

Question on Notice

No. 62

Asked on Wednesday 5 February 2020

MR E SORENSEN ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise when the upgrade will begin at the Boat Harbour Drive and Elizabeth Street intersection?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Hervey Bay 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 \$1.9 billion is committed across the Department of Transport and Main Road's (TMR) Wide Bay Burnett district, supporting an estimated average of 1700 direct jobs over the life of the program.

Some key projects for TMR's Wide Bay Burnett district included in QTRIP are:

- Bruce Highway (Brisbane–Gympie) Cooroy–Curra (section D upgrade), to construct to new sealed four lane standard, at a total cost of \$1 billion (jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments)
- Bruce Highway (Maryborough–Gin Gin) Saltwater Creek Bridge, construction of the bridge and approaches at a total cost of \$103 million (jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments).

Prior to 2019–20, the Palaszczuk Government has invested \$869.2 million in the Wide Bay Burnett District since 2015. This includes investment in key projects such as:

- Bruce Highway (Maryborough–Gin Gin) Hebbards Road–North South Road, widening and rehabilitation which was completed 2018 (jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments)
- Pialba–Burrum Heads Road (Pialba) Scrub Hill Road–Wide Bay Drive, installation of traffic signals which was completed 2018
- Bruce Highway (Gympie–Maryborough) Fleming Road–Fishermans Pocket Road upgrade which was completed in 2019 (jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments).

In relation to the Boat Harbour Drive and Elizabeth Street intersection, the intersection currently has a roundabout treatment within a 60 km/h posted speed limit. The southern approach is state-controlled Booral Road and the western approach is Maryborough–Hervey Bay Road. The remaining legs are local government roads. Intersection counts from 2016 indicate there are 4792 vehicles westbound onto Maryborough–Hervey Bay Road and 2088 vehicles eastbound from Maryborough–Hervey Bay Road. The intersection has a low crash history over the past five years of crash data.

TMR prioritises safety upgrades using the Queensland Risk Assessment Model (QRAM), which considers intersection attributes including traffic volumes, intersection layout, road characteristics and environment. With consideration of other intersections statewide, QRAM identifies the Boat Harbour Drive and Elizabeth Street intersection as a medium priority.

TMR will continue monitoring the intersection and it will be considered for future upgrades against competing statewide priorities.