

Question on Notice

No. 623

Asked on 21 June 2022

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the Coomera Connector project—

Will the Minister advise (a) the critical project milestones that the Queensland and Federal Governments have agreed will be the triggers for payments to the Queensland Government, (b) the dates that any of these milestones were reached and (c) the dates that the corresponding payments were made?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering its seventh record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, as detailed in the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2022–23 to 2025–26*, which outlines \$29.7 billion in investment over the next four years and is estimated to support an average of 25,200 direct jobs over the life of the program. Of this, \$5.194 billion is committed across the Department of Transport and Main Roads' (TMR) South Coast Region, estimated to support an average of 4300 direct jobs over the life of the program.

We need a Second M1. That is why the Palaszczuk Government has backed it and locked in \$2.16 billion in joint-funding to build Stage 1 of the Coomera Connector - the single largest road project in Queensland. Our plan will take 60,000 cars a day off the M1 and provide for additional capacity.

The Queensland and Australian governments have committed a total of \$2.162 billion (\$1.081 billion each on a 50:50 federal:state basis) to the Coomera Connector (Stage 1) project, which includes \$30.5 million as part of the Major Project Business Case fund. The \$2.162 billion Coomera Connector (Stage 1) project is estimated to support an average of 1000 direct jobs over the life of the project.

The Member would be aware that the Delivery Project Proposal Report (PPR) was submitted by my department to the Australian Government on 15 November 2021 and was not approved by the former Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, the Honourable Barnaby Joyce MP prior to the Australian Government's caretaker period in 2022. I am pleased to advise that the Delivery Phase PPR was recently approved by the incoming Australian Government on 29 June 2022. TMR will now work with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts on agreeing the future milestone payment schedule for 2022–23 and beyond, aligned to forecast expenditure and milestones.

I can advise payments are based on the following agreed milestones:

- finalisation of the Preliminary Evaluation Phase – claimed May 2022, paid June 2020
- community consultation complete – claimed, November 2020, paid December 2020
- approval of Development Phase PPR – claimed on May 2021, paid June 2021
- completion of business case – claimed in September 2021, paid October 2021
- award of Stage 1 North Enabling Works contract – claimed November 2021, paid January 2022
- commencement of property acquisitions – claimed May 2022, paid June 2022.