

Question on Notice

No. 171

Asked on Tuesday 18 February 2020

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the Plantation Creek crossing having been identified as a location requiring future upgrading to address flooding issues and that this crossing was again closed recently—

Will the Minister advise when the flooding issues referred to by the Minister will be addressed?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Burdekin for the question.

The Plantation Creek crossing on the Bruce Highway has been identified as one of three locations on the Bruce Highway throughout Burdekin Shire which require upgrades to address flooding issues. The other two locations are Sheepstation Creek and the Haughton River floodplain. Investment has been committed to the worst of these locations, with a major upgrade of the Haughton River floodplain now underway.

When considering whether to upgrade the existing highway or to invest in an alternative route, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) needs to consider a range of factors including flooding, safety, travel time and amenity issues.

In 2020–21, TMR will carry out hydrology and hydraulic investigations to update previous planning work in regard to flooding issues on the highway route. This will help inform the Queensland Government's discussions with the Australian Government about future priorities regarding the existing highway route or an alternative route.

Under the 15-year, \$12.6 billion Bruce Highway Upgrade Program, the Queensland Government is working together with the Australian Government to deliver vital safety, capacity and flood immunity upgrades on the Bruce Highway.

In the Burdekin Shire, the \$514.3 million Haughton River Floodplain Upgrade project at Giru is progressing well. The project will deliver wider and higher-level bridges, reconfigured intersections and 13.5 kilometres of upgraded highway pavement across the Haughton River floodplain. Major construction commenced in April 2019 and is expected to be completed in mid-2021, weather permitting.