

## Question on Notice

No. 520

Asked on 11 May 2021

**MR J MADDEN MP** ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

### QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the current status of proposed Amberley Bypass and the Ipswich Western Bypass projects?

### ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Ipswich West for the question.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is developing a plan to upgrade the Cunningham Highway.

The Australian and Queensland governments have committed \$212.5 million in joint funding, on an 80:20 (federal:state) basis, for upgrades to the Cunningham Highway, including various safety works and future improvement projects. This funding includes:

- \$25 million for the Eight Mile intersection upgrade at Glengallan;
- \$28 million for delivery of Cunningham Highway safety packages;
- \$20 million for future planning on the corridor, including at Amberley; and
- \$139.5 million for delivering future priorities on the Cunningham Highway.

In April 2020, the Australian and Queensland governments approved funding for a \$1.65 million business case for an interim upgrade solution for the Cunningham Highway–Ipswich Rosewood Road intersection at Amberley. The planning study, consisting of an options analysis and business case, commenced in early 2021 and is expected to be completed by early 2022. Community and stakeholder consultation on the Cunningham Highway–Ipswich Rosewood Road intersection upgrade will likely occur in mid-2021.

Funding for further priorities on the Cunningham Highway, including the 'Amberley Bypass' (also known as the Cunningham Highway - Yamanto to Ebenezer), will be informed by the \$20 million planning package. Project details, timing and potential for the planning and safety packages is subject to ongoing negotiations between the Australian and Queensland governments, as well as the requirement to accommodate the rate of surrounding land use development, including expansion at the Amberley Royal Australian Air Force Base. The State Government will continue to work with the Federal Government to advance these projects.

I note the Western Ipswich Bypass is a proposed bypass connecting Warrego and Cunningham Highways west of the Royal Australian Air Force Base at Amberley. The Western Ipswich Bypass is part of the planned future state strategic road network and the land corridor has been protected by the Queensland Government since 2003.

Any allocation of funding for the Western Ipswich Bypass would need to compete for funding on a statewide priority basis. TMR will continue to preserve the corridor as a future state-controlled road.