

Question on Notice

No. 1002

Asked on 12 September 2023

MR J MCDONALD ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS AND MINISTER FOR DIGITAL SERVICES (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the over representation of serious injury and fatal traffic crashes on the Brisbane Valley Highway—

Will the Minister advise what investment is planned to upgrade the Brisbane Valley Highway between Blacksoil and Fernvale over the next four years?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Lockyer for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering its eighth record transport and roads infrastructure program in a row, as detailed in the *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program (QTRIP) 2023–24 to 2026–27*, which outlines \$32.1 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, \$3.147 billion is committed across the Department of Transport and Main Roads' (TMR) North Coast Region, estimated to support an average of 2460 direct jobs over the life of the program.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to improving road safety across Queensland, with the QTRIP 2023–24 to 2026–27 outlining an investment of \$1.815 billion in targeted road safety initiatives over the four-year program.

The funding of \$40.5 million for safety upgrades on the Brisbane Valley Highway was announced by the Australian Government on 21 March 2022, as part of the South East Queensland City Deal (SEQ City Deal). This includes \$20 million committed by the Australian Government, \$20 million committed by the Queensland Government and \$500,000 committed by Somerset Regional Council (SRC).

The Queensland Government investment delivered the following projects, which have been completed, or are currently in delivery, on the Brisbane Valley Highway:

- two packages of works, to the value of \$15.966 million, commenced in 2020 on the Brisbane Valley Highway:
 - detailed design for the safety improvements project between Warrego Highway and Fernvale. Construction started in late-2022 and the works are being delivered in two packages
 - works to upgrade the pedestrian facilities on the Brisbane Valley Highway at Fernvale, were also undertaken in 2020, with construction completed in mid-2022
- Ipswich to Harlin planning projects for a high-level planning study (completed in early 2022) and an early strategic planning assessment for overtaking lanes commenced late 2022, combined to the value of \$600,000
- pavement rehabilitation works through the Esk township, to the value of \$4.5 million, was undertaken in 2021 and completed early 2022.

TMR is continuing to work with deal partners and stakeholders—including SRC—to identify key priorities for the Australian Government contribution of \$20 million and delivery under the SEQ City Deal.