

Question on Notice

No. 690

Asked on 23 June 2022

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the current percentage of the sealed road network pavements on state controlled roads exceeding their expected design life and the percentage of pavements that are over twice their design life?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Scenic Rim for the question.

Queensland has the longest state-controlled road (SCR) network of any Australian state/territory. As at 30 June 2021, the SCR network comprised 33,384 kilometres of roads, including 396 kilometres of motorways, 3746 kilometres of unsealed roads, 3145 bridges, 4872 major culverts and 36 tunnel sections. The length of the busway network is 29 kilometres. The National Land Transport Network component of the SCR network comprises 5052 kilometres (as at 30 June 2021), for which the Australian Government has primary funding responsibility.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering its seventh record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, as part of the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program* (QTRIP) 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, a record \$4.94 billion has been directed to maintenance, preservation, and operation of the SCR network, reflecting an increase of \$277 million over the previous four-year QTRIP.

By comparison, this four-year \$4.94 billion investment in maintenance, preservation and operation of the SCR network represents an increase of \$2.17 billion (or 78 per cent) over that approved for maintenance preservation and operation activities, in the four-year QTRIP published in 2014–15. The gross replacement value of the SCR network is \$81 billion (30 June 2021), making it the state's most valuable public asset.

As at 30 June 2021, 54.3 per cent of sealed road network pavements on SCRs exceed their expected design life and 27.5 per cent of pavements are over twice their design life. These ratios reflect well on TMRs 'fix-it-first' approach to asset management, which strives to utilise the full potential of existing assets by proactively operating, repairing and rehabilitating SCR assets, rather than replacing them.