

Question on Notice
No. 580
Asked on 26 May 2022

MS F SIMPSON ASKED MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR RACING (HON G GRACE)

QUESTION:

With reference to the dangerous conflict points outside of Maroochydore High for students, parents and teachers at the start and finish of school and the school's proposed solution requiring major work outside and within the school boundary—

Will the Minister commit to working with the Transport Minister to fund a solution that provides safety for students and removes an unacceptable risk for teachers supervising student and traffic movements outside the front gate?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government prioritises the safety and wellbeing of students and staff in and around Queensland state schools.

School road safety is a matter that requires whole-of-community awareness and commitment. Improving the safety of school travel for all children relies on the involvement and engagement of schools (including Parents and Citizens' Associations), local government and state authorities, such as the Department of Education (DoE), the Queensland Police Service, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR), TransLink and/or bus operators as required.

DoE has been working with DTMR and the Sunshine Coast Council (the Council) on a solution to alleviate congestion during peak times at Maroochydore State High School. A preliminary concept plan was presented to the school in March 2022.

The preliminary concept plan outlined the proposed changes to separate the modes of transport accessing the front entrance of Maroochydore State High School by upgrading the entry and exit of the existing school car park, enhancing the bus set down area to improve traffic flow, and increasing parking spaces for parents, caregivers and staff.

This project is currently in the planning stages. DoE will continue to work closely with DTMR and the Council on this proposed future project to ensure the safety of students and staff.

School staff continue to supervise students during pick-up and drop-off times.