

## Question on Notice

No. 1159

Asked on 2 December 2020

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

### QUESTION:

With reference to recent serious road accidents and fatalities in the Gympie Region—

Will the Minister advise what the timeframes and plans are, including overtaking lanes, to upgrade the Mary Valley Highway (gazettal name Gympie–Brooloo Road), Tin Can Bay Road and Rainbow Beach Roads?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Gympie for the question.

The Department Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is currently completing a project proposal for Mary Valley Road, between Mary Valley Link Road and Kandanga–Imbil Road. Once the project proposal is completed, TMR will be better positioned to determine the need for a future upgrade at this location.

TMR will continue to monitor the performance of these roads and consider available funding against statewide priorities to ensure upgrades are delivered where they are most needed.

The recently released QTRIP represents a record investment in road and transport infrastructure for the fifth year in a row, with \$26.9 billion committed over the next four years, supporting an average of approximately 23,600 direct jobs over the life of the program. Approximately \$1.74 billion is committed across TMR's Wide Bay Burnett District, which is estimated to support an average of 1550 direct jobs over the life of the program.

As part of our COVID-19 economic recovery response, in partnership with the Australian Government, the Palaszczuk Government has announced \$1 billion in new and accelerated funding for road improvements right across Queensland. This funding injection will deliver freight efficiency benefits, improve road safety, sustain local jobs and lift the State's economy. Overall, this \$1 billion of investment in road network improvements is estimated to support approximately 1000 jobs.

This includes more than \$400 million funding in projects announced by the Palaszczuk Government for Queensland roads to supercharge the State's economy through the COVID-19 recovery. This was announced as part of Queensland's Economic Recovery Strategy: *Unite and Recover for Queensland Jobs*, to help the State recover from COVID-19 with a focus on backing Queensland jobs. Projects to receive new funding in TMR's Wide Bay Burnett District as part of the roads stimulus package include:

- Three Moon Creek Bridge replacement – estimated to support an average of 60 direct jobs over the life of the project
- Bruce Highway – Gympie Bypass – estimated to support an average of 576 direct jobs over the life of the project.

This investment by the Palaszczuk Government is in stark contrast to the previous LNP government's approach to building infrastructure given they cut \$1.6 billion from the roads and transport budget.