

Question on Notice

No. 152

Asked on Tuesday 18 February 2020

MR P WEIR ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) when will the last section of dual carriage roadway between Toowoomba and Oakey commence construction and (b) will this last section from the Kingsthorpe overpass to the end of the Oakey bypass road be constructed as one project or split into sections?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Condamine for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government's *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2019–20 to 2022–23* (QTRIP) represents a record investment in road and transport infrastructure for the fourth year in a row, with \$23 billion committed over the next four years, supporting an average of approximately 21,500 direct jobs over the life of the program. QTRIP has seen an overall increase of more than \$1.3 billion across the four-year period when compared to the previously released 2018–19 to 2021–22 program. Approximately \$855 million is committed across the Darling Downs district, supporting an estimated average of 960 direct jobs over the life of the program.

During the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2019, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) delivered approximately \$2.1 billion of transport and roads infrastructure investment specifically in TMR's Darling Downs district. This included investment in key projects such as the:

- Toowoomba Second Range Crossing – \$1.606 billion, completed 2019
- Warrego Highway (Dalby–Miles), Nicholson Street to Watt Street, Dalby western access upgrade – \$59 million, completed 2018
- Warrego Highway (Toowoomba–Dalby), Winton Street to Nicholson Street, Dalby eastern access upgrade – \$56 million, completed 2018
- Warrego Highway, Oakey to Dalby Overtaking Lanes – \$44 million, and the Dalby to Miles Overtaking Lanes – \$35 million
- Warrego Highway (Chinchilla Rail Crossing Upgrade) – \$19 million and is currently under construction.

I can advise that TMR completed a planning project for the future upgrade of the Warrego Highway from Kingsthorpe to Oakey to four lanes, including an overpass at the Oakey Connection Road intersection. This planning project was undertaken as part of the \$635 million Warrego Highway Upgrade Program funded by the Federal and State governments on an 80:20 funding split basis.

While TMR continues to progress planning for the Warrego Highway, with an additional \$400 million in joint funding (\$320 million Australian Government contribution and the Queensland Government contributing \$80 million) now being allocated, future projects and staging options are under consideration.