

Question on Notice

No. 802

Asked on 11 August 2020

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the cost of maintenance of Obi Obi Road (a) in the 2018-19 financial year and (b) the total for the 2019-2020 financial year?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Nicklin for the question.

Obi Obi Road is 19.84 kilometres in length, with a one-way gravel downhill section of 1.89 kilometres locally known as George Wyer Scenic Drive. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) maintains the one-way downhill gravel (unsealed) section. The Sunshine Coast Council maintains the uphill section, which is a separate sealed road.

TMR undertakes regular inspections and maintenance on Obi Obi Road, and any safety-related maintenance activities are prioritised. This includes heavy formation grading to reinstate the correct road profile, including the addition of pavement material and treatment of surface drainage.

Grading works on the unsealed section of Obi Obi Road are completed at a current cost of approximately \$100,000 every three months. This is reflected in costs of between approximately \$300,000 to \$500,000 per financial year depending on the timing of treatments.

TMR advises that maintenance spend for Obi Obi Road is as follows:

- (a) \$616,985 in the 2018–19 financial year
- (b) \$385,482 in the 2019–20 financial year.

A total of four grading works treatments are expected for the 2020–21 financial year, dependent on weather conditions.

During the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2019 (financial years 2015–16 to 2018–19), the Palaszczuk Government delivered approximately \$2 billion of transport and roads infrastructure investment specifically in TMR's North Coast Region.

The current four-year *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. Approximately \$3.13 billion is committed across TMR's North Coast Region, supporting an estimated average of 3000 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 North Coast Region as part of the stimulus package include:

- \$18 million for the Six Mile Creek Bridge upgrade along Pomona-Kin Kin Road – estimated to support an average of 28 direct jobs over the life of the project
- \$9.5 million for the Beckmans Road and Cooroy-Noosa Road intersection upgrade – estimated to support an average of 18 direct jobs over the life of the project
- \$3.75 million for the Caloundra Road and Ridgewood Road intersection upgrade – estimated to support an average of 12 direct jobs over the life of the project.