until after 2022–23.

The Palaszczuk Government has also committed \$25 million in funding to upgrade Oxenford interchange (Exit 57). Final design work is currently underway with construction to commence in late 2019. Planning is also progressing for future upgrades to interchanges at Yatala North, Yatala South, Ormeau and Pimpama, as well as preserving the future Coomera Connector corridor for the rapidly growing northern Gold Coast area.

Safety improvements at Pimpama Interchange (Exit 49) have also been recently completed. This \$1.5 million project will create more capacity at the northbound off-ramp, and includes the installation of roundabout metering at the Rifle Range and Yawalpah Roads roundabouts. Roundabout metering technology will control the flow of traffic at the roundabouts and reduce the need for motorists to queue on the M1 shoulder.

In addition to these upgrades, the Palaszczuk Government recently announced smart motorway technologies will be introduced on the M1 as part of the M1 upgrade projects to reduce congestion and improve safety.

I thank the Member for his interest in these projects and his great advocacy on behalf of his constituents.